HSSE Incident – Finger laceration (MTC) P3261C – 18 January 2022

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 18th January 2022, the OMUTDE Team was preparing trip testing of PT3261C turbine (PM Task). Clearance was issued and the activity started . All the coupling bolts were removed. Next step was to wedge and compress the coupling to allow tapping it out of position (one artisan wedging/tapping, the other holding the coupling as it came loose). At 10h20 the coupling dropped prior to starting the wedging which caught the artisan by surprise not allow time to pull hand out the way. The ring finger tip was pinched between the coupling and pump base.
No excessive pain was experienced and work continued till lunch time. While removing gloves on the way to the workshop blood was noticed in the glove and the cut to the tip of the finger. This was reported to the supervisor. The injured artisan was taken to the clinic, where two stitched were administered.

2. SUMMARY OF MAIN CAUSES OF THE INCIDENT

- The coupling membrane dropped unexpectedly when all the bolts were removed
- The coupling membrane was not supported

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3. ACTIONS TAKEN FOLLOWING THE INCIDENT

- The incident was logged on CIS (IR-22-0074)
- A stand down was held with the OMUTDE mechanical artisans
- Injured person was put on light duty for the rest of the day

4. INVESTIGATION FOLLOW ACTIONS

1. 5 why investigation to be conducted - Done
2. Learnings from this incident to be shared sitewide to ensure such event do not occur elsewhere in the refinery / IV.

5. LESSONS LEARNT.

1. For coupling that can be man-handled (weight factor). Coupling to be supported by sling by one artisan before removing all bolts while the other compresses and taps coupling to gently lower to deck
2. While removing bolts check for looseness of coupling
3. Prior to executing the work, as part of the planning, assess the requirements on the removal of the coupling (e.g. man-handle with sling, use of chain block / crane, etc.)
4. Don't assume a tight fit when removing couplings that will hold in position when all bolts are removed
5. Work instruction to be developed for removal and installation of couplings.