

WIRE FAILURE

The Story

Routine maintenance on lifeboat equipment requires inspection to insure sound and usable equipment. In late 1978, such maintenance was being conducted on a lifeboat. After the falls were slushed, the boat was heaved back into position. The forward falls parted, transferring the weight of the boat to the after falls; they parted, and the boat was dropped into the sea.

Lesson Learned

Both areas where the wire broke were constantly exposed to the weather and had shown signs of broken strands. Such warning signs should be heeded so that inspection scope is increased and necessary repairs or replacements are made.

Prevention Through People



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