

## **HSE - INCIDENT / OBSERVATION REPORT**

**Reported by:** Andy Gibson  
**Location:** Offshore Western Australia  
**Date:** 11/16/99  
**Crew No.:** 140  
**Client:** Woodside  
**Division:** EAME Marine  
**Affected Department:** Seismic

Near Miss

### **Description:**

Cmv was deployed to change section 20b on cable 5. The new section was inserted into cable as per procedures. During this time the weather started to pick up and a following sea on the port quarter was starting to build up. With the tow clamp on the head of the section aft of the bad one, and the spectrum back up rope in place the cmv moved up to the head of the bad section. On its way there, the aft look out reported that the back up rope and bad section were being badly twisted around the tow rope. The head of the bad section was disconnected from the cable and tied to the reel and retrieval of the bad section commenced as normal. After approx 25mtr of cable was on the reel the two crew aft retrieving the back up rope reported that they could no longer pull the twists off the section and tow rope and could no longer get any more rope onboard. After inspection of this problem and a discussion it was decided to winch the back up rope through to the moon pool, this done, the loose end was the used to pull all the back up rope onboard through the moon pool and was then doubled up and taped to the reel. Retrieval of the section then commenced for a few more metres until the section, back up rope and tow rope were so twisted the tow rope could not be separated form the other two. With only 6 sections behind us we cut the tow rope and sucked every thing on to the reel. When the clamp was about 10 mtr behind the cmv a loop of spectrum rope was sucked into the port jet drive and the engine stopped. We then cut the back up rope in the moon pool and tied it off to the cmv. This enabled us to get a bit more section on the reel and enough slack at the back of the boat to cut the back up rope again to free the cable from the jet drive. This done, we then sucked the clamp to the back off the cmv and cut all loose ends of back up rope and tow rope away from the clamp. When happy nothing could get caught in our last engine we sucked the module and clamp into the moon pool and retied the tow rope to the clamp and connected the cable back together as normal.