

NEAR MISS – FALLING OBJECT

INCIDENT:

After 30 minutes jarring on stuck pipe, the latch pin retainer on a B&V CL-350 elevator fell 26m to the rig floor without striking anybody. The latch pin weighed 300 grams. The nearest person was about 2m from the point of impact and all other personnel were clear of the area.

FAILURE:

- The latch pin was missing a cir-clip retainer which was probably worn and fell out of its groove. This allowed the latch pin to jump free while jarring.
- The OEM issued no Safety Alert even though the latch pin retainer had been changed from cir-clip to split pin on newer elevators.

LATERAL LEARNING:

- Check all overhead equipment closely
- Stay clear when jarring stuck pipe
- Always expect the unexpected



Cir-clip installed on latch pin



Cir-clip replaced by split pin