



INTRODUCTION

Personnel must board vessels in a safe manner using approved boarding devices (e.g. gangways). Movement of the floating vessel can cause movement of the gangway, thus increasing the possibility of workers to falling from the gangway or being injured by a moving gangway.

Potential Hazards:

- Workers being injured when boarding a vessel
- Workers falling off the gangways or ladders to a lower level or into the water
- Structural failure of a gangway or ladder causing the worker to fall to a lower level or into the water
- Movement of the gangway or ladder resulting in injuries
- Workers being struck by moving material or cargo loads
- Installing/Removing the gangway

According to the ABS Mariner Safety Research Database, injuries associated with gangways and accommodation/pilot ladders are fairly common (287/8,501 = 3.4%) and can be very serious. These

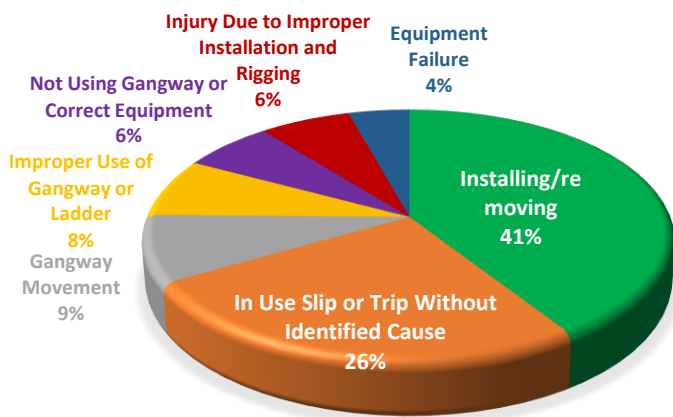


Figure 1. Types of Gangway Incidents

injuries occur while installing/removing the gangway (38%) and when using the gangway (62%). Figure 1 illustrates the types of gangway incidents recorded in the

dataset. The data set also includes 16 fatalities related to gangways.

Installing/removing gangways and ladders can result in injury and death as well. The most common installation injuries are being struck by a moving or falling object (46%), slip/trips/falls (28%), strains and sprains (19%), and other (7%).

Injuries and fatalities while boarding the vessel account for 62% of all gangway related events. Slips and trips without identified cause (38%) are the most common type. Improper use of gangways (12%) and not using a gangway (9.6%) can also generate injury events. Movement of the gangway (13%) due to vessel movement is also a concern. Equipment failure (7%) and improper installation and rigging (9%) can also generate injuries. The other category (12%) includes being caught between the ladder/gangway and other low frequency events (Figure 2).

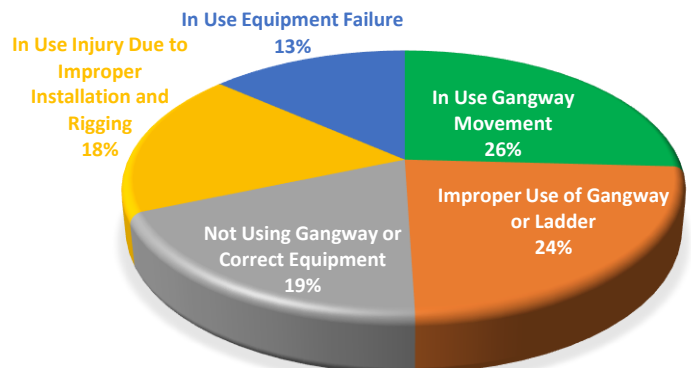


Figure 2. Types of Gangway Incidents-Using Gangway (Excluding Installing/Removing)

Figure 3 shows the types of events leading to the injuries and fatalities. Falls and 'struck by' comprise almost 66% of all injuries and fatalities associated with gangways. Boarding a ship while intoxicated (1.4%) or gangways. Boarding a ship while intoxicated (1.4%) or distracted can result in significant injury. Also, special instruction should be given to visitors who are unfamiliar with gangways.



Gangways, Accommodation, Ladders and Pilot Ladder Injuries

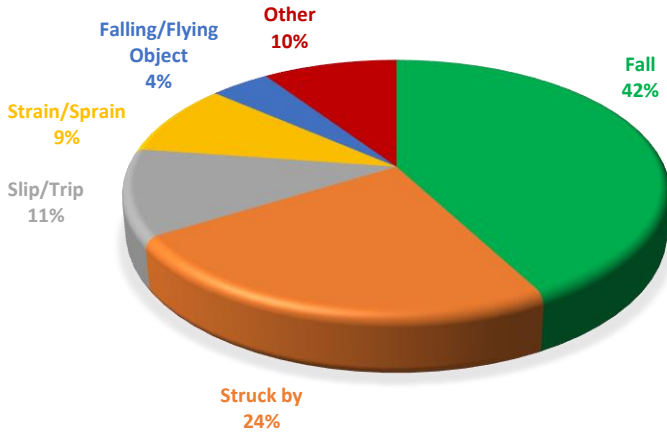


Figure 3. Type of Injury

Based on the injury data reported in the ABS Mariner Safety Research Database, injuries associated with gangways are typically serious. Over 60% of the injuries result in lost time and 5.6% resulted in a fatality/missing (Figure 4).

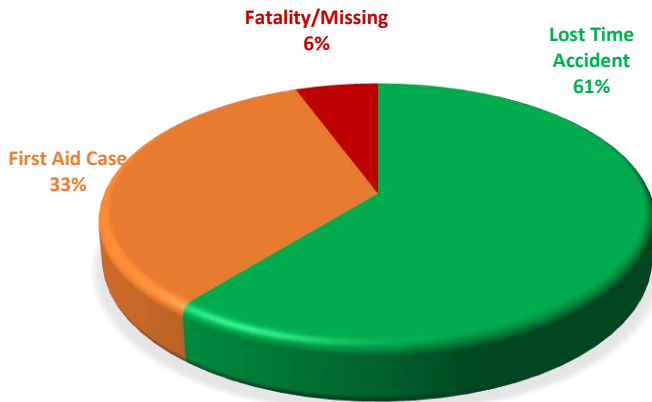


Figure 4. Injury Severity

As is common in accidents and incidents, the primary main cause of gangway-related injuries, based on the ABS MSRI Database, was reported as people (over 60%) (Figure 5).

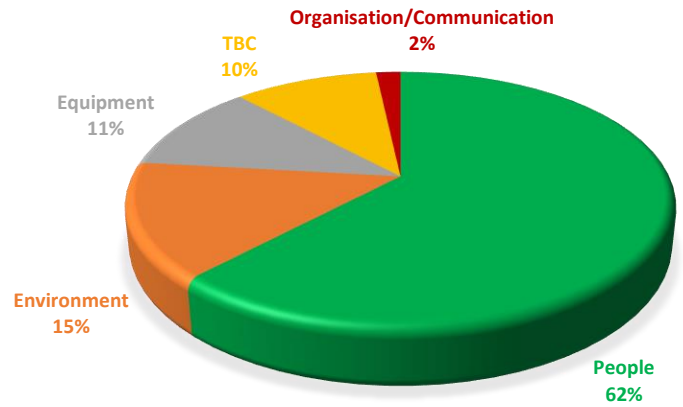


Figure 5. Main Cause



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