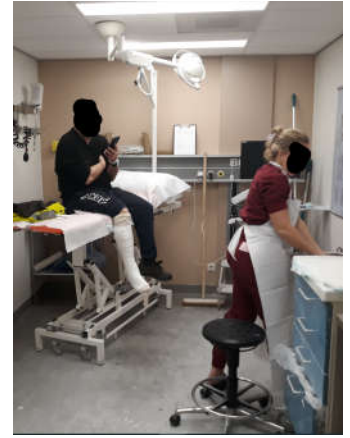
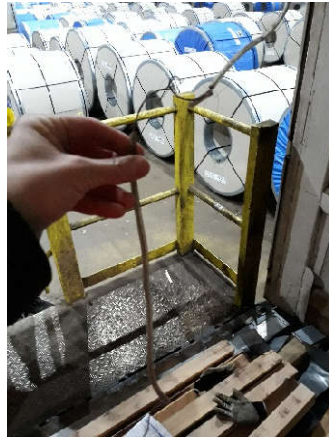


Driver Injury – Defective Sliding Roof

What Happened:

Driver needed to open the sliding roof for overhead crane loading.

Driver tried to unlock roof using the wire and put his roof pole in place and proceeded to pull the roof open whilst walking backwards. The roof unlocking mechanism was not unlocking and working properly. The roof release cord was worn out and snapped when pulling pressure was applied. The roof cord snapped causing driver to fall backwards onto the trailer floor. Driver was hurt and brought to hospital. X-ray showed 2 leg fractures.



Findings:

- The driver used the roof cord incorrectly. Roof cord is for releasing the roof locking pins only
- The roof cord was in bad condition, it was already damaged and repaired insufficiently
- The roof pin (un)locking mechanism did not release properly
- When pressure was applied to the roof release cord to pull the roof open, the cord broke causing the driver to fall
- Trailer maintenance was done accordingly, no maintenance records or replacement on the roof cords

Recommendations:

Drivers and Hauliers should:-

- ✓ Ensure drivers actively report defects they find on trailers for repair
- ✓ Re-emphasize the importance of following the correct safe working procedure for opening and closing sliding roofs. P&O Ferrymasters Ltd safe working procedure and what to do in the event of a fault guidance is available from our website:

<https://carrierinfo.poferrymasters.com/safe-working-procedure-swp-0022.pdf>

<https://carrierinfo.poferrymasters.com/sliding-roof-fault-finding.pdf>

- ✓ Inspect and promote regular inspection of trailers sliding roofs and roof cords for damage and defects.
- ✓ **Stop** when mechanism are not working and report defect to planning or supervisor