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From: Meredith Brown <racer@lanl.gov>
Subject: Blue Alert: Rigging Failure

Title: Rigging Failure on FLYGT Mixer

Identifier: 1999-SRS-WSRC-0001 Date: 3/31/99

Lesson Learned Statement: Mechanical abnormalities as a result of extended use, age of hoists, and the lack of an internal maintenance/inspection program resulted in a hoist failure.

Discussion of Activities: On 3/16/99, SRS employees were lowering a load utilizing two manual lever actuated hoists (in series), when one of the hoists failed. The hoist failure caused the load to drop resulting in no personal injury and minor equipment damage. Subsequent investigation revealed that mechanical abnormalities resulting from extended use, age of the hoists, and lack of an internal maintenance/inspection program. The failed hoist was a Budgit-Tugit Model lever operated chain hoist. All such hoists have been removed from service at the SRS pending investigation of failure mode analysis by the Site Hoisting and Rigging Committee.

Recommended Actions: It is recommended that other sites in the complex review maintenance/inspection practices for these type hoists and take actions as appropriate to ensure their safe use.

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Reviewing Official: Bruce Burns
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DOE Functional Category: Maintenance
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