

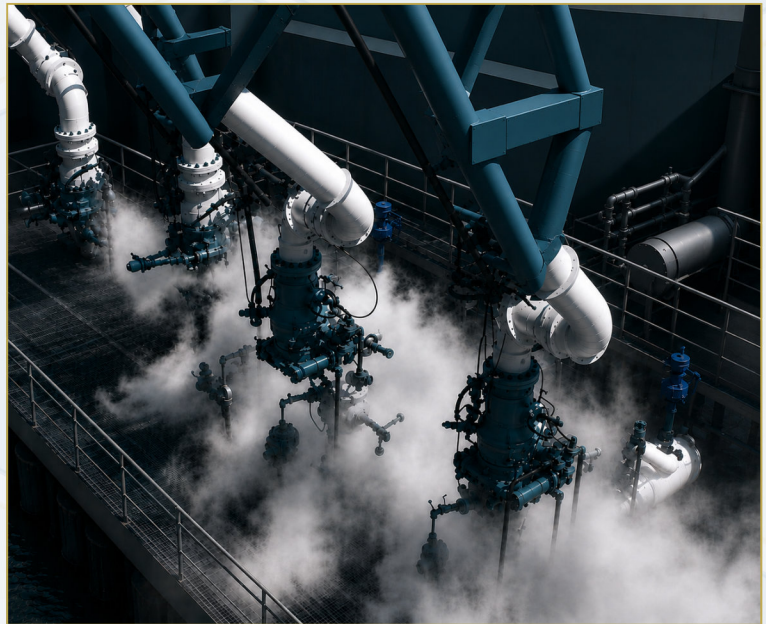
SPURIOUS ERS ACTIVATION

Incident Learning Sheet - July 2026

What Happened

Spurious activation of Emergency Release Systems (ERS) fitted to Marine Loading Arms (MLA) may occur due to sensor failure, equipment malfunction or incorrect operation.

The activation typically results in a safe disconnection, but this may not be the case if the equipment has not been maintained properly.



Key Lessons

- Discuss the design of ERS systems with the manufacturer to understand the risks and failure modes
- Ensure adequate maintenance routines are in place to prevent spurious activation
- Ensure adequate maintenance routines are in place to prevent unsafe release
- Provide equipment specific training to operators
- Check the design to ensure incorrect manual activation is sufficiently guarded against.

Understand and Maintain Complex Systems to Prevent Failure

Further Information

The following publications are related to this topic:

- OCIMF - Design and Construction Specification for Marine Loading Arms – 4th Edition
- OCIMF/SIGTTO - Jetty Maintenance and Inspection Guide – 2nd Edition
- SIGTTO - LNG Emergency Release Systems - Recommendations, Guidelines and Best Practices
- ISO 16904:2016 - Design and testing of LNG marine transfer arms for conventional onshore terminals