DEBRIS FALLING FROM HAMMER HEAD CRANE AT FLEET BASE EAST

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT:

• A small rectangular piece of metal has been found on a ship berthed at Fleet Base East.
• The object likely fell from the adjacent Hammer Head Crane.
• There have been previous instances of similar nature, the last being 24 October 2012.
• No injuries were sustained.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE INCIDENT:

• 31 January 2013.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:

• Comcare has attended the site and conducted an assessment. Comcare has now issued an Oral Prohibition Order which includes an exclusion zone within a 6m radius of the crane.
• The enforced exclusion zone now precludes the use of two ship berths at Fleet Base East.
• This limitation has resulted in a large Navy vessel having to be berthed at Chowder Bay in lieu of Fleet Base East.
• Comcare and Navy Workplace Health and Safety reporting requirements have been met.

Group or Service Final Clearance: VADM R Griggs