## Palnut is an approved method for securing bolts.

In April 2013, a report (Study of Pal®nut DIN 7967 bolt securing system) was issued which concluded that Palnut was unsuitable for securing bolts. This was justified by two conditions; One was by the DIN norm (7967) which was behind the original approval of the Palnut, was withdrawn. The other was a series of experiments that showed that bolts secured with Palnuts lost pretension when exposed to vibrations.

Based on this report, Equinor (then Statoil) sent out a security warning that Palnut should not be used, and SfS published the report on its websites.

However, it was later discovered that the study had obvious defects; it was neither signed nor verified, it had no logo and it was not clear who was the client. It turned out that a supplier of competing bolt securing products had designed and carried out the test - and the vibration used during the test was described by others as totally unrealistic. Furthermore, it was pointed out that even though a DIN standard was withdrawn it does not necessarily mean that there is a problem with the products that satisfied this norm.

In order to investigate the matter more closely, investigations were made among the largest users and in incident databases. The result was quite clear: Palnut has proven to be a reliable method of bolt securing!

Statoil withdrew its Security Alert and SfS removed the reference to the misleading report on its websites. There are unfortunately several who have not noticed these actions and SfS have therefore chosen to post this note.

In conclusion; Palnut is still an accepted method for bolt securing, but it is worth noting the conditions in SfS's handbook "Dropped objects prevention" must be adhered to :
- Palnut is not recommended where there are strong+persistent vibrations
- Palnuts must not be reused
- Installation must be in accordance with the operating instructions (see chapter 4.2.7 in the handbook)

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