

Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 99-06

LOCKOUT/TAGOUT PROCEDURES

WHAT HAPPENED:

After making a connection, the driller inadvertently kicked in the main pump from the driller's console while the toolpusher and derrickman were changing the pony rod on the pump. No one was injured, but the pony rod had to be cut in half to be removed and pump was damaged. The situation could have been much worse, resulting in an injury.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The crew failed to disable the airline that enabled the pump at the compound. They also failed to tag out the pump activation lever at the driller's console.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- Ensure that any equipment under repair is disconnected from energy sources.
- Ensure that controls for equipment under repair is tagged and locked out to prevent use.

The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company's attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.