



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 00-32

STABBING BOARD RELATED INCIDENTS

WHAT HAPPENED:

There have been a number of incidents where personnel have been injured when a stabbing board failed in some way.

WHAT CAUSED IT: Investigations of these incidents indicate:

- Failure of stabbing basket winch line.
- Safety dogs were not fully functional.
- Stops at the end of the tracks failed due to either not being installed, or were not properly reinforced.
- Tracks not properly aligned.
- Hoses not properly secured come into contact with stabbing board or stabber.
- Stabbing basket/board was not located so that the driller could see the basket/board or the stabber.
- Clearance between the fold out table and top drive was not sufficient.
- Stabbing board/basket was not able to be sufficiently adjusted so that stabber could reach tall or short casing joints.
- Lack of escape route for stabber.
- Table struck by blocks (top drive).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

The manufacturer's preventative maintenance procedures and check list should be followed. In addition, the following items should be addressed if they are not part of preventive maintenance checks. Also, these items should be checked prior to using the stabbing board / basket.

1. Winch Line Attached to Stabbing Table is checked to ensure that it is in good condition and is securely attached to the table. Winch Line Hook safety latch is functional.
2. Safety dogs are fully functional and are free of rust / corrosion.
3. Safety dogs are in the normal operating position and are not tied in the open position.
4. Stabbing Board Tracks Stops are installed at the end of the tracks.
5. Stops at the end of the tracks are properly reinforced to support the impact of a falling stabbing board table.
6. Tracks are properly aligned, allowing stabbing board table to travel freely.
7. Stabbing board Fold Out Tables on Top Drive Rigs have sufficient clearance between the fold out table and moving top drive.
8. Driller ensures that stabber has the board fully folded (retracted) before moving Top Drive / blocks.
9. Stabbing board is located where visibility is clear between the stabber and driller.
10. Stabbing board is located to accommodate the longer-than-normal joints (i.e., 42' – 45')
11. Stabber has escape route in case of an emergency.
12. Kelly and Service Loop Hoses are secured such that they will not catch on the stabbing board table (basket) or stabber.
13. Fall protection (i.e. retractable safety life line) is attached to a solid structure of the derrick, not the stabbing basket or table.

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.

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