



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 05 – 42

NEAR MISS – MUD PUMP RELIEF LINE

WHAT HAPPENED:

The pictures below show the outcome when the mud pump relief valve popped at +/- 4900 psi and the bolts on the anchor clamp on the mud tank failed. The rig had just repaired the module on the same mud pump and was back online circulating when the pop off blew. Fortunately there were no personnel present in the area and subsequently no injury to personnel.



Normal configuration of the Mud Tank anchor bracket

Mud Tank anchor bracket after the incident. Note handrail was also removed at the time of the incident.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following statement:

This incident was a very serious incident and could have been fatal. We are currently conducting a full investigation on this incident and we are also internally reviewing our relief line configurations and design to eliminate the reoccurrence of this type of incident.

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.

This material is presented for information purposes only. Managers & Supervisors should evaluate this information to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices

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