



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

---

ALERT 05 – 07

## UNSAFE HOISTING & RIGGING PRACTICE

### WHAT HAPPENED:

The monkey board assembly was being removed from the derrick during the rig out stage of the operation; the derrick was in the horizontal position. Two gin pole trucks were positioned on either side of the derrick with slings secured to the bottom skid of the monkey board assembly. Three workers had positioned themselves inside the monkey board assembly to remove the pins, which secured the monkey board assembly to the derrick. When the last pin was removed, the monkey board assembly flipped 180 degrees and contacted the ground. The three workers were thrown from their positions inside the monkey board assembly, to the ground.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

#### Unsafe Hoisting & Rigging

Application of the lifting slings did not address the issue of identifying the center of gravity on the attempted lift of the monkey board assembly.

#### Unsafe Design

Design allows workers to be exposed to a hazardous risk on a suspended load during the removal or installation of the monkey board assembly.

#### Taking an Unsafe Position

Three workers positioned themselves on and inside the monkey board assembly (suspended load).

### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following directives to rig personnel:

Hoisting any rig load with gin pole trucks requires knowledge of the fundamentals of rigging. Before any lift is attempted a "Basic Rigging Plan" must be in place. The "Plan" must address the following questions:

- Who is responsible (competent) for the rigging?
- Communication established?
- Is the equipment in acceptable condition? Appropriate type? Proper identification?
- Are the working loads adequate? What is the weight of the load? Where is the center of gravity?
- What is the sling angle? Will there be any angular or side loading?
- Will the load be under control? Is the load rigged to the center of gravity? Clear of personnel?
- Special requirements?

At all times, the specific work activity being performed must be under the immediate supervision of an authorized person who has the authority to commence, modify, or cease the work methods or operations, necessary, to ensure the safety of affected personnel. The authorized person must observe changing conditions and improve, whenever required, the work methods to promote increased protection for the personnel.

Under no circumstances is anyone to work on or under a suspended load. (CAODC Rig Move Reference Manual).

Engineer a safe system for the installation and removal of the monkey board assembly, to eliminate the positioning of workers exposed to the hazardous risk of completing a task on a suspended load.

IADC Note: Refer to IADC HSE Reference Guide Section 8 and Alert 99-14, 04-03.

---

**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

Copyright © 2005 International Association of Drilling Contractors All rights reserved.

Issued February 2005