



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 05 – 12

DERRICK DIVING BOARD FELL TO RIG FLOOR

WHAT HAPPENED:

A 150 ton dual tubing spider and manual hand slips were being used for making up and standing back stands of 2-7/8" tubing, in the derrick. After running 18 joints of tubing and 6 blast joints into the hole, the driller started pulling and racking back whole stands of pipe. After the driller pulled and racked back the second stand, he started to lower the dual spider when it struck the derrick diving board. The blow to the board caused it to shear off from the racking board and fall 85' (28 meters) on to the strong back walkway located outside the rig floor area. Fortunately there were no injuries to personnel and limited equipment damage

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Safety slings that had once been installed on the derrick diving board to preclude the board from falling from the derrick had been removed at some time prior to the incident.
- Due to their size, the 150 ton dual tubing spiders being used were not designed to safely make up stands of tubing and rack them back in the derrick. This type spider will not pass the end of the diving board unless it is guided and oriented by the derrickman.
- The driller had not removed the Plexiglas rain shield located above him to gain a clear view up the derrick. The driller was instead relying on signals relayed from the derrickman to the man on the stabbing board and then to the driller.
- The available JSA had not been updated to cover all of the hazards of the job, and when reviewed, no step by step procedure was established for the discussion of JSA's
- The JSA did not cover the added risk of racking pipe with the 150 ton spider.

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

- Fixed safety slings connected to proper anchor points will be re-installed on the diving board when it is repaired and mounted into the mast
- Safety slings for the diving board will be added as a line item on the Mast Inspection Report for future inspections.
- The use of 150 ton dual tubing spider with large elevators will be discontinued and replaced with side door or center latch tubing elevators for this job.
- JSA's shall be written and reviewed by the personnel involved in the task and a concerted effort will be made to address all hazards, especially when conditions change.
- The driller must remove the Plexiglas window above him when tripping in/out of the hole to prevent his vision of the mast from being obscured and to allow direct communications.



View of missing diving board



View of broken diving board padeyes

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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