



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

## ALERT 06 – 39

### INCORRECT HEATER ON TRACTION MOTOR RESULTS IN FIRE

#### WHAT HAPPENED:

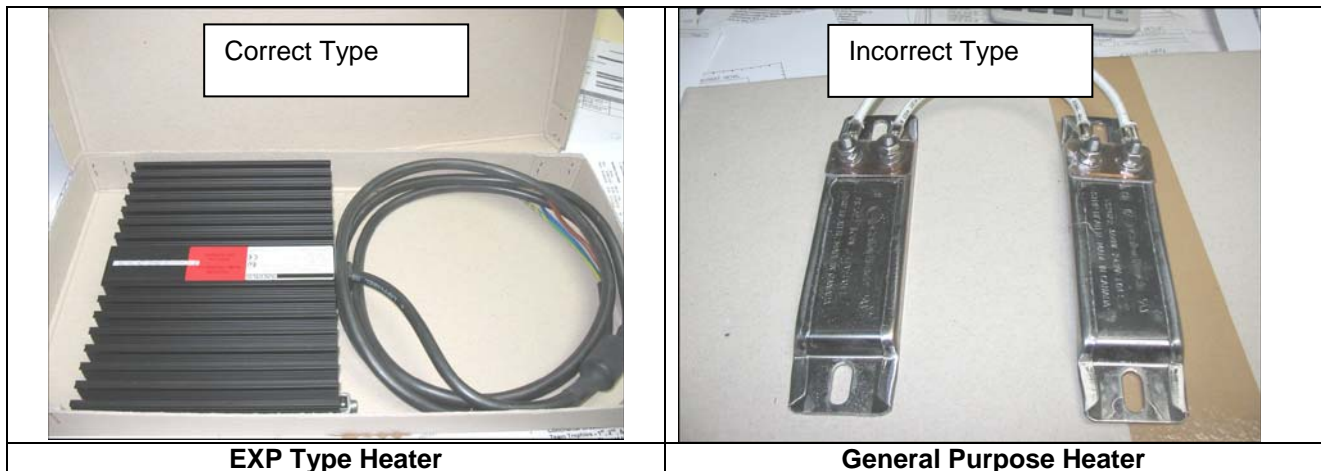
Gas from the well bore collected under the rig floor and ignited.

#### WHAT CAUSED IT:

Investigation determined that the gas also filled the rotary drive traction motor which was equipped with a general purpose space heater. General purpose space heaters are not designed to maintain temperatures below flash points. The space heater provided the source of ignition.

#### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company did the following:

Ensure that all rotary drive and drawworks traction motors are equipped with EXP heaters. If they are not, immediately remove power from the heaters and order replacement heaters. Each rig will be required to verify completion of inspection. All inspections and material requisitions should be completed and faxed to the Corporate Maintenance Department.



**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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