



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 09 – 27

LAYING OUT DRILL PIPE RESULTS IN BROKEN FINGER (LTI)

WHAT HAPPENED:

The rig crew was lowering 5" drill pipe from the rig floor down to the catwalk using the air winch through the V-door. A floor man (IP) was assigned to work near the catwalk to take off the lifting cap from the drill pipe. He was instructed to put another nipple under the drill pipe while it was lowered onto the catwalk and before it was laid down on the catwalk. This was to make it easier to slide the drill pipe. After the drill pipe had been laid on the catwalk, the IP started to take off the lifting cap, which was still connected to the air hoist line. The drill pipe tilted toward the IP's right hand and fractured his thumb.



Position of the Injured person while taking off lifting cap

WHAT CAUSED IT:

1. No SJA (JSA) was issued for laying down drill pipe using rig floor air hoist.
2. Improper working position and failure to identify job hazards.
3. Lack of safety awareness by the IP as he was taking off the lifting cap while:
 - Using one hand.
 - The air hoist wire was still under tension and attached to the lifting cap causing resistance to IP's hand.
4. Failure to follow procedure: IP put the nipple under the drill pipe in the middle instead of nearer the box end. Therefore it tilted toward his right hand side.

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

1. Instructed rig personnel to initiate SJA (JSA) to cover laying down drill pipe from rig floor. The SJA (JSA) is to clarify "Working on Catwalk" hazards.
2. This SJA is to be communicated to all drilling crews.
3. Instructed rig supervisors to improve safety awareness of the crews through pre job safety meetings and coaching.

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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Issued September 2009