Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 11 – 07

ADJUSTING THE LINK ASSEMBLY ON PIPE SPINNER RESULTS IN A RESTRICTED WORK CASE (RWC)

WHAT HAPPENED:

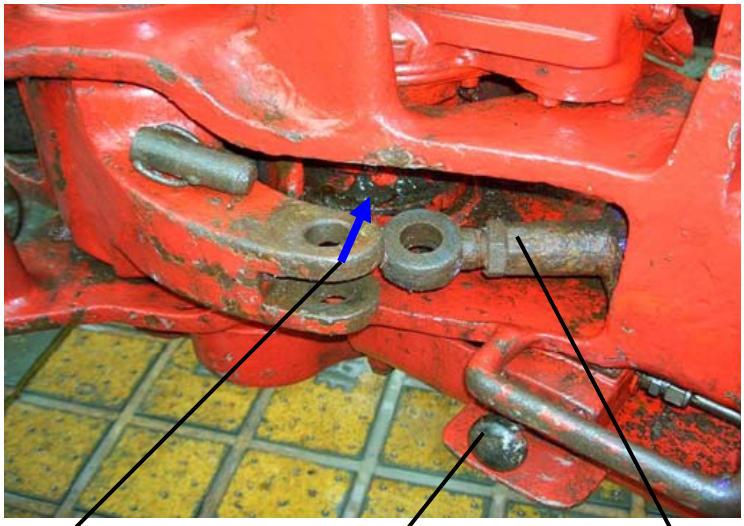
The motorman (Injured Person [IP]) was requested to inspect and adjust the adjustable link assembly on the pipe spinner. The motorman (IP) was lining up the hole on the clevis of the adjustable link assembly with the hole on the operating arm using his left hand. At the same time he turned the air supply back on in order to move the operating arm into position. The IP operated the control valve with his right hand. The pressurized operating arm of the pipe spinner moved forward and contacted with the clevis of the adjustable link assembly. This caused in the clevis link to kick towards the main body of the pipe spinner. The IP's ring finger was caught between the clevis link and the main body of the spinner which resulted in the tip of his ring finger being severed.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Lack of safety discipline due to no pre-job planning and no JSA being conducted.
- IP did not inform his immediate supervisor of performing the job on the rig floor.
- IP was not aware of the potential risk of his hand position.

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

- A JSA was created and procedures for this task were generated.
- Re-trained the IP and other crew members in reviewing JSA's and the Step Back 5x5 programs.
- Re-trained the IP and all other maintenance helpers on the importance of implementing the JSA and Permit to Work System.
- Instructed rig personnel that Maintenance Supervisor is to be informed before undertaking any task, so that assistance or instruction can be supplied as needed.
- These instructions will be added to the company JSA and Procedures programs.



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.

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