



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 11 – 27

## LACK OF PROPER TOOL RESULTS IN FINGER INJURY

### WHAT HAPPENED:

Recently, on-board an installation, a member of the maintenance crew suffered a finger injury while manually removing a section of steel grating in the Engine Room. The section of grating measured 3ft x 3ft and weighed approximately 46kg (~100lbs).



Position of IP's  
fingers at the  
time of incident

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

While sliding the grating to attain access, the crew member trapped his finger between the section of grating he was moving and the deck grating underneath.

The investigation revealed that the practice of sliding the grating, for access purposes, had become common practice onboard this installation.

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

- Recommended that grating pullers (pictured below) be purchased or built following engineered design. The grating pullers are designed to provide a hands free approach to removing sections of grating, which will minimize the possibility of trapping or crushing fingers in-between grating sections.

**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 November 2011



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

---



- Instructed maintenance personnel that during grating removal the following must be considered:
  - Does it infringe on walkways?
  - Will it require more than one person to lift?
  - Could the section of grating be modified to make the task easier?
  - Will the removal of the grating result in a fall hazard (barriers required)

**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 November 2011



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

---

- Instructed Offshore Installation Managers (OIMs) to ensure that either the correct tool is available onboard their installation or that other suitable means (e.g. mechanical lifting devices, handles, etc.) are employed, which will protect fingers, when the grating is being removed.
- Instructed maintenance personnel that the grating lifting tool should be utilized in areas where it is not practical to use mechanical lifting devices or other suitable means. If mechanical lifting devices or other suitable means are available, and the risk assessment has identified these as the most suitable option, then these can be used.

**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 November 2011**