



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 07 – 08

DROPPED DRILL PIPE STAND RESULTS IN NEAR MISS

WHAT HAPPENED:

While tripping 5-1/2" drill pipe into the hole, a roughneck was working the monkey board and lost control of a stand. The stand struck the Top Drive System (TDS), glanced off and came to rest against the derrick. The impact of the stand against the Top Drive System sheared off a "Stand Off" roller, which fell approximately 75' to the rig floor and landed 3' from the "Dog House". The roller that fell to the deck weighs 25 lbs, is 3 1/2" in diameter in the center, and has 5" diameter ends.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The roller is not original manufacturer's equipment (OME); it was added to keep air hoist wires in the derrick from potential obstruction points on the Top Drive System.
- The investigation found that the pin through the roller was seen to be in a worn state.
- Four stands in the same row were not secured properly and when the roughneck working the derrick unchained the next stand to be made up the unsecured stands forced the stand that the roughneck was handling to get away from him and he lost control of it.
- In addition the stands had excess angle in them because of incorrect placement on the floor in the setback area.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed their rig personnel:

- Inspect the TDS aboard your rig for add-on rollers and consider replacing those rollers with wear pads that have a safety line.
- Prior to making modifications, seek guidance from original equipment manufacturer (OEM).
- The issues of experience and placement should be communicated to your crews through pre-tour meetings and JSAs.

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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