



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 08 – 08

LTI—STRUCK BY FLOWLINE AND FALL IN SUBSTRUCTURE

WHAT HAPPENED:

A crew was rigging down the flow-line that extended from the bell nipple to the shaker. Two pad eyes providing for a balanced hoist of the flow-line were available to hook up to, but a chain was attached to only one pad eye, resulting in an unbalanced load. The Dresser® sleeve was knocked loose and the flow-line pivoted from the unbalanced hookup. The unsupported end of the flow-line swung down, striking a floorman standing on a lower beam, causing him to fall two meters (6 feet). The fall resulted in three cracked ribs.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

1. There was a lack of communication, no pre-job or JSA discussion.
2. Personnel didn't share with each other the hazards involved in the "plan" devised for removing the flow-line. The hazard of an unbalanced crane pick-up / lift was not recognized.
3. The injured was standing below the flow-line, exposing himself to the dropped object or uncontrolled release of the energy source (gravity), and no one recognized the hazard.
4. The 100% tie-off rule was not followed, and the injured was exposed to working above two meters without fall protection.

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

1. Good communications are essential to performing the job safely.
2. The safety tools are in place, such as pre-job safety meetings, JSAs, Hazard Recognition techniques (ABBI, STOP™ Observation Card, and Energy Sources).
3. Using these techniques takes time, but that's a part of making safety equal to cost, efficiency and productivity.
4. Management must follow-up frequently with the injured to see how he is doing or if anything has changed since the incident.
5. Instruct personnel that when injured, to relay to your supervisor (medic) any changes in how you feel.

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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