



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 08 – 15

## MONKEY BOARD INCIDENT RESULTS IN MTO

### WHAT HAPPENED:

During a rig move operation, the diving board had been secured with a tie back rope to the monkey board which was resting in a vertical position. The derrickman had climbed up on the monkey board to align it before raising the mast. At the same time a roustabout saw a rope that was tied on the bottom of the monkey board hindering the operation. As the roustabout moved into position under the diving board to untie the rope, the derrickman cut the rope holding the diving board securely in place. The derrickman did not look down to verify if it was safe to cut that particular rope. The diving board fell approximately 1.5 meters (5 feet) and hit the roustabout on the back of his head causing an open wound injury and rendering the IP unconscious.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

1. The tie back rope was cut and this allowed the diving board to free fall.
2. The derrickman should have been more alert to the position of the roustabout and the hazard this posed.
3. The roustabout should have been aware of the purpose of the secured rope.
4. Poor communications between both parties working.
5. Supervision should have provided hazard awareness and clearer work instructions.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** To address this incident, this company instructed rig personnel in the following:

- Follow the correct procedure in lowering the diving board and hinge up the handrail bolts back to the side rail.
- The diving board can be laid back against the back handrail and secured with a cable or safety strap. The safety cable/safety strap keeps the board from falling when the mast is being raised or lowered.
- Hold a JSA and identify hazards and job specific duties before the task is done.
- Improve lines of communication from the Supervision to the employees

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**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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