



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 09 – 28

NEAR MISS – DAMAGED MAN-RIDING WINCH

WHAT HAPPENED:

The drilling crew was running 18 5/8" casing. While preparing for a personnel hoisting operation a floorman was checking out the man-riding winch when he noticed that it was not working properly. A test was conducted by the mechanic who discovered that the winch drum did not rotate with the control lever in the lower personnel position. The man-riding winch was immediately removed from the rig floor to repair and replace damaged mechanical parts.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

1. Damaged mechanical parts due to wear and tear.
2. Probable cause was due to improper use of man-riding winch by holding down emergency brake while on rotation.
3. Personnel who operated the man-riding winch had not been properly trained in its use.

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

1. Rig supervisors were instructed to discuss this incident during safety meetings.
2. Rig supervisors instructed rig personnel that equipment should be maintained in good working condition at all times through regular maintenance and inspection.
3. Rig personnel were instructed that inspection deficiencies are to be entered in the "Rig Corrective Action Register".
4. Line managers were instructed that they should ensure the competency of all personnel using equipment, and conduct refresher training if necessary.
5. The company reinforced its policy that only trained personnel are to operate man-riding winch.

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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