



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 01-36

SURFACE DETONATION OF PERFORATING GUN

WHAT HAPPENED:

While a crew was attempting to disarm a 2' X 3 3/8" select fire perforating gun, the gun detonated on the surface. Three non-life threatening injuries resulted.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The operator was attempting to disarm the gun by removing the G-51 detonator through the small arming port of a ported sub. Detonation occurred as the operator attempted to "fish" the detonator out of the port with a pocketknife.

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

- Instructed personnel to do the following:
 - Use caution when handling detonators.
 - Review procedures for safe handling of detonators.
 - When feasible and where allowed by applicable regulations, arm perforating guns prior to transport using detonation interruption devices to avoid having to insert or remove the detonators through a small port at well site.

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.