



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 – 16

HAMMERING ON MUD PUMP CAP RESULTS IN MASHED FINGER

WHAT HAPPENED:

A recent incident led to the amputation of the tip of an employee's right index finger. The Derrickman was attempting to complete the job of changing out a piston on a mud pump. It was approximately 5:30 a.m. and the employee was being relieved by the oncoming crew so they could crew change and go home. Another employee arrived during the job and attempted to help complete the task by hammering on the bar to tighten the cap on the mud pump. As he was hammering, the bar worked its way up and the Derrickman attempted to push it back in place. The employee who was using the hammer didn't see the Derrickman put his hand on the bar and continued to swing the hammer. This caused the bar to pinch the Derrickman's finger between topside of the hole in the cap.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

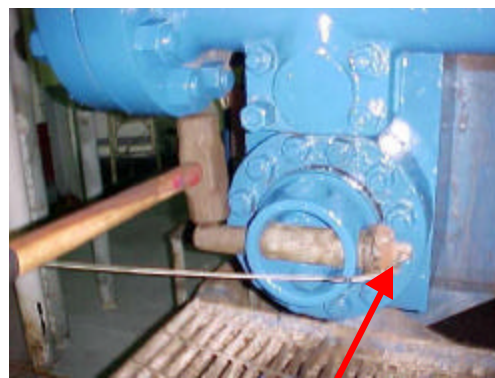
- Employee injured finger because it was in the space between the suction cap and the bar when another employee was hammering.
- Employee put his hand on the bar because it vibrated loose and he chose to use his hand to push the bar back into the suction cap.
- Employee did not use a rope or a cap gasket to push the bar back into place.
- The JSA should have identified the hazardous pinch point and should have identified alternative means of holding bar in place.

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

- Revised JSA to identify hazardous pinch points and offer alternatives to using hands to hold bar.
- Began using a modified bar with a means to have a rope attached to it.
- Discussed the importance of hazard recognition with all personnel.



Potential Pinch Point



New attachment point for safety line

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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