



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 02 – 19

## RIGGING DOWN OPERATIONS RESULTS IN A FALL

### WHAT HAPPENED:

While rigging down the rig to move, the derrickman was climbing the middle sub box to connect the crane line to the box. He slipped on the frame and fell 20' through the lower sub box striking beams and landed on the ground inside the sub box. He was knocked unconscious sustaining injuries to his head.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

It appears that no fall protection was in place for use during this operation.

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

- Instructed all rigs to begin using a new horizontal lifeline fall protection system. The following guidelines are to be followed:
  - This system is to be used on the horizontal mast and on the sub boxes above 6' ground level.
  - This system consists of a length of wire or synthetic rope (max of 60' length) that is stretched horizontally above the path where worker movement is required. The wire/rope is then connected into anchorages (provided in the system) at either end.
  - The wire/rope must be taught enough not to allow excess bowing of line when weight is applied
  - Since 60' is the maximum length, several sets are to be ordered for each rig. This system is portable and can be easily moved where needed.
  - Only use full body harness and 6' shock absorber lanyard with system (our normal issue full body harness and shock absorbing lanyard are correct). No rope lanyards.
- When climbing up the sub boxes, either use only approved ladders or steps. Do not climb vertically on beams.
- All employees shall be instructed on proper fall protection.
- JSAs shall be done on activities that occur during rig moves. Any activity which requires employees to perform tasks must have a JSA.
- To increase our ability to teach proper fall protection to our employees company personnel are attending a Fall Protection Train the Trainer course.

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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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