



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 – 21

DROPPED OBJECT FROM SNUBBING UNIT

WHAT HAPPENED:

There was a recent serious near miss involving a dropped object. While rigging up a snubbing unit on the rig floor, a door fell some 60 feet and glanced off one of our employee's hardhat and shoulder. As the Top Drive was raised to accommodate the snubbing unit pipe handling system the rig's Kelly hose dragged on the side of the snubbing basket's Emergency Escape Pod Entry Panel (20" x 20" +/- 10 lbs.). This caused the door to be picked up and turned inward slightly. An employee with the snubbing unit was trying to keep the hose away from the unit while the Kelly was being picked up. When the Kelly hose passed the top of the door, the door came out and fell. It was deflected and slowed by hydraulic and steel hoses before it struck our employee.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The Escape Pod Entry Panel had no true means of positively locking the panel in place and was not identified as a potential dropped object. No Risk Assessment was done prior to rigging up the unit. The Kelly hose was rubbing against the basket as the block moved upward. As it was rubbing it pushed the panel up and freed the two 1 3/4" pegs from their slots. The panel then moved slightly because one side had a loose fastening bolt. As the Kelly hose passed the top of the panel there was nothing to keep it from falling out to the back of the basket, and there was no safety cable attached.

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

Issued the following directive to all rig supervisors: An Operational-planning meeting will be held between rig and shore based personnel, the Operator, and all Third Parties involved in the snubbing operation.

- A Risk Assessment is required to be completed for this operation as per the company's Risk Assessment system.
- A Detailed Pre-Job Safety Meeting will be held for all personnel involved in the upcoming operation.
- A JSA will be done and Hazards will be identified and addressed, and work assignment will be discussed.
- Inspect all equipment to be used in snubbing operation in accordance with the **3rd Party Equipment Inspection Checklist**.
- A thorough dropped object inspection shall be completed prior to rigging up overhead equipment.
- All equipment will meet company standards for equipment rigged in the derrick according to the Derrick Management Plan Checklist.
- All hinged platforms, gates and access ways shall have a safety chain/cable attached.



Emergency Escape Pod Entry Panel



Installation area for snubbing basket

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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