

Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 - 30

INATTENTION WHILE PULLING SLIPS RESULTS IN FINGER AMPUTATION

WHAT HAPPENED:

When running the first joint of 9 5/8 Casing, it was decided to check the float to ensure proper operation. The slips were set and the casing filled with mud. While in the process of picking up the joint casing and as the elevators were moving up to make contact with the casing collar, floorman prepared to pull slips with his right hand. Inadvertently he had placed his left hand on top of the elevator. His fingers were caught between the casing collar and the elevator. His left index finger was severed at the top knuckle and the middle finger tip was crushed.





WHAT CAUSED IT:

Investigation findings indicate that employee was not sufficiently trained (safety awareness including pinch point) nor had employee received any orientation. It was the employees second hitch working on a rig. Also included as a root cause was the unprotected pinch point between collar and elevator. A safety meeting was held prior to running casing in which the crew reviewed a JSA on running casing.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company gave the following directives:

- Orientations must be performed for all new employees prior to working on rig location.
- Behavior Based Training using the company training guide must be done for all crew members.
- JSA Training to continue for all crews.
- JSAs to be updated to include this specific pinch point.
- Incident data to be provided to elevator manufacturers for possible design update to elevators.
- Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Competency Training must be given to all personnel.

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.