



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 – 39

DRILL PIPE HANDLING OPERATIONS RESULTS IN LTI

WHAT HAPPENED:

When laying down 5" drill pipe, the Derrickman was operating the rig floor winch lowering a joint to the catwalk. He stopped lowering the joint when he saw a co-worker walking on the Catwalk towards the V-Door. The co-worker was bringing a drum with drill pipe pin protectors that were to be picked up to the rig floor.

When the co-worker got next to the hanging joint on the winch line, he pushed the joint of drill pipe aside, thus causing the drill pipe pin end to fall off the Catwalk. When the pin end fell off the catwalk, the joint of drill pipe struck the injured worker on the right shoulder.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The investigation revealed that established working procedures were not followed which also reflects poor supervision. Improper work position for the Injured Person indicates that there was also a lack of safety awareness among crew members. The air winch operator should have been more alert and warned the co-worker.

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

Rig supervisors and personnel were instructed to:

- Follow the established company procedures in order to avoid placing crew members under unsafe working conditions.
- There must be a competent operator on the air winch all the working time.
- Supervisors are responsible for correcting unsafe acts and to stop the job when deemed unsafe.

IADC Note: Reference IADC Accident Prevention Reference Guide Section 3.7 and Section 3.14. Also reference Safety Alerts 01-03 and 99-08.

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.

This material is presented for information purposes only. Managers & Supervisors should evaluate this information to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices.
Copyright © 2002 International Association of Drilling Contractors. All Rights Reserved
Issued September 2002