



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 02 – 44

## IMPROPER STORAGE OF HAZARDOUS LIQUID

### WHAT HAPPENED:

An incident occurred on a rig in which a local employee drank methanol that was being stored in a soft drink bottle in the mechanic shop on the rig. The employee was unaware that the container contained methanol. He immediately began to vomit and was taken to the rig clinic where he was treated.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

This incident occurred because hazardous material was being kept in an unlabeled container.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** To address this incident, this company issued the following directive to all rigs:

- **ALL CONTAINERS USED FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SHALL BE LABELED AS HAZARDOUS MATERIAL.** The name of the contents shall be clearly visible on the container.
- Inspect all areas on your rig to ensure all containers are properly labeled.
- All personnel shall be instructed on Hazardous Material labeling and the dangers of chemicals used on location.
- Established requirements for hazardous materials containers that can be sourced by the corporate HSE department.

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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.**

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.  
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