



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 03 – 02

LAYING DOWN PIPE RESULTS IN A FALL

WHAT HAPPENED:

The rig crew was using the air hoist to lay out drill pipe. As the motorman attempted to push a joint of drill pipe out the V-door, the joint of drill pipe was set down on the edge of the V-door so the motorman had to give an extra push on the pipe to help it out the V-door. When the joint moved unexpectedly, the motorman slipped and fell forward catching hold of the handrail on the left side of the V-door. The motorman's momentum carried him out the v-door, where he lost his grip on the handrail. He managed to grab the edge of the V-door as he fell. He slid down the pipe ramp a short way and then lost his grip again, falling approximately 16 feet to the ground. He landed on a BOP trolley. He suffered a broken arm, multiple bruises and a cut on forearm

WHAT CAUSED IT:

During the operation the air hoist operator may have set the joint down too early or the motorman couldn't push hard enough with the wet floor. Through the investigation, the crew determined that the motorman should have had the air hoist operator pick the joint of pipe back up before he pushed on it. Rig personnel felt that the motorman didn't ask himself "what if" before he began pushing on the pipe.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed rig personnel:

- Each job we do on the rig requires everyone involved asking the question "what if". Each person must take into consideration their surroundings before they start a job.
- Also, use the mechanical equipment to do the moving.
- Having experience in the oilfield is great; however, even experienced personnel are still susceptible to mistakes and injuries if everyone doesn't stay focused on safety.
- Use the STOP process to assist each other with unsafe acts. There are times, however, when other personnel do things so quickly that it's over before you can react. This is why everyone must take time to be sure that they are aware of the hazards and are asking the right questions about the job ahead of time.
- Don't get caught up in a situation without having thought through the outcome of what you're about to do.

IADC Note: Refer to the IADC APRG Section 3 for additional information.

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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