



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 03 – 07

## DROPPED OBJECT FROM DERRICK – NEAR MISS

### WHAT HAPPENED:

While laying down production riser a ½-inch by 4-inch bolt fell from the derrick to the rig floor. The bolt holds the pulley section of an air hoist sheave to the anchoring point which is attached near the crown of the derrick. Fortunately no one was struck and no injury occurred.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

Examination of other sheaves located in the derrick revealed that all other air hoist sheaves had retaining bolts that were loosened by rig vibration, high use, etc.

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

- Issued the following statement to all rigs: “Near misses can easily be categorized as near hits. It is imperative that derrick inspections are carried out to prevent dropped object injuries. Please provide a report to this office detailing where your rig stands with relationship to the Derrick Management System.”
- Instructed all rigs to immediately inspect all sheaves to determine that retaining bolts have not loosened and that these same bolts are secured by an approved method.
- Reminded all rig managers that the Derrick Management System implementation schedule should be completed as soon as possible. In the meantime, please address this issue and any other derrick equipment "dropped object" issues through regular inspections.

Location of dropped bolt.



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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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Issued February 2003