



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 03 – 21

## MOVEMENT OF MATERIAL RESULTS IN DROPPED GAS BOTTLE

### WHAT HAPPENED:

The operation was moving all equipment off the main deck in preparation for a rig move. The crane was being used to move an oxygen & acetylene bottle rack from the starboard side of the main deck to the pipe rack. The Crane Operator was flagged by a Roustabout to pick up the bottle rack. When the load was high enough for the Crane Operator to have a visual, the Roustabout stopped flagging and began to move to the landing site. The Crane Operator began to swing the load but the load was not high enough to clear one of the pipe rack posts. The bottle rack struck the post in such a way that the door bar on the oxygen side of the rack was knocked open and several bottles fell out of the rack onto the main deck. Valves were broken off 2 of the bottles but fortunately the bottles were empty. No one was injured but clearly, had the bottles not been empty, this incident would have been catastrophic.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Improper securing of the bolt by a crows foot safety keeper.
- Lack of complete communication, signalman-leaving position too soon.



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

- Use nuts and washers to secure bolts instead of crows foot safety keepers. Make a survey of all bottle racks on your rig to ensure no unsafe conditions exist.
- Modify JSAs for crane operations so that signalmen are reminded to remain in communication with the Crane Operator throughout the lift.

IADC Note: Refer to Safety alerts 01-31 and 02-18 for additional information.

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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.**

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