



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 03 – 37

MAN-RIDING INCIDENT

WHAT HAPPENED:

An inexperienced Floorhand was assigned to obtain a measurement from the bottom of the rig floor to the Texas deck. A man-rider permit was obtained for the task, a pre-job meeting was held and the job was discussed. A man-rider JSA was on site and available. Another Floorhand was assigned to operate the man-rider winch for the Elevator Basket. The man-rider winch operator was able to see the man in the elevator basket while being lowered but there were some restrictions. A flagman was assigned, but left the work site to retrieve a measuring tape for the task. The injured person put on his safety gear, PFD and fall protection but the crew did not wait for the return of the flagman (banksman) prior to the man being lowered to the Texas deck. The injured man stated “he had to push himself away from some of the congested area and as he began to push away he apparently got his right ring finger between the lifting frame for the BOPs and the man-rider elevator basket.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

1. No specific JSA was written for this task. The crew used the general man-riding JSA instead.
2. A specific JSA should have been created and discussed in the safety meeting held with all personnel involved prior to the task beginning.
3. The inexperienced floorhand decided to proceed prior to the other personnel returning to the job site with the proper tools (the measuring tape) to complete the task.
4. The winch operator, a more experienced Floorhand, decided to continue with the task without a flagman (banksman).
5. The winch operator did not have a clear view of the man rider all the way to the Texas deck.
6. The injured person failed to follow directions and to utilize proper hand placement during this task.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following directives and action items:

Directives

1. Personnel shall be reminded of their accountability for not following directions, policy and procedures.
2. Create a specific JSA for the elevator man-riding basket.
3. Discuss the incident with all personnel during the safety meetings.

Action Items

1. Construct a stairwell to be used from the main deck to the Texas deck.
2. Add weighted guides on the corner of the elevator man rider basket.

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.