



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 04 – 12

CLIMBING ON EQUIPMENT RESULTS IN DISLOCATED SHOULDER

WHAT HAPPENED:

Deck Coordinator (Supervisor) dislocated shoulder while climbing down from a third party filter press. The operation was to offload a two-section filter press from the workboat and to stack-up the filter press on the rig. After the base of the filter press was landed on the rig, two Roustabouts put on their fall protection equipment and climbed seven (7) feet to the top of the filter press to pin the fold-down handrails in place. The handrails had to be erected before the top section could be landed on the base. One Roustabout climbed down from the aft end of the unit using the rungs of the protective cage, while the Deck Coordinator climbed down from the unit using the filter support beams. When the Deck Coordinator stepped on the sub-rack, which was approximately two (2) feet from the deck, his foot slipped. As he fell backwards he grabbed the filter support beam to arrest the fall and dislocated his shoulder.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Deck Coordinator did not utilize a ladder while climbing down off of the filter press base unit.
- Deck Coordinator did not recognize the risks of climbing on support beams.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following Directives:

1. Ladders must be used to gain access to and from equipment. If equipment is not designed with ladders then portable ladders will be used.
2. Simultaneous operations must be managed as two or more separate operations. When possible, one task must be completed prior to the start of the next task, especially when the same crew is working both tasks.
3. When managing simultaneous operations, a JSA must be reviewed for each task, since each task possesses its own hazards and each hazard must be managed separately.
4. Check to ensure newly arriving equipment can safely be accessed; if not use portable ladders.

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.