



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 04 – 28

SIDE DOOR ELEVATOR INCIDENTS

WHAT HAPPENED:

First incident: Recently during casing pulling operations the side door elevator opened while laying out a joint of 7" casing with the crane. This resulted in the joint dropping from the rig floor down against the gate of the V-Door and the leg of the pick-up & lay-down unit, coming to rest on the ground.

Second incident: During completion tubular running operations on the drill floor, the side door elevators opened while picking up a single joint out of the mouse hole. The elevators opened at the point where the single joint was almost completely out of the mouse hole. The joint dropped across the floor and came to rest with the box end across the TDS frame and the pin stuck inside the top of the mouse hole. Personnel were standing clear at this moment to enable the joint to travel towards the top of the completion already inside the hole. Nobody was injured and the incident.

Another incident was reported where the improper placement of the pin was caught just as the pipe was being hoisted. The pipe was lowered and the elevators properly latched.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

Failure by the rig crew to ensure that the latch was fully engaged prior to inserting the safety pin. The safety pin was in the correct hole, however it had been installed at the wrong side of the latch handle (see picture 1)

Incident 1



Incident 1



Incident 2



The safety pin is in, but elevators can be opened by twist.

Incident 2



How they should be latched.

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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CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company recommended the following:

- 1) Contact the elevator manufacturer in order to modify the existing design in order to further enhance the safety of the tools.
- 2) Until modifications are carried out notify all crew personnel to ensure that the latch is fully engaged before inserting the safety pin.
- 3) Place warning stickers on the elevators.

IADC NOTE: There have been a number of incidents involving the improper latching of side door elevators (refer to IADC Alert 01-04. There have been numerous manufacturers' notices on safety pins for side door elevators. Elevator users should contact the elevator manufacturer for any bulletins/alerts that have been issued on side door elevators.

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