



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 98-17

Crew Boat Safety

WHAT HAPPENED:

A crewmember on a crew boat was doing a routine checkup below deck. With workers on the open deck during a crew change, the hatch cover was left open for some period of time while in motion. One employee on the open deck was walking backwards and fell through the open hatch, causing multiple injuries plus fractured hip. This could have been prevented.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

Following are some common-sense rules about crew boat safety:

1. Boat crewmembers should NEVER do routine checks with passengers standing on the open deck.
2. Report defects and/or make separate time for checks before or after passengers are off deck.
3. Ensure that ONLY authorized and trained personnel will carry out these checks.
4. Perform your daily and routine checks at specific times and places.

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 August 1998