



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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**ALERT 98-28**

## Crew Change Communications

### WHAT HAPPENED:

An incident occurred on a rig where 420 feet (128 meters) of tubing was dropped in the well because the shear rams were activated. The rig was tripping out of the hole at crew change time. Work was simultaneously being done in the cellar.

The tubing was in the rotary table with a lifting cap attached. The personnel thought the tubing was clear of the rams, and closed them. The rams sheared the tubing, which fell to the bottom of the well. The tubing was fished out of the hole with a loss of two days rig time.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

It appeared that important information was not clearly communicated to the crew coming on tour by the crew leaving tour.

### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

1. Drillers, tourpushers and toolpushers should review the activities of the previous tour at crew change. Any changes in BHA, mud, hole drag, permitted work in progress and any other pertinent information should be discussed.
2. A brief discussion with the entire crew should be held prior to each crew change (toolbox talk) to ensure each person understands operations in progress at the time of crew change.
3. Drillers need to include all critical information on the IADC Daily Drilling Report (DDR) and discuss this with the oncoming driller. Assistant drillers should also be involved in this briefing.
4. A quick visual inspection of the rig should be carried out prior to takeover. The driller or toolpusher should check mud tank volumes, BOP controls, choke manifold and all vital rig operations at this time.
5. The pipe tally should be readily available to the driller with all necessary 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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