



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 13 – 08

CAUGHT BETWEEN INCIDENT RESULTS IN FIRST AID INJURY

WHAT HAPPENED:

While rigging down, the crew was preparing to disassemble the top drive track. An employee was to be hoisted to the crown to verify positioning and assist the carriage attachment to the top drive track. To accomplish his task, the employee needed to be hoisted up the mast on the driller's side. After reaching the board area, the employee did not clear his foot from the approaching girt. His foot was caught between the girt, which subsequently pulled his boot off before freeing his foot from the girt. This resulted in minor swelling and discomfort to the employee's foot, but the consequence for injury was much greater.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The injured employee did not clear his feet from the approaching girt while being hoisted up the driller's side of the mast.
- The injured employee was not utilizing the tension limiter per company policy for the hoisting of personnel.
- Neither the tool pusher nor the injured employee verified the new employee running the hoist had the amount of training and experience required for running such a hoist while hoisting personnel.
- The tool pusher was on the rig floor during this procedure but was distracted by another job being performed at the same time; he was not directly supervising the lift.

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

- To verify positioning, assist the carriage attachment to the top drive track, and to complete this task safer, the company encourages all of its employees to complete this task by climbing the derrick ladder to the crown while being 100% tied off.
- If an employee is to be hoisted, the company now requires employees to be hoisted up the center of the mast and travel along the length of a guide cable to prevent the possibility of catching any body part between a girt or any other obstructions throughout the mast.
- All rig personnel were reminded that while a person is being hoisted, all other tasks must stop and everyone on the rig floor should assist with supervising the lift to insure the safety of the hoisted person.
- All rig personnel were reminded to utilize the tension limiter every time a crew member is being hoisted throughout the mast, no exception.
- The company reminded all rig managers that until it is verified that a new employee, no matter the experience level, shows the required skill and knowledge to safely operate a hoist, that employee is to never operate a hoist during personnel hoisting operations.

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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