



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 13 – 20

DROPPED OBJECT RESULTS IN NEAR MISS

WHAT HAPPENED:

A half-moon clamp insert weighing 1.9kg (4.9lbs) had been identified as redundant equipment and was being removed from a hose. The work party, who removed the clamp, was not aware that the assembly contained inserts. It was assumed that the inserts were integral to the swaged end fitting of the hose. However, the inserts were held on by friction and had “weathered” in place. Two days later, one of the clamp inserts fell 12 meters (39 feet) from the compensator fluid hose to the drill floor. Even though this incident could have resulted in a fatality, no personnel were struck by the dropped object and the remaining half-moon insert was safely removed and brought to the drill floor.



Lifting Collar Clamp Assembly

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The clamp assembly had been in-situ since 2009 and had been used as a form of secondary retention.
- The lifting clamp assembly had been identified during specialist DROPS inspections as a method of secondary retention. It was not known that the lifting collar was not designed to carry out this function.
- Upon further investigation of the OEM documentation, it was discovered that the clamp assembly was only designed as a lifting collar to assist with hose installation and should not be used as a form of secondary retention.
- The OEM documentation was available on the MODU but had not been referenced and the clamp assembly was not identified as a potential hazard.

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

- All facilities were instructed to conduct an inspection of all derrick hoses to check for any similar arrangements.
- All facilities were instructed to contact their hose supplier and request that the lifting clamp assemblies are suitably identified and marked as being “for installation purposes only.”
- All rig personnel were reminded that OEM documentation states that the lifting clamp assembly may be left on hose after installation but that it is not for secondary retention. The rig personnel requested that this be amended by the company to reduce the risk of re-occurrence and potential dropped objects being left at height.
- The company contacted the DROPS inspection companies to inform them of this issue.
- The company amended their task risk assessments (TRA) to include specific detail on the removal of lifting clamp assemblies.
- The company amended their DROPS procedure to state that the removal of items from the derrick should be verified by a supervisor and to reference OEM/Technical guidance when required.
- The company updated their DROPS Inspection Manuals to reflect the fact that lifting clamp assemblies are now removed.

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 2013