



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 11 – 02

LIFTING OPERATION RESULTS IN A FATALITY

WHAT HAPPENED:

A Service Company Supervisor (Independent Party [IP]) was fatally injured by a load during a lifting operation. The IP was present during the lifting operation to observe the movement of equipment. The Deck Foreman directed the IP to a safe location prior to commencing the lift. After the lift began, one of the Roustabouts holding a tag line queried an aspect of the rigging arrangement with the IP. During this brief exchange, one leg of the sling became caught under the cantilever stairway. The IP was out of the direct line-of-sight of the Deck Foreman and for unknown reasons moved into the lift area. When the sling became free, the load swung towards a nearby container and the IP was caught between the load and the container.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The Job Safety Analysis (JSA) did not cover the use of a bulldog clamp and this question became a source of distraction during the lift.
- The distraction caused one of the tag line handler's to lose focus on the job.
- Despite being clearly instructed otherwise, the IP entered the hazard zone.
- The lifting environment, particularly location of the bundles under the cantilever resulting in a blind lift, an overhead obstruction, and the unexpected movement of the IP out of the direct line of sight of the banksman created additional hazards.

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

- Only drilling contractor personnel will be directly involved in lifting operations.
- Rigging and slinging arrangements shall be agreed with third party contractors prior to commencing a lift.
- All parties concerned with the lift shall participate in the JSA process. Clear and unambiguous "stop-the-job" signals, or commands, must be established and agreed as part of the JSA.
- Positions of people shall be discussed and agreed during the JSA process. The supervisor shall also ensure that third parties or other bystanders understand the requirement to remain in designated places of safety during lifting operations.
- Lift supervisors must ensure **EVERYONE** involved understands the lift plan and their roles and responsibilities in the operation.
- Drilling contractor personnel involved in lifting operations will focus their full attention for the duration of lifts.

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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Overhead View of Main Deck, showing location of items related to the incident.

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