



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 11 – 18

## DROPPED OBJECT - PIN FALLS FROM TOP DRIVE RESULTS IN A NEAR MISS

### WHAT HAPPENED:

While laying down 5" Drill Pipe, the upper pin of the top drive link support assembly came loose and fell approximately 15-18 feet to the rig floor near the driller's side. No injury was reported.



### WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The safety pin was sheared off allowing the upper pin to work its way loose and drop to the rig floor.

### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed rig personnel in the following:

- Conduct routine scheduled inspection of all equipment that has a potential to drop from the derrick. Utilize the company "DROPS Prevention Scheme" checklist and complete a Dropped Object Management System (DOMS) Rig Inventory List. Attach pictures to the inventory list and retain in the rig file.
- Use safety pin with spring latch instead of using nuts similar to the ones used in 350 ton top drive.
- Develop a JSA to be used when conducting the top drive routine inspection check.
- Reference the following internal documents
  - Dropped Object Management System (DOMS)
  - Job Safety Analysis
  - Top drive manufacture's (OEM) operating manual
  - Perform monthly inspections

**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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