

SAFETY **ALERT**



Uncontrolled Decent of Crane Boom

Alert 7-20

WHAT HAPPENED:

The operation involved offloading 9 5/8" casing from a supply vessel to the rig's cantilever deck. The crew was utilizing a main deck crane, operating on a single line ("whip line"). Two bundles with three casing joints each were in the process of being lowered on top of the casing already stacked on the cantilever deck. Suddenly, the crane boom wire parted causing the load and crane boom to drop and then come to rest on top of the casing stack on the cantilever. No personal injuries occurred as a result of the incident.



CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- It was determined that the boom wire rope was displaced from its sheave and had been running in between the sheaves which caused premature and undue wear of the boom wire rope. The primary cause is likely due to not maintaining sufficient tension in the crane boom wire during windy conditions while the crane boom is stored in the crane boom rest, or at higher angles allowing the wire rope to move off the sheave.
- Crane Operator did not use the company daily crane checklist, which includes the requirement to check the seating of wire rope over A-frame and boom tip sheave assemblies.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- When setting the crane boom in the rest, lower the boom until it barely touches the rest.
- DO NOT slacken the cables! Easing the cables risks "bird nesting" of the wire rope on the drum, or dislodging of the wire rope from its sheave.
- Reinforce the use of company-approved daily crane operator checklist and that no alternative checklist should be used without formal Management of Change.

A Safety Alert can consist of any type of health, safety & environment (HSE) notification or Near Miss/Near Hit alert. Proactive Alerts on jobs well done are also encouraged.