DROPPED OBJECT (CASING)
HIGH POTENTIAL NEAR MISS

WHAT HAPPENED:

The crew was picking up 13 3/8 casing with a single joint elevator and a long pick-up assembly attached to the top drive. The casing caught on the derrick A-frame brace / roller. Both sling links on the elevators parted. See picture below. The joint slid down the V-door and came to rest at the end of the catwalk. No injuries—this time.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The JSA did not point out the risk of the casing snagging the A-frame brace, although the hazard was verbally acknowledged at pre-tour and pre-job meetings.
- The lifting speed was not adjusted to allow the casing to clear the girt.

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

- Revise the JSA to show the danger of a joint of casing being pulled too fast up the V-door and colliding with the top of the A-frame. Mitigate the risk by adjusting the pick-up speed.
- As the joint is picked up, stop (or nearly stop) the lift before the casing enters the A-frame so there is no chance of it colliding with the girt.
- Floormen waiting on the joint—in particular the crewman with the “hold-back” rope—watch the joint and signal Driller to stop if the joint gets too close to the “A-frame” girt or speed is not adjusted. Promote stop-job authority to avoid release of uncontrolled “killer” energy—from falling casing.

LESSONS TO LEARN for personal safety: STAY OUT OF THE DROP AND SKID ZONE UNTIL IT IS SAFE TO ENTER. Stay alert and always be aware that lifting equipment could fail. Keep checking it.