



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 14 – 07

## ARM CAUGHT IN PINCH POINT ON HYDRAULIC CATWALK RESULTS IN DEEP CONTUSION

### WHAT HAPPENED:

While rolling a joint of 13 3/8 inch (33cm) casing onto the hydraulic catwalk, an employee was moving away from the equipment on the snow-covered ground when his left forearm was caught between the casing and the indexer arm of the catwalk. He received a deep contusion; however, the injury could have been much more severe as it could have resulted in multiple fractures to his arm.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The indexer arm was engaged while the employee was in close proximity to the indexer arm and casing.
- The ground was snow covered and slick and the employee slipped as he was moving away from the equipment.
- The bars for the casing to roll on between the pipe racks and the catwalk were too low.
- The employee had trouble getting one end of the casing to roll up far enough toward the catwalk to be picked up by the indexer arms.

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

- All rig crews were reminded that they must not engage the indexers while an employee is in close proximity to the catwalk.
- The company reminded toolpushers that a JSA / Work Plan for picking up casing should include steps to improve conditions for proper footing, prior to beginning the operation.
- Catwalk operators were reminded that the pipe racks, indexer bars, and catwalk must be lined up and leveled to ensure free movement of the casing between the pipe racks and indexer.
- All employees were reminded that when an employee experiences difficulty rolling pipe to the indexers, communication must include a “stop work” while assistance is called to help.

**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.**

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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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