



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 – 34

SAFETY LANYARD NEAR MISS INCIDENT

WHAT HAPPENED:

While tripping pipe in the hole one floorman went down to the BOP Stack to assemble the clamp on the rotating head. Before he came down from the stack, the driller rotated the rotary table to make up a connection. The floorman's safety lanyard nearly became entangled in the rotating head. The floorman screamed out and the driller stopped the rotation.

Last year, a fatal incident occurred when a Technician working on another rig got his safety lanyard caught in the rotating head.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The Driller started rotation before ensuring that the floorman and his lanyard were safely away from the rotating head.

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

Issued the following directive to all rigs:

- Any personnel working on the BOP Stack during drilling operations must have a work permit.
- If a rotating head is being used, then no work can occur without all equipment being Locked Out/ Tagged Out. This includes Rotary Table, Drawworks (unless under Work Permit) and any other energized equipment which could affect this task.
- Personnel involved in task shall perform a JSA prior to beginning the task.
- All personnel shall be instructed on LockOut/TagOut and Work Permits.
- All Training shall be documented and kept on the rig.

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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