Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 04 – 20

EMPLOYEES HANDS CAUGHT IN UNSECURED CARGO BOX LID

WHAT HAPPENED:

Recently an incident occurred involving an unsecured lid of a cargo box. The crewmembers opened the cargo box to begin unloading supplies. There was no locking bar on this box, only a welded chain, which allowed the box to be opened to a position that it would not fall closed. One of the chain loops twisted and rolled under the welded loop. This took out some of the chain slack that was needed to allow the lid to be opened to the safe position. This allowed the box lid to fall, striking the employee on top of his hands. The injured employee sustained a minor injury.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The cargo box did not have a safety latch to lock the lid in the open position. There was no step in the JSA to ensure that the box was equipped with a locking bar. Once the box was identified to not have a locking bar, no one was assigned to hold the lid open while the box was being unloaded.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed rig personnel:

- All rigs will immediately inspect the cargo boxes on their rigs to ensure that they are equipped with the proper safety locking bar system. They will report the results to their respective Operations Managers.
- All boxes will be sent in to the company's shore base facility, where they will be inspected by Operations and Engineering and then be fitted with a locking bar system.
- Each cargo box will be identified with a number and it will be logged onto a spreadsheet with its dimensions and destination from where it will be tracked as to which rig it is sent to.
- Reinforce item relating to cargo boxes in the Crane Operations section of the Rig Condition and Compliance Audit, which clearly asks if the cargo box has a locking mechanism.

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.