RIG CARRIER DRIVES OFF ACCIDENTALLY

WHAT HAPPENED:

In the process of jacking up the parked Carrier rig on ground, the injured, a rig mechanic, was installing the 6th jack on the Carrier. As the Maintenance Supervisor shifted the Cotta Transmission lever from ‘Road’ to ‘Hoist’, the engine RPM suddenly increased and Carrier started to drive forward by itself. When the Rig Supervisor immediately shifted the lever back to ‘Road’, the Carrier drove further and finally halted after striking the gate hut.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

• Failure to Follow Procedure / the Compound Gear Box was not kept in the “Disengage” position before shifting the Cotta Transmission.

• Equipment Malfunctioning / Cotta shifter movement to ‘Hoist’ position activated ‘Road’ mode of the Carrier mechanism.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following directives to field personnel:

• Compound Transmission must be disengaged before shifting the Cotta Transmission.
• Bypassing procedures can have serious consequence.

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.