



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 13 – 02

LACK OF COORDINATION DURING RIG-UP LEADS TO INJURIES

WHAT HAPPENED:

During rig-up, rig personnel were attempting to install a diagonal stabilization brace on the substructure; however, the brace would not fit into place. A forklift was used to push the substructure which would allow the brace to line up and be pinned. At the same time, two employees were attempting to install the rolling catwalk directly over the open cellar (approximately 15 feet/4.5m above ground level). When the forklift pushed on the substructure, the wheels of the catwalk, which the employees were standing on, sheared off. Both employees and the catwalk fell to the ground. One employee fell to the ground and the other fell into the cellar. Both employees suffered injuries.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Brace Installation - The ground crew was attempting to pin the wrong diagonal brace into position; it was approximately 4 inches (10cm) longer than the correct brace. In addition, the brace was not marked as to its installed position in the substructure.
- Powered Equipment - A forklift was used to push on the substructure to help position the brace. Added stress was placed upon the substructure and the wheels on the catwalk.
- Simultaneous Operations – The diagonal brace and substructure were being positioned at the same time other employees were working at height in a part of the substructure in order to install the rolling catwalk. The risk was not recognized by crew members and supervisors.
- Pre-Job JSA - The danger of two separate tasks being performed in the same area and at the same time was not highlighted in the pre-job safety meeting and JSA discussion.
- Stop Work Authority - Personnel on site did not stop the job/task to make sure the employees working at height were in a safe position prior to bumping the substructure with the forklift.

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

- Rig Manager(s) were reminded to make certain that stabilization braces are clearly marked to identify their correct installation position within the substructure and are to discuss the brace positioning with the crew members prior to attempting installation.
- Rig Managers were instructed to remind crews, during the pre-job safety meeting and JSA discussion, that if it takes extra effort (example, the use of a forklift) to install a brace, a stop task is to be called to review the process and any safety concerns, then take steps to prevent an incident from occurring.
- Site supervisors were instructed to be aware of simultaneous operations during a rig move and are to make certain that that the substructure is clear of employees prior to installing stabilization braces.
- Site supervisors were also instructed to remind ALL personnel, during pre-move safety meeting and JSA discussion, that they must remain aware of simultaneous operations and are to take steps to ensure their safety and the safety of those around them.
- Instructed all Rig Managers and Truck Pushers to remind ALL personnel, during pre-move and subsequent safety meetings, that they must remain aware of their surroundings at all times that they have the responsibility to STOP and report any unsafe task.

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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