

RIG MOVING SAFETY STANDDOWN

A total of 4 Drilling Contractor employees have lost their lives since June 1st, 2022. All 4 fatalities occurred during Rig Move Operations. Two of the fatalities involved working at heights, one involved being in the line of fire, and one related to mechanical lifting.

The IADC is partnering with key groups in the industry to assist with this voluntary effort in conducting a safety stand-down across the drilling industry to help bring focus and awareness to the importance of hazard assessments, fall protection, and communication during rig moves due to the recent fatalities that have occurred.

During rig moves, there are more activities and personnel on location than during drilling operations. The frequent changes in work scope and personnel on location associated with the move along with multiple high-risk tasks occurring at the same time, when compared to the consistent activities during drilling operations, can create a challenge. Because of this, we must continue to maintain a focus on identifying and addressing those hazards that present a real risk of serious injury or fatality. To ensure that we are addressing these risks and providing adequate supervision for high-risk tasks, it is critical that the Rig Manager and the Truck Pusher have alignment on the plan and open communication to effectively coordinate Rig Move activities.

The rig crews and the trucking companies are strongly encouraged to work together to identify hazards that may be encountered during the rig move. The hazards identified during these assessments need to be controlled prior to work and discussed with the individuals involved in the work so that they can continue to avoid these hazards.

Below are some specific questions that can be used to conduct the Safety Stand Down during a Rig Move:

- Planning for Rig Moves
 1. *How do you know your plan is adequate?*
 2. *How has the plan been communicated?*
 3. *What can we do to ensure that everyone understands the plan for each task to be performed?*
 4. *How will you respond if the plan changes?*
 5. *Who needs to be part of the plan?*

- Hazard Assessment and Control
 1. *What tools can you use to identify hazards for each task?*
 2. *Are the right people involved in the hazard assessment? Who are they?*
 3. *What are some hazards that are unique to rig moves?*
 4. *How will you make sure controls are in place for the hazards once they have been identified?*
 5. *Is appropriate supervision available and assigned to monitor high-risk tasks?*
 6. *Are there some ways that we can communicate the hazards and controls of the hazards prior to starting the work?*
 7. *What are the Life-Saving Rules (or equivalent) that apply to each task?*

- Coordination, Collaboration, and Communication during the Rig Move
 1. *How can we make sure we are following the plan for the rig move?*
 2. *What methods of communication will you use during the rig moves (meetings, radios, phones, flaggers, etc.)?*
 3. *How can you ensure that there is good communication between the drilling contractor, trucking company, and operator?*
 4. *What are some signs of a failure in communication or miscommunication during the rig move? How do we correct these?*
 5. *What actions can you take to get the SSEs to stop-the-job (STJ)?*

The protection of our people is our utmost concern. We believe that, with proper planning and execution, we can perform our work without serious injuries or fatalities. Please use the above information as you plan your rig moves or during your next safety meetings. Please share your best-practices with your peers, customers, and the IADC in order to save lives. **The life you save may be your own! Thank you for your continued commitment to working safely.**