IADC stats: Industry reaches record-low LTI rate in ‘05 despite 10% increase in manhours

But more work remains to be done as drilling contractors report 23 fatalities last year

DESPITE A 10% increase in reported drilling manhours worldwide in 2005, the industry reached a record-low Lost Time Incidence rate, according to recently released results from IADC’s Accident Statistics Program.

“Drilling contractors should really be commended for this impressive accomplishment,” said Joe Hurt, IADC Director-Land Operations, who oversaw the compilation of the 2005 data.

The data are compiled annually from drilling contractors worldwide. During 2005, 105 drilling contractors representing approximately 78% of the worldwide oil and gas well drilling rig fleet participated in IADC’s ASP. The results published here are based on incidence rates, which are calculated on incidents per 200,000 manhours.

Data showed that the drilling industry’s LTI rate dropped from 0.63 in 2004 to 0.60 in 2005, a 5% reduction, even though total reported manhours increased from 336.12 million to 369.56 million. A total of 1,077 LTIs were reported. This also translates into a 23-fold improvement from the industry’s performance in 1963, when the LTI rate per 100 workers was more than 14.00.

23 FATALITIES REPORTED

Of course, this does not mean the work is done.

The industry also lost ground slightly with recordable incidence rates, which rose 1% from 2.26 in 2004 to 2.34 in 2005. A total of 23 fatalities were reported – 5 fewer than in 2004.

The drilling industry lost ground slightly with recordable incidence rates, which rose 1% from 2.26 in 2004 to 2.34 in 2005. A total of 23 fatalities were reported – 5 fewer than in 2004.

For the company for more than 5 years.
Five fatalities occurred while rigging up/down, and rig repairs and tripping in/out had 4 fatalities each. Five of the fatalities were supervisors of driller or above, 7 were derrickmen, 5 were floormen, 2 truck drivers, 2 motormen, 1 mechanic and 1 roustabout.

REGIONAL REPORTING

Safety data was compiled separately for land and offshore operations and for 7 geographic regions – US, Europe, Canada, Central and South America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia Pacific. This is not intended to measure region against region but to provide each region with tools to measure their efforts and to make improvements.

Central/South American land operations had the lowest LTI rate of 0.20 while European land operations had the lowest recordable incidence rate of 1.00. Mideast offshore operations had the lowest LTI rate of 0.21 as well as the lowest recordable incidence rate of 0.79.

Contractors in Europe, both land and offshore, together worked more than 30.76 million manhours with no fatalities in 2005. European offshore accounted for 25.76 million manhours worked while land had 5.0 million manhours.

US land and offshore contractors worked more than 113.58 million manhours, with 10 fatalities in the land category and no fatalities in offshore. US land exceeded the offshore category in manhours: 75.37
million for land and 38.21 million for offshore.

Canadian contractors accounted for 5.4 million manhours and had 2 fatalities. The land category had 3.32 million manhours and 2 fatalities while offshore had 2.08 million manhours and no fatalities.

Central/South America accounted for 66.88 million manhours and no fatalities. Land operations reported 47.19 million manhours and for offshore, it was 19.69 million manhours.

Africa had a total of 36.74 million manhours and 1 fatality. Land accounted for 12.55 million manhours with no fatalities, and offshore operations had 24.19 million manhours and 1 fatality.

The Middle East region accounted for 69.23 million manhours with 6 fatalities. The land division had 51.15 million manhours and 4 fatalities, compared with 18.08 million manhours and 2 fatalities for the offshore division.

Contractors in Asia Pacific reported a total of 46.96 million manhours and 4 fatalities. Offshore had 32.08 million manhours and 3 fatalities, and land had 14.88 million manhours and 1 fatality.

Among US offshore workers, LTI rates improved 31% from 0.42 in 2004 to 0.29 in 2005. Their total recordable incidence rate (REC) also improved by 11%, from 1.64 in 2004 to 1.46 in 2005.

US land workers saw their LTI rate improve 1%, from 1.62 in 2004 to 1.60
in 2005, but saw their REC worsen 14%, from 5.83 in 2004 to 6.64 in 2005.

European land workers’ LTI rate improved a significant 54%, from 0.69 in 2004 to 0.32 in 2005, and their REC also improved 43% from 1.74 in 2004 to 1.00 in 2005.

European offshore workers’ LTI rate, however, increased 22% from 0.37 in 2004 to 0.45 in 2005. Their REC also went up 4% from 1.20 in 2004 to 1.25 in 2005.

For Canadian land operations, the LTI rate was 1.21, which is a 34% improvement from 1.83 in 2004. Similarly, their REC improved 37% from 6.32 in 2004 to 3.98 in 2005.

For operations offshore Canada, the LTI rate increased 168%, from 0.25 in 2004 to 0.67 in 2005. Their REC, however, improved by 12%, from 2.29 in 2004 to 2.02 in 2005.

For operations in Central/South America, land workers had an LTI rate of 0.20 in 2005, which is a 46% improvement over 0.37 in 2004. Slight improvement also was reported in REC: 1.16 in 2004 to 1.15 in 2005.

Workers offshore Africa had an LTI rate of 0.33 in 2005, an 18% increase from 0.28 in 2004. Their REC, however, showed some improvement: 18% from 1.19 in 2004 to 0.98 in 2005.

In Middle East land operations, the LTI rate stayed unchanged at 0.20 while the REC improved 2% from 1.09 in 2004 to 1.07 in 2005.

Middle East offshore operations saw their LTI rate worsen by 24%, from 0.17 in 2004 to 0.21 in 2005. Their REC also worsened slightly: 5% from 0.75 in 2004 to 0.79 in 2005.

In conclusion, the industry continues to see pressure on personnel as the rig fleet continues to grow. The growth is adding to safety concerns but also appears to be helping to bring sustained improvement in the industry’s overall safety record.