



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 06 – 13

DROPPED OBJECT FROM DERRICK

WHAT HAPPENED:

The incident occurred when a stand of drill pipe missed the elevators, fell across the derrick towards the driller's side and struck the derrick structure. This impact dislodged a 2 foot x 3/4 inch steel bar weighing approximately 3 pounds from the stabbing board ladder platform causing it to fall approximately 30 feet to the dog house below. The steel bar struck and passed through the upper dog house window, narrowly missing the driller. The window was constructed of shatter proof material but was not able to withstand the impact of the bar.



WHAT CAUSED IT:

- No formal derrick/dropped object inspection process was in place.
- No derrick log book was being used to monitor flow of tools up and down the derrick.
- The steel bar had no safety line attached, it had not been safely secured during or after use.
- No toe boards were in place around the ladder platform.
- The glass in the dog house window was not substantial enough to withstand the impact sustained.

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

- The area was immediately made safe and a safety stand down called and a dropped object sweep of the derrick was carried out. 10 potential dropped objects were found and removed.
- The company told the rig crews that a weekly formal derrick/dropped object inspection process would be implemented, monitored and enforced.
- A derrick log book to monitor flow of tools up and down the derrick would be implemented, monitored and enforced.
- Any tools or equipment being used while working at height is required to be secured with a safety line.
- Toe boards are required to be installed around the out skirts of any raised work areas or platforms.
- Reinforced glass shall be installed on dog house roof windows; a bolt on frame will be fabricated to allow the window to be sloped.

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.

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