



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 07 – 27

## INCORRECT SLING APPLICATION RESULTS IN HIGH POTENTIAL NEAR MISS

### WHAT HAPPENED:

A 13 3/8" casing string had been run to the setting depth. The last few joints were washed down using a third party circulating head. The final joint to be run was a 15 foot pup joint, however, the Company Man instructed the crew to lay down the pup joint and pick up a full joint. The circulating head was re-installed onto the full joint by the crew on the catwalk. The joint was then made up and the hose connected. As soon as the pumps were brought on line to 30 SPM, the circulating head blew off. The web sling that was being used to secure the circulating head came unfastened and allowed the head to fall approximately 15m to the rig floor. No one was injured.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

The selection and application of the safety sling was incorrect. A JSA was conducted, but the specific type of safety sling to be used had not been identified. The third party supervisor did not properly install or operate the equipment. The incident occurred directly after crew change. The oncoming crew did not take the required time to verify the equipment was properly installed and secured. The circulating head had previously been used and was known to be in good working order. It is therefore possible that because third party did not supervise the installation of the circulating head, the crew may have cross threaded it and as a result it blew off at a low pressure. The weight of the circulating hose was not taken by an air winch which allowed the casing head to be unreasonably side loaded.

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

- JSA revised to include proper use of securing sling and proper application.
- Training schedule made for on site rigging and slinging practice to include the proper use of wire rope slings, shackles and winch lines to secure equipment used at height (Dropped Objects Management System).
- Rig Managers to ensure third party equipment is properly installed, secured and operated. Third party companies to comply with the above by having qualified personnel.
- Discussion with all Rig & Line Managers at the Monthly Rig Manager's meeting shortly following incident.
- Line management to ensure distribution of incident to area rigs; understanding and compliance of the company's RMS policies and procedures.



**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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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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