



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 10 – 27

## FAILURE TO FOLLOW LOCKOUT PROCEDURES RESULTS IN A NEAR-MISS

### WHAT HAPPENED:

Rig personnel were cleaning the suction screen on a mud pump when the driller activated the mud pump. No injuries resulted since personnel were not working on the piston rods, bull gears, etc.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Rig personnel did not follow proper lockout procedures.
- Personnel felt pressure from the operator representative to take shortcuts to save time.
- No pre-job meeting was held before the job started.
- This unsafe act should have been stopped as per the company's job observation program.
- There was no co-ordination between simultaneous operations (drilling ahead and mud pump maintenance).
- Rig personnel working on the mud pump did not notify the driller that they were going to clean the mud pump suction screen.
- Through the incident investigation, rig supervisors found that additional training is needed on lockout procedures. Some of the rig personnel were not aware of the importance of following proper lockout procedures, the hazards of not locking out equipment, nor the expectations of the supervisor to perform lockout procedures when any equipment is being worked on.

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

- Division management emphasized to the crews that no one is expected to work so fast that safety procedures cannot be followed. The primary goal of the company's "STOP™" program is to train personnel how to spot and address this type of unsafe act.
- Rig personnel were instructed that they are to hold pre-job safety meetings.
- Rig personnel were instructed to plan the job. Working safely is not an accident, it happens because of good planning.
- Rig personnel were instructed that simultaneous operations need to be planned and that all personnel involved need to be notified of planned activities.
- Retraining of company's lockout program was held for personnel on the rig.

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**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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