



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 03 – 39

## PIPE LAY DOWN OPERATION RESULTS IN BROKEN LEG

### WHAT HAPPENED:

To aid in laying down drill pipe, a Third Party Contractor was contracted and two employees were on the ground working the pipe baskets. The first basket was filled with drill pipe and the Third Party Contractor employees were in the process of removing the roller pipes out of the first tub to the second tub, when a joint of drill pipe rolled down the roller pipe and into the pipe basket. The joint of drill pipe hit the employee and broke his leg.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

The crew did not stop the lay down operation to allow for this task to be completed. The crew also did not ensure that the employees were clear from the basket before resuming operations. This was the injured employee's first day on the job.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** To address this incident, this company instructed rig site supervisors to do the following:

- Ensure that pre-job safety meetings include all new employees who will be involved in the operation. Include instructions regarding where they will be working (position in relation to the job).
- Modify the JSA to include stopping the lay down operation to perform the task of removing the roller pipes from the pipe baskets.
- Ensure that there is an observer (signalman) to notify the driller when the pipe baskets are clear and the operations can be resumed.

NOTE: See IADC Accident Prevention Reference Guide Sections 1.4 Job Safety Analysis and 1.8 New Employee/Visitor Indoctrination.

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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.**

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