



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 04 – 40

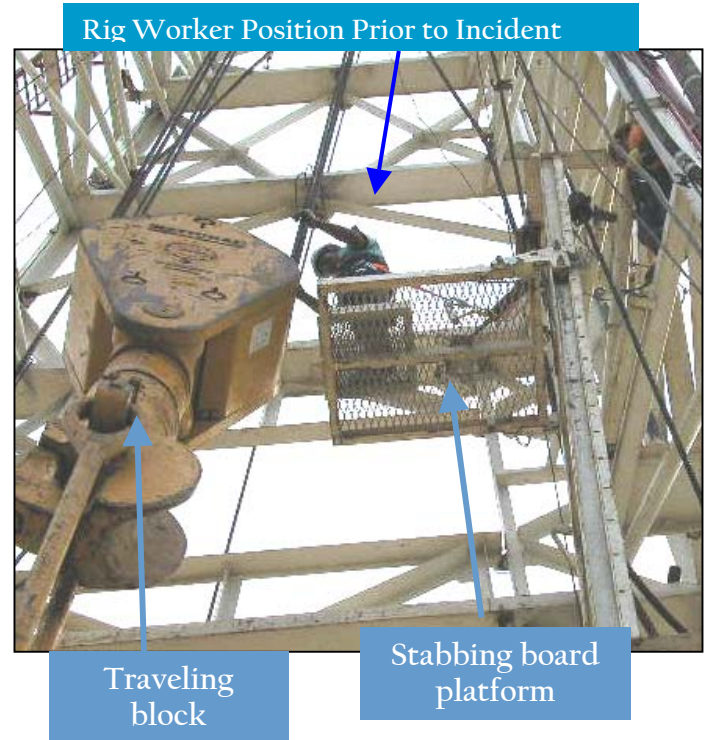
STABBING BOARD INCIDENT RESULTS IN A FATALITY

WHAT HAPPENED:

While a joint of casing was being hoisted into the derrick, the rig's traveling block contacted and dislodged the stabbing board platform causing it to fall. A rig worker standing on the stabbing board platform also fell, hitting the rig floor after his safety belt lanyard parted. He subsequently died.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The recently designed and installed stabbing board platform provided inadequate clearance for the traveling block to safely pass by.
- The stabbing board platform was not secured directly to the derrick, even though safety pins were clearly visible and easily accessible. Instead, the platform was held in place by a chain-supported hook that had no safety latch.
- The rig worker's safety belt did not have a *shock-absorbing* lanyard. A proper safety body harness with this feature was readily available on the rig floor.
- There was a failure to address Management of Change (MOC). *no MOC process was used for the design, fabrication and installation of the stabbing board platform.*



CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company issued the following directives:

- Rig managers and supervisors are to ensure proper safety devices are utilized --- *obsolete equipment should be removed from service (safety belts without shock-absorbing lanyards, hooks without safety latches).*
- Inspection and auditing activities should include a review of the company's Management of Change (MOC) processes and associated documentation ---

IADC Note: In the re-enactment photo, the man is holding onto the drilling lines. This is an unsafe practice as a person's hands could get caught in the blocks as they pass by the board. See Alerts: 00 – 11 and 00 – 32.

Revised 20 October 2004.

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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