



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 98-18

Crane Rig-Up/Rig-Down Safety

WHAT HAPPENED:

While it was being dismantled, a portable crane fell on an offshore platform. Three contractor employees were seriously injured and a fourth was lost overboard and did not survive.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The boom and gantry had been removed from the crane. Workers were preparing the power module section of the crane for removal. The power module was on a turntable atop a pedestal 28 feet (8.5 meters) above the deck. This section housed the motor, hydraulics and crane controls.

The power module fell over when all four of its hold-down pins were moved before it was secured by connecting slings to the line on the platform crane. A team that investigated the accident determined that some crane models might have sections that will remain in place by the force of gravity after the pins are removed, which may give a false sense of security.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

1. When dismantling equipment, all sections should be secured prior to removing any mounting pins.
2. A Job Safety Analysis should be performed, and the activities should be planned with all personnel involved.
3. Companies should ensure that all employees are properly supervised when performing an operation such as this.

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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