



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 08 – 35

CRANE FAILURE RESULTS IN DROPPED LOAD

WHAT HAPPENED:

During rig up operations a crane upper assembly failed. While lifting the draw-works platform (25-ton) by means of 2 cranes, to install the bracket support, one of the cranes gave away and the load was dropped. Upon investigation of the failed crane, it appeared that the bolts holding the upper structure (operator's cabin and the telescopic section) sheared which caused the boom to drop with the load hitting the drawworks brake cover.



Upper crane structure (operator cabin, crane boom telescopic sections) fell across the drawworks platform and struck the drawworks brake cover.



WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Bolts holding the upper structure failed.
- There had been no site supervisor at the rig up location, therefore the crane was not inspected and the crew basically felt comfortable to operate as it had been previously assigned to another company rig.
- The crane certificate was issued by an unknown office with no accreditation.
- The crane operator was found not to be competent for the crane operated.

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

- Only cranes with certificates issued by a recognized certification body are to be accepted at company work locations.
- A list of recognized certification bodies is to be communicated to contractors through the company's Transportation Superintendent.
- Adequate supervision to be performed for the jobs during the rig up operation. Each group should have an experienced and competent supervisor, and the designated site supervisor should control all operations.

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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