



# Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

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ALERT 09 – 19

## OFFLOADING EQUIPMENT RESULTS IN HIGH POTENTIAL NEAR MISS

### WHAT HAPPENED:

In preparation to offload a container from a flatbed truck, an employee was sent to the top of the container to connect the lifting slings. Shortly after this procedure started, instruction was given to the truck driver to back up a short distance to move closer (or more centered) to the crane. As the truck proceeded to back up, the man on top of the container had to go down onto one knee to prevent himself from losing his balance or falling from the container.

### WHAT CAUSED IT:

#### Direct Causes

1. Truck driver received signal to back up.
2. Truck driver backed up while the man was working on top of container.

#### Root Causes

1. **(Work Direction)** Pre-job Briefing needs instruction. Insufficient job preparation as the truck was not properly positioned in relation to the crane before beginning the task.
2. **(Communications)** Communication system needs improvement.
3. **(Work Direction)** Insufficient supervision. Crew Teamwork needs instruction.

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

1. Instructed rig personnel that direct supervision by a senior crew member must be established and maintained throughout all lifting procedures.
2. Established a procedure to be followed whereby all drivers of trucks carrying loads will set their brakes and exit the vehicle while lifting operations (and preparations) are ongoing.
3. Instructed the job site supervisor to assign a specific signal person who will be wearing a colored vest.
4. The signal person will be identified in the pre-job safety meeting as the only one that signals will be received from.

**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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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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