



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 10 – 11

CUTTINGS AUGER AMPUTATES LEG OF RIG CREWMEMBER

WHAT HAPPENED:

A crewmember was helping to change out shaker screens. The shaker had been isolated and the crewmember was working in the front of the shaker assembly. He had one foot in the shaker and the other foot in the cuttings slide. As he leaned toward the shaker in an effort to remove the shaker screen, his foot slipped and was caught in the auger. The auger amputated his right leg at the knee joint. The auger was shut down and the medical team was immediately notified.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

The cuttings auger was installed by a third party. By design, the area between the auger and the shaker was left open to allow the cuttings to fall into the ditch. The remainder of the auger was protected, but the existing hazard was not recognized by the crew or the company who installed the system.



Open area where
employee's leg was
trapped.

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

- Instructed operations personnel that all rigs must immediately conduct a hazard hunt on the shaker areas, ensuring that all machinery is effectively guarded. Where deficiencies are identified the machinery should be flagged or locked out and repaired as soon as practicable.
- Instructed rig supervisors to inspect the entire auger system (where applicable) ensuring that no one can access any portion of the auger.
- Rig maintenance personnel or third party auger provider are to provide an emergency shutdown for the auger system (where applicable) so that it can be accessed from any position along the entire length of the auger.
- Corporate HSE personnel will develop procedures for properly guarding of augers and related systems.

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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