



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 09 – 36

DROPPED GENERATOR SET

WHAT HAPPENED:

A 550 KVA generator set was being moved by a crane from a transport barge to the rig by connecting the lifting slings to the weatherizing framework. The frame pulled loose from the skid and the generator fell 15-20 feet (5 - to the deck destroying the generator set. Fortunately no one was under the load when it fell.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- The supervisor of the operation decided to perform the lift after lunch, but the crane operator and deck crew went ahead in an attempt to move the generator without the supervisor present.
- The lifting holes in the skid were burned in the bottom of the skid and not inspected.
- The barriers our company has erected to manage risk to an acceptable level failed. A competent person should have inspected the equipment and the lift points certified to an industry standard by a competent person.
- Due to the generator lifting points being cut in the bottom of the generator skid, the lifting shackles could not fit into the holes.
- The crew decided to tie onto the winterizing frame which failed during the lift.
- The frame was not inspected by a competent person for lifting purposes.
- When faced with a new safety issue, the crew did not STOP the job and review the process.

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

- The incident was shared with other company rigs and personnel. All rig supervisors were instructed to review the incident in their safety meetings.
- Rig personnel were instructed that tie-off lifting points are to be inspected by a competent person during construction.
- Personnel involved in lifting operations were instructed that they are to only use lifting points that have been certified by a competent person to lift loads. They were also instructed not use alternative points on equipment to lift equipment.
- Rig crews were instructed that when faced with a new situation the crew should have stopped the job and discussed changes (Management of Change) with their supervisor to ensure the job could be done safely.
- People faced with new safety concerns should STOP the job and review the concerns with their supervisor. Each employee has the authority to "STOP" the job, but no one did.
- All employees were reminded to use the barriers that the company has established to prevent incidents and take the lead on safety.

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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