

ABERDEEN DRILLING CONSULTANTS









# TUBULAR HANDLING RECENT FINDINGS



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Aberdeen Drilling Consultants presented the methodology for Tubular Handling Assessments at the DROPS forum last year

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss recent findings Tubular Handling Assessments





# TUBULAR HANDLING Content

- Recap Tubular Handling Methodology
- Provide Examples of Findings
- Questions



"Automation of drill-floor machinery and tubular-handling equipment has many advantages but it can introduce new hazards. Malfunctions of such machinery and equipment have a high potential for serious injury or fatality."

Offshore Information Sheet No 2/2013





#### Team

ADC use a Multi disciplined team comprising:

#### HSE

Health and Safety Specialist

#### Technical

- Control System Specialist
- Mechanical Specialist (on less technically advanced rigs)



#### **Scenarios**

The various process involved in moving tubulars from supply vessel to well centre and return is evaluated.

Typical Tubular Handling Scenarios include:

- Supply boat to Pipe deck transfer
- Pipedeck to Drill Floor transfer
- Standbuilding/ Stand breakdown
- BHA Construction
- RIH /POOH
- And the return processes

However, other tubular handling scenarios can be defined and audited. e.g. Casing and liners.

#### **Documentation review**



This manual contains examples of Amphion equipment, features, and operator interface screens, and may or may not represent your particular rig configuration.

- Substandard documentation providing insufficient information. Particularly, regarding control system software and interlocks.
- Generic Documentation by OEM, not covering the specifics of the equipment as fitted to the rig.
- Poor Document Control Onboard out of date documentation.



#### **Documentation review**

- Over complex management systems.
  - Operators had multiple work instructions.
  - Conflicting information between shifts.
- Use of outdated procedures.
  - Procedures do not match equipment.
  - Cut and paste from previous rigs
- Impractical checklists and procedures.
  - Anti Collision system checklist was to be completed on a daily basis but no tests could be carried out due to drilling operations.



#### **EXAMPLE FINDINGS**

- OEM Bulletins not embodied.
- Incomplete training and inadequate records.
- Faulty equipment not being repaired promptly resulting in work arounds.
- System Overrides required to be activated during routine operation.



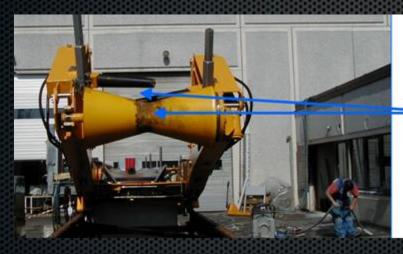
#### **Equipment Visual Inspection**

As Fitted on Rig Clamp missing

**Equipment** 

Missing parts

Pipe securing clamp fitted as designed.

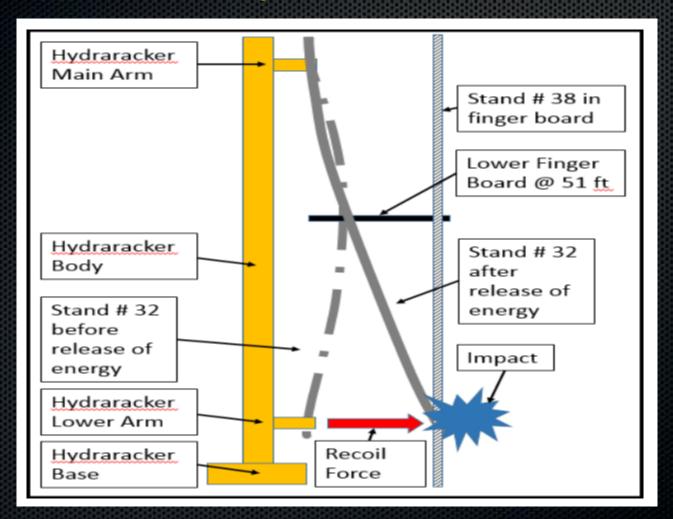


Clamp Roller





#### IADC Alert 15-10 Fatality on Drill Floor





Each finger has mechanical locking latches which are:

- Closed by springs
- Opened by Pneumatic Pressure.

Pneumatic piping /hoses are connected from the Valve Cabinet to each pneumatic latch cylinder.



#### **Safety Features**

The latches are all of failsafe design. If air pressure is lost, each latch will lock down with the mechanical return spring.



#### **Control System**

During operation, the operator selects which row to use. The locking latches then open to grant the stand access into the slot.

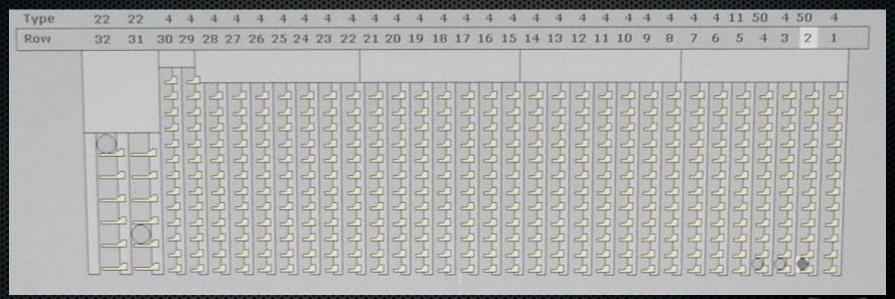
The Fingerboard is controlled by a Valve Cabinet mounted in the Derrick close to the Fingerboard. The Valve Cabinet contains solenoid valves connected to a Remote IO unit.



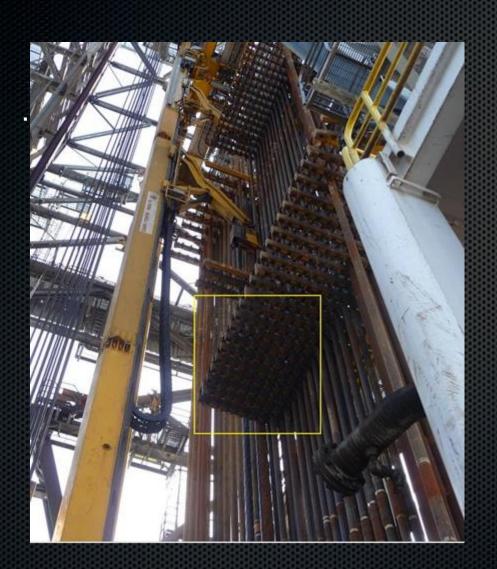


#### **Control System**

These I/O s provide feedback information to the driller that the solenoid is activated and on the drillers screen the finger appears as open. However, this does not mean that the finger is actually open.







#### Visual Back Up

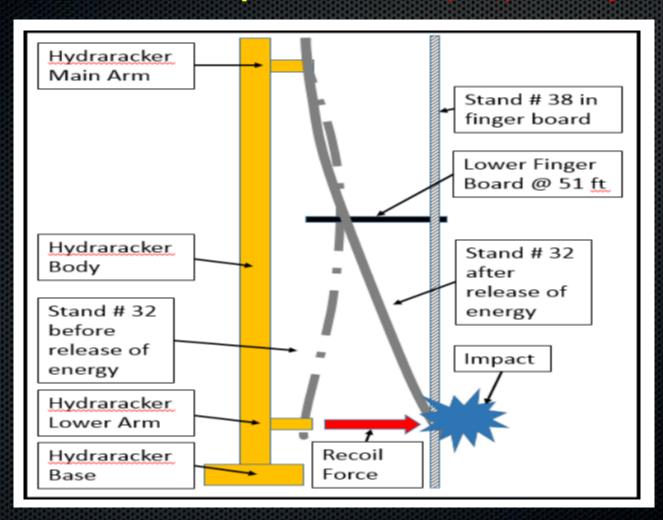
Most rigs use a system of visual back up or CCTV system.

#### **Finding**

From the roughneck position outside of the Red zone, it was not possible to see the position of the fingers on areas of the fingerboards. More than one occasion.



IADC Alert 15-10 Fatality on Drill Floor - repeat possibility remains

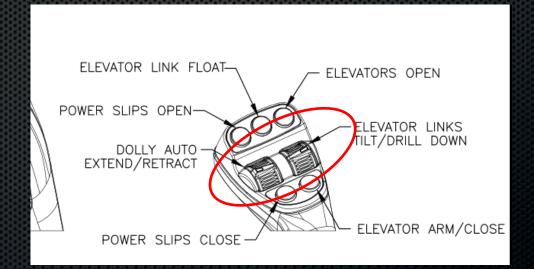




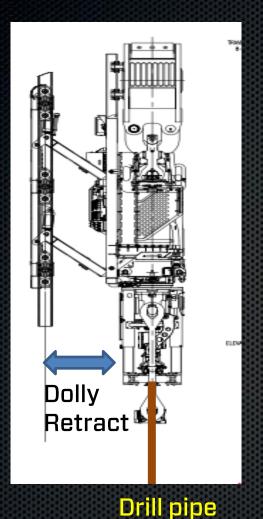
#### **Finding**

The Drillers chair Dolly Retract (Left switch) and Elevator links tilt (Right switch) were virtually identical tactile buttons placed next to each other on the right joystick.

It was considered to be very easy to inadvertently press the left switch whilst intending to press the right. Regardless of whether the Dolly was selected in Auto or Manual Mode, the Stick top switch was always active.

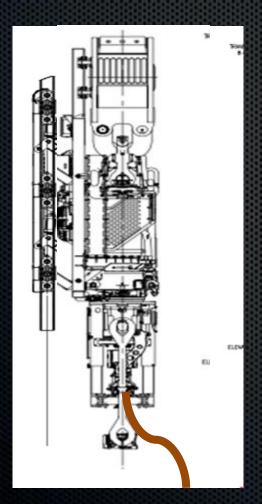






- In Auto mode the Dolly fully retracted upon activation of the switch.
- In Manual Mode the Dolly retracted only as long as the button was activated.





#### Potential Consequences

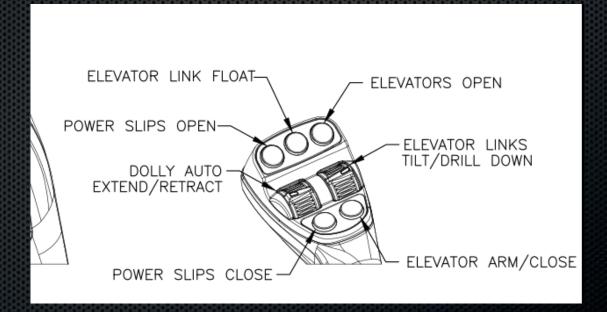
 Inadvertent dolly retraction could result in a bent drill pipe, damage to the rotary table and damage to the top drive.





#### Lesson Identified

Contrary to OEM documentation, ADC suggested that the dolly should only be operated in manual mode. Thus, if the button was inadvertently activated, the operator would be more likely to identify the movement and cease the operation before the dolly had moved any significant distance.





#### **Assessment of Crew Competence**

- In the rig competence system, there was no reference to zone management or anti-collision systems (beyond the Crown-O-Matic or other modern equipment such as Cyberbase chairs.
- Individuals had recently been assigned to the Rig Type from a lower Specification rig series and were deemed competent despite not having met the requirements stated within the CAP relevant to an employee moving asset type.

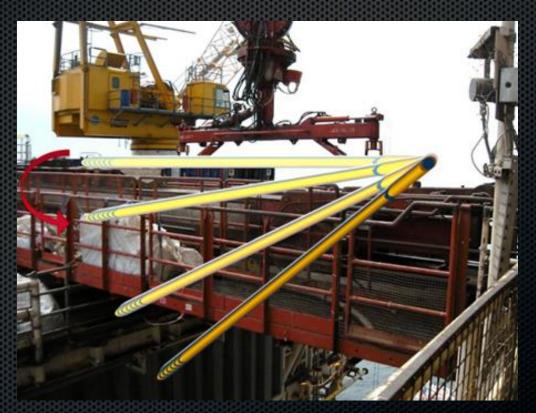




#### **EXAMPLE FINDINGS**

**OEM Bulletins not embodied:** 

Pipe Deck Pipe Handler





Previous incident - 5" drill pipe (HWDP) slid out of a NOV standard 20" gripper yoke.

The crane operator was using the gripper yoke with the pipe support de-activated.





NOV recommended a small change in the software program for the pipe support function on the gripper yoke.

This software change would automatically activate the pipe support when the gripper claw is closed.

Software Update was not embodied





Other findings - Confusing Indications



Another finding with this yoke was incorrect setting of the mechanical stop. This can cause the pipe support to be too far away for the size or number of tubulars being lifted and result in them being unsupported.





# QUESTIONS

