



Improvement / Incident Details



Generated on Monday, 17 August 2009

Incident

Ref No: PE-119

Status: Closed

Type: Property/Equipment Damage/Loss

Identification Details

Name: O'Connor, Tim

ID No: 39

External:

Location: Mt Franklin

Source:

Grid Ref:

Reported: 30 May 2009

Job No:

Incident Date/Time/Location

Date: 30 May 2009 **Time:** 12:00 AM

Address: (Leslies Rd)

Location: Mt Franklin

State/Ctry: VIC

Region: Australia

Site Type: Rig 6-TLD

Incident / Improvement Details

Category: Rigs

Level: 2

Severity: Moderate

Summary: Crew were traversing head up to break core, when both Holdback chains broke

Description: On the 30/5/09 at Mt Franklin, the Rig crew were traversing the head up in order to 'break' the core, when the Holdback chains broke at the adjustable anchor point at the top of mast. This caused the tension on the chain to drop and the rods/head to drop approximately three inches. The Driller (Tim O) investigated the cause of the loss of chain tension and then rang the General Manager (Stephen G) to inform him of the incident and that no-one was injured.

Background:

The Rig has been on standby and non-operational since October 2008. Before the Rig left TLD Workshop on the 21st May 2009, the crew had conducted a service, repairs and inspection of Rig, which included a thorough chain inspection. No faults were identified.

Holdback chains are replaced every 18-24 months depending on the drilling operations. The Rig chain was replaced at Prominent Hill on the 10th June 2008 by the TLD fitter.

Holdback Chains are regularly inspected every 250 operational hours and this was last executed in October 2008 and it has been parked up until 21/5/09.

The Drill crew are relatively experienced as the Driller (Tim O'Connor) has been working for TLD since 2005, the Offsider (Alister Reid) has been working for TLD since 2006 and the other Offsider/Trainee Driller (Steven McNeil) has been working for TLD since 2007. The crew have experience in rig inspections and pre-start inspections.

The pre-starts are completed on a daily basis, which includes a visual inspection of chains. At the time of the incident, the crew were in various locations around the drill site. The Driller was on the drillers platform, with one Offsider observing and assisting driller from near the humpy, with the other Offsider up the hill on the phone, organising the sludge tanks to be emptied.

The crew had reached the client's required depth target and had just traversed the head up to 'break' the core at the bottom of the hole. (This task involves the head/rod raising approximately three inches before the core breaks) The Driller heard a load bang coming from the top of mast and stepped back to see what was occurring and make sure nothing was about to fall.

The Driller observed that the tension on the Holdback chain was slack. With Safety Harnesses on, the Driller and one Offsider, climbed the mast to investigate what occurred. They discovered that the Holdback chains had broken away from the adjustable anchoring points (Section of chain which is stationary at all times) on the inside of the mast.

The Driller then rang the General Manager to inform him of the incident, that no-one was injured and give a brief description of the chain breakage. The General Manager instructed the crew to stabilise

the head, whilst replacement chain links were arranged.

The Client Supervisor was advised of the incident by the General Manager.

The Holdback chain is made up of numerous small links with the use of two Holdback chains positioned within the mast to stabilise, raise and lower the head. At the time of the incident, two of the chain links broke. It appears that one chain link broke, resulting uneven strain to the opposite chain, causing it to break.

On examination of the broken chain link it appears to be in reasonable condition, except for the actual break point. The point of break does appear to show signs of rusting on the inside of the point of break, but it can not be determined how long it has been cracked and/or if it would have been visible during the inspection, as some fragments are missing from that section. The point of break of the chain link shows signs it is a fresh break with no obvious cause.

Injury: Near Miss: Improvement: Environmental: Manual Handling: Asset Damage:

Contractor:

Employees:

Contractors:

Division: Titeline Drilling

Function:

Task:

Contract No:

Risk Assess:

Audit No:

Costing:

Plan. Project:

Proj. Phase:

Project Task:

Assigned To: Gavin, Stephen (Blue)

Delegate:

Assigned Date: 31 May 2009

Action By Date:

Close-off Date: 04 Jun 2009

Investigation Details

Cause Cat:

Equip No:

Plant No:

Cause Desc:

Likelihood:

Conseq:

Re-occur Rat:

Exposure:

Persons:

Risk No:

Report Doc:

Survey Answers:

Survey Rating:

Answering Employee: