SURERUS MURPHY
A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY

SAFETY BULLETIN

DRILL STEM CONTACTS WORKER

WHAT HAPPENED?

A subcontractor was in the process of torquing a drill pipe stem on the exit side of drill. During the torque, the worker had not positioned themselves out of the potential line of fire at the end of the tail string section as it shifted. The end of the tail string contacted the IP on their right leg, causing them to stumble down.

Path of travel of drill stem and IP position

End of drill stem

Original position of drill stem (circle) in relation to IP position and path of travel

CAUSAL FACTORS

Improper Position for Task

The IP situated themselves at the end of the exposed drill string and on the inside of the chicken run. Though the IP was greater than 2 meters away from the drill string at the time of incident, they weren't out of the direct line of fire.

Excessive Wear and Tear

A piece of the wooden blocking used to support the drill rod box connection point during the torque process was discovered to be broken.

Inadequate Removal and Replacement of Unsuitable Items

Once blocking was placed in position, no further inspections were completed to confirm any signs of damage.

Lack of Situational Awareness

The IP believed they were positioned out of the line of fire.

CORRECTIVE / PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

- SMJV and subcontractor personnel to conduct a safety standdown to communicate the incident, learnings, hazard assessment revisions and a refocus prior to continued operations.
- Daily Safety Memos to be issued to review the incident and communicate line of fire hazards and complacency.
- Current procedure to be amended to include visual inspection of blocking used prior to placement and planned intervals.
- The project drill team to review and acknowledge Safe Work Procedures – *Adding Pipe Exit Hand Duties* and *Using Excavator while Torquing Pipe*.

For comments, questions, and concerns contact QHSE@surerus-murphy.com or fill out a feedback card.

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