

Chevron Upstream and Gas Incident Management System Alert

Fatality While Tripping Pipe



Alert ID: 173923

Date Event Occurred: 10/20/2015
10:15:00 AM

Location:

Keathly Canyon Block 96,
Gulf of Mexico

Contact Information:

Jay Gagneaux
D&C Superintendent
CAI GAGN

Alert Topic: Safety

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Incident Description:

A Deepwater drill crew was tripping in the hole with drill pipe. As they were transferring a stand of pipe out of the setback area with a hydraracker, the stand caught on a finger at the 51' lower finger board (Figure 1). As the hydraracker continued to move, tension caused the pipe to bow and the pipe was released from the lower tailing arm with significant force toward the setback area striking and fatally injuring the employee.

Immediate Actions Taken:

- Emergency response initiated, operations suspended and immediate notifications made.
- Initiated safety stand downs across the fleet.
- An investigation team was assembled.

While the investigation is ongoing and with respect to drilling rigs using finger boards with latches, reference is made to the April 28, 2015 [NOV Product Information Bulletin No. 85766409](#), to ensure work planning includes the mitigations identified in the Bulletin with specific emphasis on considering the role and safe positioning of the spotter when operating this equipment.



Figure 1.