Task: Removing Wireline  

Injury Loss: A cut hand with 12 stitches

Description:

Note: This is a joint Safety Alert by Lonkar Services Ltd and Concord Well Services Ltd.

A tool fishing operation using braided wire was in progress. The supervisor had completed run to cut slickline from rope socket using a blind box. With the toolstring at surface, the master valve was closed and lubricator removed from top of wireline BOP. Unintentionally, the slickline had wrapped around the toolstring and was below the master valve. At this time, the Driller and client representative were on the rig floor checking for the weight of wire and had their hands placed in an unsafe position.

The wireline supervisor thought a short piece of wire had been recovered and warned personnel on the rig floor. The supervisor then went under the rig floor and opened the master valve ½ turn and heard a yell from the Rig floor. When 700 meters of slickline, weighing 57 kgs, unwrapped from toolstring and fell back down well bore; a tail of wire cut the small finger on the Driller’s right hand. This required 12 stitches.

What Caused It:

- The Driller had been pulling on wire line prior to the valve being opened. As a result, all workers on the working floor were in the line of fire when the valve was opened.
- The failure to recognize the hazard of placing hands between the suspended lubricator and the wire line BOP.
- Failure to warn and secure the wireline before the master valve was opened. It was requested by the clients’ representative to clamp the line, but this communication was not heard by the wireline supervisor.
- Complacency (the well had the potential to be 30% sour) opening master valve as well was dead.
- Inadequate hazard assessment, job scope had changed and hazards were not addressed.
- No safety meeting held to discuss change in scope.

Corrective Action:

1) Identify Potential Hazards.
   i) Stop work and use a Job Safety Assessment (JSA).
   ii) Stop work hold safety meeting with all personnel before proceeding.
2) Never hold onto slickline while being recovered from well bore where hand could end up in line of fire.
3) During all wireline operations, clear all unnecessary personnel from immediate area.