

Dropped Pipe From Side Door Elevator

SAFETY ALERT

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Enform

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Description of Incident:

- While pulling and laying down 4 1/2" tubulars the 11th joint of tubing was the next joint to be backed out, a worker closed and secured the elevators with the verification pin and the Operator hoisted the tubing up to the next connection to be broke apart. Once the connection was landed in the slips, the tongs were engaged and the connection was broke. A crew member grabbed a hold of the tubing and began to guide it to the lay down machine. The crew member was in the process of asking the Operator to hoist the tubing back up when it fell down to the stabbing mat and came to rest against the rig floor. Employees looked up to see that the elevator was open with the verification pin still in the hole that it was placed in.



Figure 1.

What Caused It:

- Workers were able to install the verification pin when the elevator was not fully latched.
- The latch on the elevator was either not fully engaged prior to hoisting the tubing or it came open under load during the hoisting operation.
- There was a non OEM modification made to the elevator at some point in time.

Corrective/Preventive Actions:

- Company Management to educate employees that operating manuals for new or unfamiliar equipment is available and/or supplier training provided and to increase crew member awareness when operating manual elevators that they are properly latched and secure prior to hoisting.
- Prepare Safety Alerts to communicate incident with all parties involved on a global basis.
- Review all Side Door and Single Joint Elevators in inventory for proper installment and function of safety latch verification pin.