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DRILLING FLUID SPILL ON GROUND

CATEGORY: Equipment Damage

DESCRIPTION:

A spill on a work site was discovered near the hose lines close to a tank of drilling fluid (invert). The spill was approximately 1m³ on the ground surface. On investigation one of the hoses from the invert tank leading to a deadhead at the manifold was leaking.



FAILURE IN TWO SECTIONS OF THE HOSE CONTRIBUTED TO INVERT RELEASE

CAUSE:

- Lack of regular inspections
- Dirt accumulation, wear and abuse has contributed to damage

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

The in-service date and maintenance records for the hose could not be found. In addition to the causes listed, over burden pressures may have contributed to damage.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- » Visually inspect hoses and valves before and after each use
- » All hose ends should be crimped (no banding)
- » Regularly pressure test hoses as per the manufacturer's recommendations
- » Do not drag hoses over sharp or abrasive surfaces, unless specifically designed for such service

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CORRECTIVE ACTIONS CONTINUED:

- » Care should be taken to protect hose from severe end loads for which the hose or hose assembly are not designed
- » Hose should be used at or below its rated working pressure; any changes in pressure should be made gradually to avoid excessive surge pressures
- » Hose should not be kinked or run over by equipment
- » Follow the manufacturer's recommended procedures for the care, maintenance and storage of each type of hose
- » The periodic inspection and testing procedures, as recommended by manufacturer, provide a schedule of specific measures to detect signs of hose deterioration