

The Harding derrick-inspection guide: Defying gravity!

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THE DRILLFLOOR HAS long been recognised in the industry as a potentially hazardous area, a fact borne out by the comparatively high incidence of both serious and fatal accidents on

as a key target within their ongoing safety-awareness and risk-reduction programme. A Derrick Inspection Guide, intended as a means of controlling, inspecting and maintaining both permanent and temporary equipment located within the derrick and which could therefore present a dropped object hazard, was seen as the way forward. Simultaneously, Step

Change 2000, a pan-industry initiative established and coordinated by HSE, UKOOA and IADC with the intention of delivering a 50% improvement in offshore safety, had identified drillfloor safety as a primary target for improvement. With this in mind, the Harding Drilling Team committed to making their Derrick Inspection Guide work well on Harding, and also to make available to the industry at large all of the positive aspects of their initiative for the benefit of everyone.

The Harding Derrick Inspection Guide was implemented in advance of recently introduced UK legislation covering the use and maintenance of lifting equipment. This legislation imposes additional responsibility on employers with regard to the safety of personnel either involved or affected by lifting operations and equipment.

INVOLVEMENT

Workforce involvement has long been recognised on Harding as a prerequisite to the success of any safety initiative. This is evidenced through the highly successful Employee Led Safety Initiative (ELSI) implemented by the Harding Drilling Team in early 1997¹. The drillcrew, in conjunction with the management team, scoped out, planned and implemented the Derrick Inspection Guide project. Without doubt, their contribution to, and subsequent ownership of, the Derrick Inspection Guide, is crucial to its long term success.

APPROACH

It was recognised early on that the main tangible outcome from the initiative would be a process in the form of a Derrick Inspection Guide. It was also recognised that several stages would have to be gone through in developing this guide and that if the guide was going to be used by the drillcrew it would have to be both concise and user friendly. An 8-step approach was developed to deliver the Derrick Inspection Guide, as outlined below:

- **Hazard identification:** A comprehensive review of all items in the derrick and sub-structure with the potential to become a dropped object. These items are inventoried and their method of securing recorded. On Harding 336 items were logged;
- **Identification of all derrick and substructure operations:** Based on a sequential review of all likely well operations to be carried out (drilling, casing, wirelining, etc.) a task analysis is conducted with each item of equipment required for each task being identified and its position within the derrick marked-up on derrick and sub-structure drawings;
- **Derrick inspection areas:** Sub-divide the derrick and sub-structure into manageable areas which have discrete physical boundaries. On Harding, 5 such areas were identified, as shown in Figure 1. These areas were further assigned a colour code to simplify and ensure check sheets were referenced easily to the appropriate areas;
- **Verification process:** Using the marked-up drawings and previously prepared inventory, a detailed inspection of the derrick



Figure 1: The Harding drilling team identified 336 potential "dropped objects" in the derrick and substructure as part of a comprehensive effort to eliminate the problem. The next step was to identify all derrick and substructure operations. Finally, the team sub-divided the derrick and substructure into 5 manageable derrick inspection areas. Colour codes were used to ensure check sheets were referenced to the appropriate area.

drillfloors worldwide. From IADC incident statistics², about 45% of drilling related accidents occur on the drillfloor or derrick, with a significant proportion of these involving equipment falling from the derrick. Indeed, drillcrew have been one of the highest risk group of workers offshore, not by virtue of their exposure to the threat of blowout, but due to their exposure to injury and fatality from their immediate working environment.

It was against this background that the Harding Drilling team identified dropped objects within the derrick and substructure

Harding Derrick Inspection Guide

Siddappa N.Byrareddy

A red circular graphic with a gradient, appearing as a partial circle or a stylized 'C' shape, located to the right of the author's name.

Harding Derrick Inspection Guide:

Bridge Management 4 M. J. Ryall, G. A. R. Parke, J. E. Harding, 2000 These proceedings are from The Fourth International Conference on Bridge Management that consolidated the best and more importantly up to date research conducted in the field of bridge management Since the first conference in 1990 the scientific art of bridge management has advanced at an astonishing rate There has been a change from a curative to a preventative approach to bridge management promising an increased longevity for the next generation of bridges and reduced whole life costs and practical and economical solutions have been found for some recurring problems *Lloyd's Register OneOcean's Guide to Port Entry 1985-1986* Lloyd's Register Foundation, 1985-01-01 First published in 1971 these Guides provide invaluable information on thousands of commercial ports and terminals across the globe They are compiled and published annually by LR OneOcean whose years of global maritime experience allows them to provide expert and innovative solutions that enhance efficiency sustainability and overall industry success The Guides cover a significant geographical breadth and the most recent volume includes information on over 12 500 ports harbours and terminals worldwide These are fully indexed and contain detailed port plans and mooring diagrams **A Guide to the Library of Commerce** Bristol (England). Public Libraries, 1937

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Whitaker's Cumulative Book List , 1982 Proceedings of the Ocean Drilling Program Ocean Drilling Program, 1993 **Harper's Weekly** John Bonner, George William Curtis, Henry Mills Alden, Samuel Stillman Conant, Montgomery Schuyler, John Foord, Richard Harding Davis, Carl Schurz, Henry Loomis Nelson, John Kendrick Bangs, George Brinton McClellan Harvey, Norman Hapgood, 1889 *Engineering News-record* , 1911 *Iron Age* , 1908 **Municipal Journal, Public Works Engineer and Contractors' Guide** , 1954 The United States Army and Navy Journal and Gazette of the Regular and Volunteer Forces , 1889

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