



The Safety Association for Canada's
Upstream Oil and Gas Industry

Single Bolt Rod Clamp Failure Lost-Time Injury

SAFETY ALERT

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Enform: Your Partner in Safety

Enform is the upstream oil and gas industry's advocate and leading resource for the continuous improvement of safety performance. Our mission is to help companies achieve their safety goals by providing practices, assessment, training, support, metrics and communication. Our vision is no work-related incidents or injuries in the Canadian upstream oil and gas industry.

An Industry Product

This document was developed by industry for industry. Working collaboratively, Enform works with the submitting organization representative in developing these documents to improve the industry's hazard awareness. Canada's leading oil and gas industry trade associations support the use of shared information to help companies of all sizes improve performance.

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Details

Release Date: August, 2011
Incidence Type: Lost-Time Injury
Country and Region: Alberta, Canada

For more information on this event,
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Description of Incident:

A flushby operator was attempting to remove the back spin tool when he suffered a serious injury to his right hand.

What Caused It:

- The worker placed his hand in a pinch point position between the "Y" – tool and the back spin tool, when the single bolt rod clamp allowed the rod string to drop.
- The service provider did not have a written procedure specific to remove the back spin tool.

Corrective Actions:

- A procedure will be developed to identify this specific hazard and will be communicated to service providers through safety meetings and hazard assessments.

Preventive Actions:

Investigation produced the following preventive recommendations:

- Single bolt polish rod clamps must not to be used for flush-by or well servicing operations. The single bolt rod clamp is intended to be used as a secondary clamp only for the drive head clamp.
- In this incident, the single bolt rod clamp showed considerable wear from continued use, which limited its ability to grip on the rod and caused it to fail when used to support the rod string weight.
- Any single bolt clamps, being used only as a secondary clamp, must be inspected and replaced as required.

By industry, for industry

