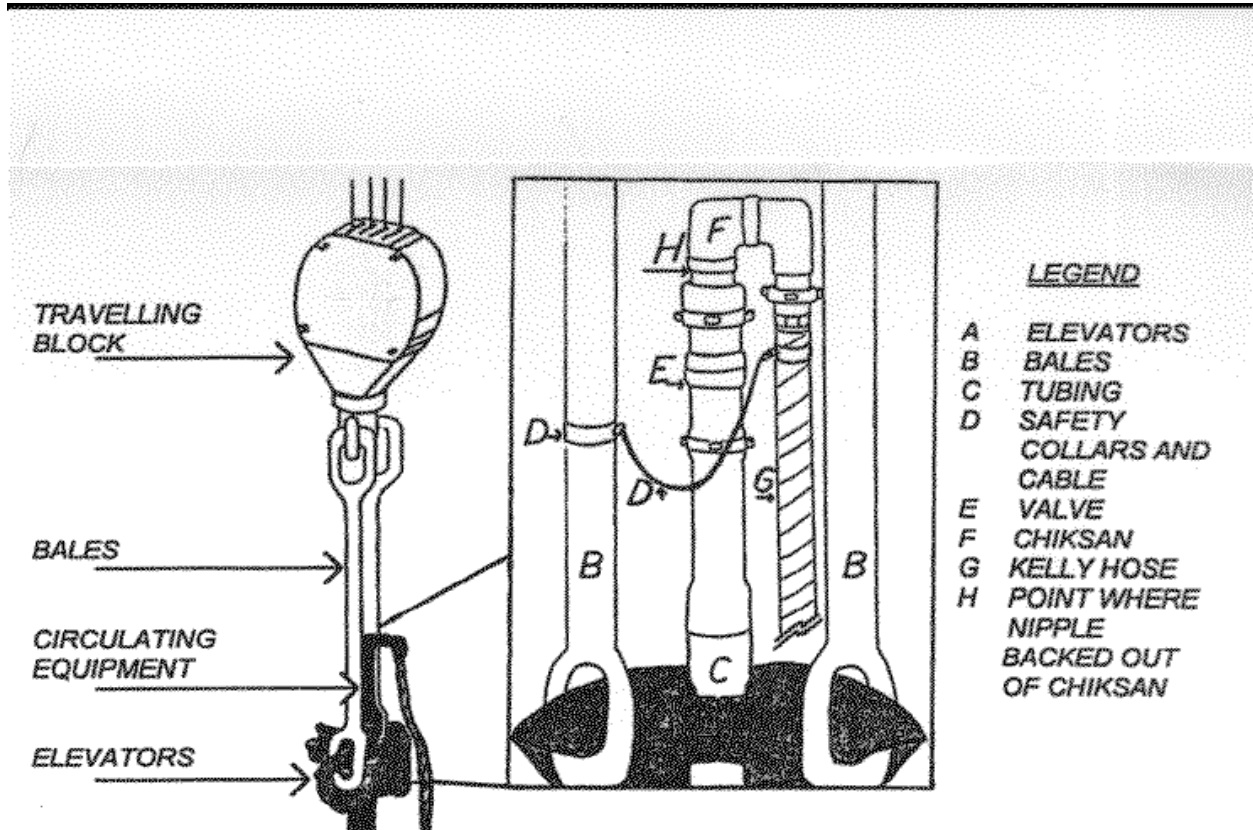


Work **Safe!** Bulletin

OVERHEAD EQUIPMENT

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ACCIDENT:

A worker on the floor of a service rig was injured when the chiksan (pipe swivel) fell approximately 11 metres to the rig floor, striking the worker on the head. The chiksan was attached to a joint of tubing suspended in the service rig elevators, in preparation to circulate down the well. Because the worker was wearing proper safety gear his injuries were minor; however the potential for a serious, even fatal, accident was high--given the fall distance and weight of the chiksan.

CAUSE:

The chiksan backed off its threads between the swivel and hammer union while workers were attempting to connect two joints of tubing. There was no safety device attached to the equipment to prevent it from falling.

REMEDIAL ACTION:

Employers must ensure that all rig chiksans, kelly hoses and other overhead circulating equipment have a safety chain or cable attached to an elevator bale to act as a fall arrest for equipment which is suspended 2 metres or more above the rig floor.

For further information please contact the Petroleum and Energy Branch