

Shell EPW Wells HSE Early Learning Bulletin

Fountain No: 136781 Location: GOM Date: 07/22/2007 Risk Ranking: Actual – Level 1, Potential – D2 Med

What happened: MTC-PINCHED FINGER WHILE USING HAMMER. Nitrogen Crew had completed displacing annulus on assigned well. During rig down of piping, the injured person used a 6 lb. sledge hammer to loosen the union on a 1" chocksan. The hammer glanced off the hammer union and pinched his right index finger against the 1" piping, resulting in a small fracture of the fingertip. The employee was wearing gloves at the time of the incident.



Preliminary Learning Points

- Recommend use of a sliding sledge or other alternative tool instead of using a sledgehammer on unions.
- 4 lb hammer had a loose head so the employee used an 6 lb hammer which was too big for the task.
- Incorrect hand position on sledgehammer due to
 - Lack of adequate access to union
 - Use of the larger hammer
 - Interference with associated piping
- Fatigue & high temperatures also a contributing factor.



This Learning Bulletin provides preliminary learnings; a detailed investigation is pending.