

TECHNICAL INFORMATION BULLETIN

T-18-01

(All Drilling and Service Rig Members)

March 29, 2018

Subject: **SECUREMENT OF BLOWOUT PREVENTER HOSES IN ALBERTA, CAUTIONARY NOTICE**

In the last quarter of 2017, the CAODC received notification that Alberta Occupational Health and Safety enforcement officers were previously requiring that drilling and well servicing members install securement devices on all of their BOP hydraulic hoses in accordance with Part 12, General Safety Precautions, of the OHS Code as follows:

Restraining hoses and piping

188(1) *An employer must ensure that a hose or piping and its connections operating under pressure are restrained if workers could be injured by its movement if it fails or if it is disconnected.*

188(2) *Despite subsection (1), if a hose or piping and its connections operating at a working pressure of 2000 kilopascals or more cannot be restrained, in order to prevent a failure that could injure workers, an employer must ensure that the hose or piping and its connections are designed, installed, used, inspected and maintained*

(a) *in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications, or*

(b) *in accordance with specifications certified by a professional engineer.*

Securing equipment and materials

189 *If a worker may be injured if equipment or material is dislodged, moved, spilled or damaged, both the employer and the worker must take all reasonable steps to ensure the equipment or material is contained, restrained or protected to eliminate the potential danger.*

Additionally, it was noted that OHS officers had been advising that the installation of a “whip check” was an acceptable form of remedial action (shown right).

Addressing the concerns brought forward by the CAODC and AER, Alberta OHS Policy and Legislation conducted a review focusing on the assessment of hazards to workers working on or near hydraulic hoses



and fittings on blowout preventers, resulting from disconnection or failure of the hoses or fittings.

The conclusion of this review has indicated that the hazard associated with hydraulic hose disconnection (or connection), or failure of the hoses or fittings is low due to the low volume of hydraulic fluid in the hoses, the shut-off valves within the connecting fittings and the robust design of the components.

As a result of these findings, OHS officers have been requested to refrain from issuing orders for restraint of the hydraulic hoses connected to blowout preventers unless circumstances exist that warrant an order.

Please forward a copy of this bulletin to all active rig sites.

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Manager, Safety & Training Services