

PRODUCT BULLETIN NUMBER: 42

**DATE:** May 13, 1997

**SUBJECT:** Top Drive Frame to Housing Connection

SERIAL NUMBERS: All

**DISCUSSION:** After periods of rough drilling or jarring the bolts between the top drive

housing casting and the frame must be checked. Bolts could otherwise fail

resulting in a broken portion of bolt falling free.

**RECOMMENDATION:** 

1. Inspect the bolts between the main housing and frame on a regular basis, especially after periods of rough drilling or jarring.

- 2. Check to be sure that there is no gap forming between the housing and frame. A gap may indicate loose or broken bolts.
- 3. Wherever possible check the bolts for torque.
- 4. On some units the bolts are only partially visible on the upper housing where the links interfere and cannot be checked for torque. Pry on the heads with a screw driver to ensure the bolts are not broken.
- 5. If broken bolts are detected a more thorough examination is required. This will require removal of the upper links. For top drives with a pin style handler lock it will be necessary to remove the pin.

Scheduled maintenance should include inspection/torquing of the housing to frame bolts semi-annually. This would best be accomplished on a rig move when the upper links can be easily removed.

## **INFORMATION:**

For further information contact:

Field Operations Manager Canrig Drilling Technology Ltd.

14703 FM 1488

Magnolia, Texas 77354 Phone: 281.259.8887 Fax: 281.259.8158

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