Safety Bulletin

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Modification Required to T-bar for Dual Pin Torque Track



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

TESCO personnel have identified a potential safety hazard regarding the upper T-bar for the dual pin torque track system. This T-bar has been used in some ESI Top Drive installations. The upper T-bar is secured with a bolted clamp plate partially shown in the pictures in Figure 1. In the pictured installation, the torque track has a 10-inch offset from the edge of the clamp plate. If the clamp plate bolts are not torqued according to spec and/or come loose during top drive operation, the upper T-bar could slide out of position. If the torque track shifts toward the clamp plate, the clearance for the torque bushing to pass would be lost. In this state, if the top drive is raised or lowered past the T-bar, a collision between the torque bushing and the clamp would occur. This may damage the torque arrest beam, clamp and the torque bushing, with a potential for dropped objects.





Figure 1: Upper T-bar secured with bolted clamp plate

AFFECTED PRODUCTS:

All TESCO rig up applications using the dual pin torque track (includes initial ESI Top Drive shipped prior to August 2012). The following nineteen 500TON ESI 1350HP Top Drive units are affected:

List of Affected ESI Top Drive Units			
945	982	1004	
947	983	1007	
961	984	1102	
962	986	1103	
963	1000	1105	
964	1002		
980	1003		

ACTION REQUIRED:

The potential for collision if the T-bar clamp became loose is eliminated with the addition of a retainer plate to the T-bar shaft. The retainer plate prevents the T-bar from sliding all the way into the clamp, ensuring that sufficient clearance is available for the torque bushing to pass. Figure 2 shows the T-bar with the retainer plate added. The retainer plate will be added to all new T-bars to eliminate such a hazard. Figure 3 shows the retainer plate size and placement. For a more detailed view, refer to drawing number 5007241-1.

T-bars in existing field installations should be modified by a qualified TESCO technician or customer field personnel to add the retainer plate as soon as practical. Until the modification is made, equipment operators should be made aware of the potential that the upper T-bar could slide out of position and its possible effects on the top drive, and monitor their operations accordingly.

Contact a TESCO customer representative for more information.

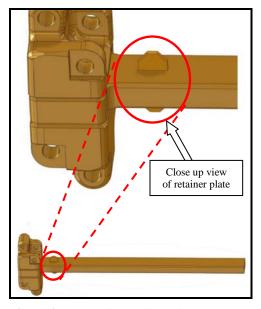


Figure 2: T-Bar with retainer plate.

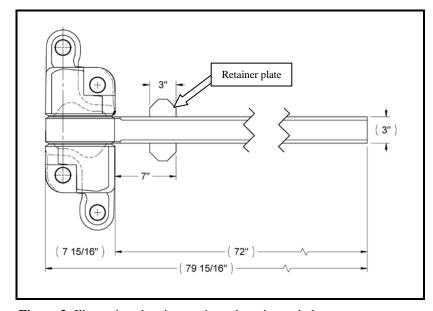


Figure 3: Illustration showing retainer plate size and placement

Version	Date (D/M/Y)	ECN	Description of changes
Rev 0	20/12/2012	197-0024	Initial release of document