



## Tong Slips and Strikes Equipment

### Description:

As a driller broke the tool joint connection, the tong dies slipped and the tong swung violently, striking the bottom hole assembly (BHA). This caused the tong arm to swing towards the drawworks.

### Lessons Learned:

- Wrong tong jaw was in the breakout side tongs. Two sizes of jaws fit the BHA tool joint connection. Either set of jaws can be used because of the various outside diameters (ODs) of the BHA components, the jaws used were not the best fit of the two options.
- Line of fire procedures were followed, the floor around the operations was clear, all workers were located outside of the drop zone, which prevented potential injuries.

### Life Saving Rule:

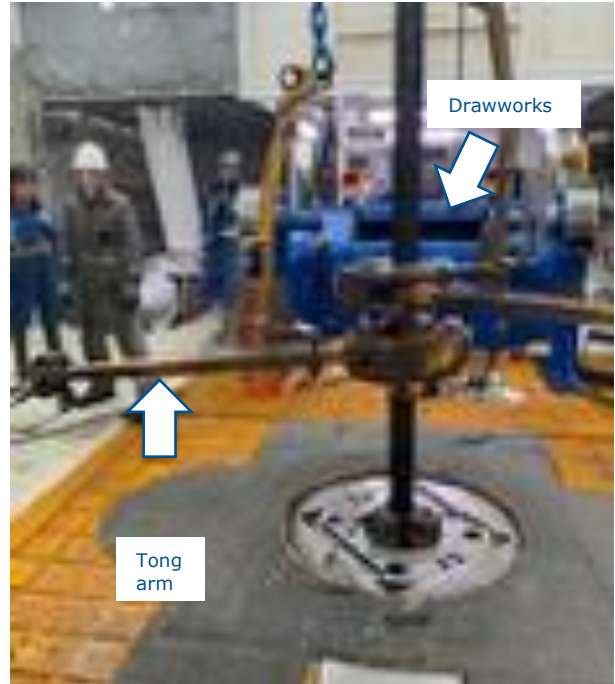


**LINE OF FIRE**

This safety alert relates to the Line of Fire [Life Saving Rule](#).



The "Line of Fire" program is aligned with Life Saving Rules and includes unsafe conditions.



Example of how crews should be positioned out of the line of fire, away from the swing path of the tong arm



Tong components

## What did they learn? What were the recommendations?

- In the drilling industry, it is common to have multiple ODs of the same nominal size pipe. However, tongs should be inspected each time after switching jaws to ensure the correct fit.
- Line of fire procedures were followed – workers were well back of the swing path of the tong arms – which prevented potential injuries.

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