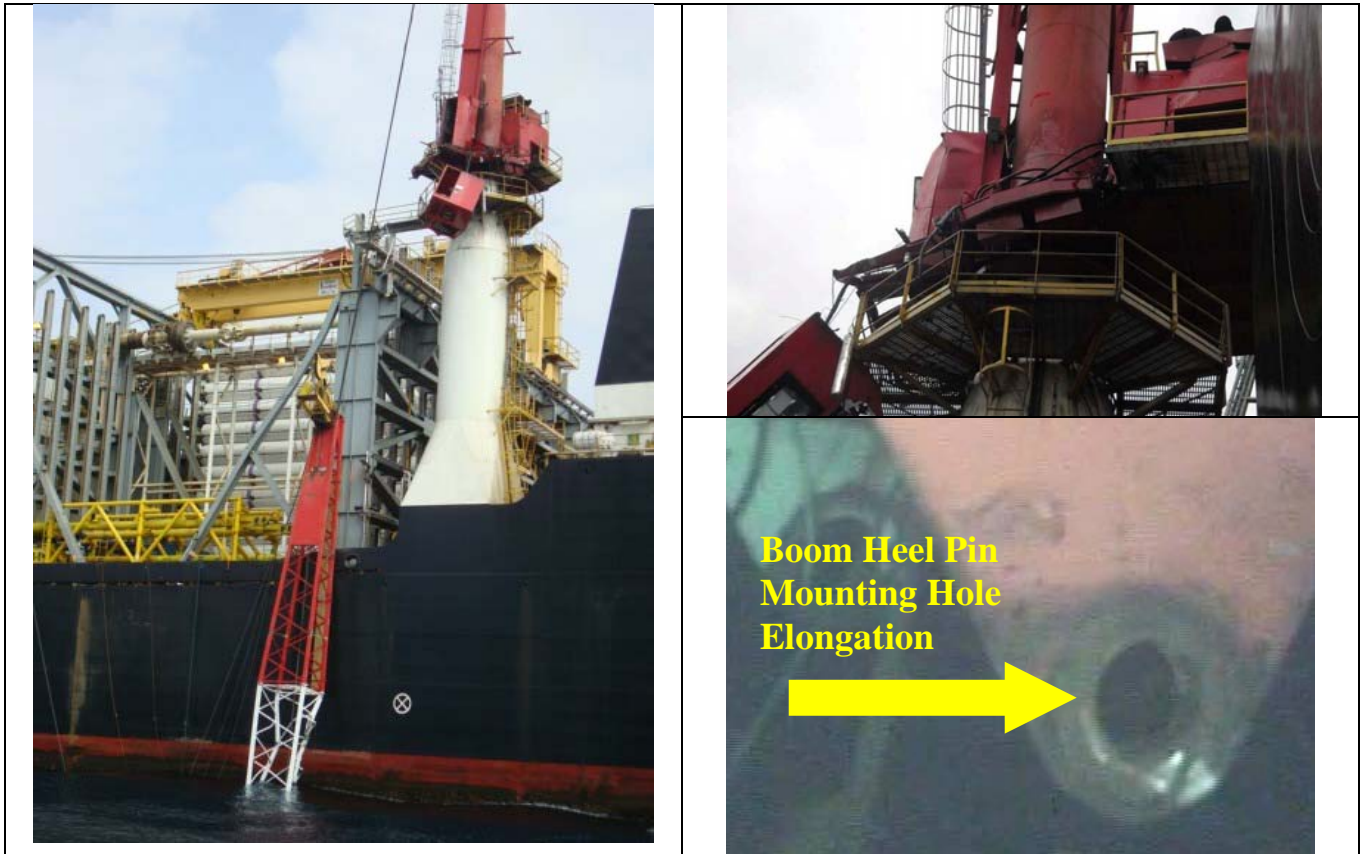


Incident Report

No. IR210001

August 5, 2010

Transocean Crane Load Testing Causes Catastrophic Failure



Description of the Incident:

During a crane load test on the Transocean drillship Jack Ryan, using water bags for the load, the crane boom dislodged from the crane upper works. The crane boom came to rest behind the crane in the sea below the drillship. The boom suspension still held the tip section of the boom to the crane. The water bags and the complete boom assembly rested alongside the hull of the ship in the sea below the vessel.

The crane boom impact to the crane cab caused the crane cab to dislodge from the upper works, allowing the operator and another person to be thrown from the crane cab to the sea below.

Injuries Resulting From the Incident:

One fatality and three other persons were injured.

Causes of the Incident:

A history of poor maintenance of the crane allowed for boom heel pin to upper works connection to degrade into an unsafe condition. The boom heel pin bushings were no longer in place, which caused significant wear to the boom heel pins and massive elongation of the boom heel section connection holes. The total amount of wear allowed for movement of the boom tip of eight feet in a side-to-side direction.

The poor maintenance of the boom to upper works connection allowed for a massive side load to be introduced to the crane boom. In addition to the status of the poor connection, the vessel motions induced by the movement of the test load caused the heel pin to upper works connection to fail.

A pre-load test inspection, had one been performed, would have identified these deficiencies.

Recommended Actions to Eliminate Reoccurrence of the Incident:

Perform routine maintenance as described in operations and maintenance manuals which is in accordance with inspection and maintenance criteria outlined in API RP 2D.

When performing a load test, a pre-load test inspection and a post-load test inspection should be performed as described by regulatory recommendations.

A certified calibrated dynamometer should be used when using water bags for load testing to determine the weight of water bags.

These recommendations are for all cranes regardless of manufacturer.

For more information please contact:
Service Manager--SeaTrax Inc.
13223 FM529 Houston, TX. 77041
Tel: (713) 896-6500 Fax: (713) 896-6611