

McKay Drilling Newsletter

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Monthly Newsletter from McKay Drilling

JUNE 2011



A WORD FROM JOHNATHAN

Some of McKay Drilling's rigs have recently undergone an independent rig audit on client exploration sites. The results received were very encouraging and a good indication of the Health and Safety standard being maintained on rigs.

Of course there are always improvements to be made and it is imperative to stay vigilant and make health and safety an essential component of the management of rig operations.

Facts about Silica

Silica is found in sand, rock, and mineral ores. There are several types of silica. The most harmful silica particles are crystalline. Crystalline silica is often found in the air at work sites where workers are drilling into the earth.

Silica enters into the body through inhalation. Silica must be inhaled to cause health problems. Once Silica is in the lungs, it remains there and can cause scar tissue to form. Breathing large enough amounts of silica may lead to the lung diseases silicosis and lung cancer.

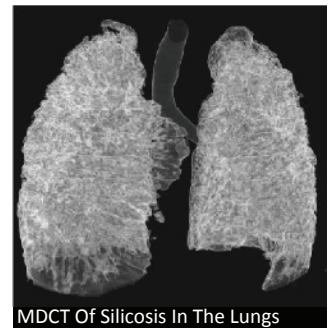
Silicosis is a restrictive lung disease. It is the most common health problem from exposure to silica. Symptoms include chest pains, fatigue, coughing, and loss of appetite. Symptoms may take years to develop. Silicosis typically occurs after ten or more years of exposure. Not everyone who is exposed to silica develops silicosis.

Employees may be exposed to silica during phases of the drilling process. Because Silica travels through the air, anyone working near a Reverse Circulation drill rig may be exposed.

Due to the information mentioned above, it is essential to protect yourself against silica. In areas known for high silica content, mandatory wearing of P2 dust masks should be in place and monitored by all personnel.

If you are unsure, consult your geologist and ask if there is a high probability of silica content in the ground. In addition, and based on the information provided, ensure to communicate all information gathered to all personnel.

The wearing of P2 dust masks and dust suppression is the best defence employees have to prevent the inhalation of Crystalline Silica.



New Employees

McKay Drilling would like to welcome Leigh Mason and Joshua Gulliver as new RC Offsiders who have joined us this month.



Anthony Sapienza

New Relief Driller

Congratulations to Anthony Sapienza who completed his first stint as a relief driller on Rig Four. Anthony completed it competently and without issue.

Reminders

Plods: Make sure you get all your plods in before Mondays of each week. This gives the office time to process them to get your pays completed in time.

Parts Reqs: Just a reminder to put your part reqs in and phone the yard to confirm with Les or Shaun

Pre-Starts: Try to get your Pre-Starts in on a weekly to fortnightly basis and record the number on your plod

Who's Drilling Where

Rig One is in Port Hedland in the capable hands of Paul Williams. Adrian Pearse has packed up and headed to Paraburdoo aboard Rig Two. Aric Rex is still drilling just East of Newman on Rig Three. Our track rig is now back on the flats just West of Tom Price with Rhys Davies. Wade Merritt has taken control of Rig Five in Meekatharra. Rig Six is East of Newman with Sidney Whanga at the levers. Our Diamond Rig is still in Newman with Niall Breen and Ben Wilson sharing the duties. Brett Jenkinson is in Tennant Creek aboard Rig Eight. Finally Rig Nine is in Halls Creek with Jai Williams.

Metzke Dust Collector

The new Metzke dust collector has arrived. This sampling system will enter the field to replace the current dust collector on Rig Three.

The dust collector operates with hydraulic jack legs to enable the cyclone/splitter to be set up and compensate for any ground deviation to enable the sampling split to be equal and produce a clear representation of the ground.



The New Metzke Dust Collector

Rig Two

Rig Two is near to completion on its current drilling program, early next month it is bound for the Gulf of Carpentaria in the Northern Territory to undergo another drilling program scheduled to last the remainder of the year.



Rig Two Out On Site



McKay Sample Trailer Under Construction

McKay Sample Trailer

McKay Drilling is nearing the completion of a new sample trailer, currently being built in house. This dust collector will replace the existing one on Rig Six. It has been built to ensure all sampling systems on all McKay Drilling operated tenements run collaboratively.

Drill Skill

Well done to Coby Holland who has completed block 3 of his theory courses for his Certificate III in Drilling Operations. Coby has only to complete his final assessment before the certification can be awarded.

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