CONCEPT

Drilling Rig Inspection and Acceptance: Hoisting, BOP and Safety System Surveys

13 – 17 September 2027
London - Central London four-star



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Introduction:

Drilling rig inspection and acceptance decides whether a rig arriving on contract is fit to spud, yet many acceptance surveys rely on generic checklists, miss worn drill line, untested brakes, overdue BOP recertification and loose items aloft, and end with findings lists that are never closed before operations start. This Core Concept course trains the people who inspect and accept rigs to plan surveys by rig type, check each rig system against defined criteria, classify findings and drive them to verified close-out. Participants produce a Rig Acceptance Inspection Plan and Findings Report.

Course Objectives:

- Define the scope, team and document pack for acceptance, condition and periodic category inspections on land and offshore rigs
- Inspect derrick or mast, drawworks, drill line, blocks and top drive against load path, wear and brake criteria
- Verify well control equipment readiness at inspection level through BOP configuration, accumulator drawdown and pressure test records
- Check circulating, power generation and electrical systems, dropped object controls, lifting gear and rig safety systems against checklists
- Classify findings by severity and set conditional acceptance, waiver and close-out requirements before spud
- Compile a rig acceptance findings report with evidence references, action owners and a sign-off sequence

Target Audience:

- Drilling supervisors who represent the operator on the rig floor and sign off rigs before operations
- Rig superintendents and senior rig crew who prepare rigs for customer acceptance surveys
- QHSE staff who verify rig safety systems, dropped object controls and lifting operations
- Asset integrity and maintenance staff who manage rig equipment condition, recertification and repair records
- Contracts and rig-move coordinators who track equipment list compliance and outstanding findings

Course Outline:

Day 1: Rig Types, Inspection Purposes and Survey Scope

- Land, Jack-Up, Semi-Submersible and Drillship Layouts by Rig System
- Acceptance, Condition and Periodic Category Inspection Comparison Grid
- Contract Equipment List Review Against the Standard Format Equipment List
- Rig Document Pack: Certificates, Maintenance Records and Recertification Status
- Rig Acceptance Scope Statement and Inspection Team Roles Matrix

Day 2: Hoisting, Derrick and Rotating Equipment Inspection Criteria

- Derrick and Mast Structural Checks: Bolted Connections, Pins, Deformation and Corrosion
- Drawworks Drum, Primary Brake and Auxiliary Brake Inspection Checklist
- Drill Line Slip-and-Cut Records, Crown Block, Travelling Block and Deadline Anchor Checks
- Top Drive Load Path, Guide Rails and Safe Working Load Verification
- Hoisting Equipment Inspection Categories I to IV and Recertification Intervals

Day 3: Well Control, Circulating and Power System Checks

- BOP Stack Configuration Check: Annular, Pipe, Blind and Shear Ram Arrangement
- Accumulator Unit Drawdown Test and Remote Control Panel Function Check
- Choke and Kill Manifold, Lines and Valve Pressure Test Record Review
- Mud Pumps, Standpipe Manifold, Pulsation Dampeners and Relief Valve Settings
- Power Generation, Engine Shutdowns, Switchboards and Hazardous Area Electrical Equipment

Day 4: Dropped Objects, Lifting Gear, Safety Systems and Findings Classification

- Dropped Objects Survey Aloft: Secondary Retention, Safety Nets and Tool Tethering
- Lifting Gear Register, Crane Load Test Evidence and Pipe Handling Equipment Checks
- Gas Detection, Fire Suppression, Emergency Shutdown and Escape Route Verification
- Findings Classification Matrix: Critical, Major, Minor and Observation
- Conditional Acceptance Criteria, Waiver Requests and Pre-Spud Close-Out Rules

Day 5: Case Rig Acceptance Walkthrough and Findings Report

- Case Rig Briefing: Equipment List, Maintenance History and Prior Survey Findings
- System-by-System Inspection Walkthrough Using Photo and Test Data Evidence Sets
- Findings Log Drafting With Evidence References and Severity Classification
- Corrective Action Close-Out Tracker and Acceptance Sign-Off Sequence
- Rig Acceptance Inspection Plan and Findings Report Presentation and Peer Challenge

Skills You Will Gain:

- Rig Acceptance Survey Planning
- Hoisting Equipment Condition Assessment
- Drawworks and Brake Inspection
- BOP Readiness Verification
- Rig Power and Circulating System Checks
- Dropped Object Surveying
- Rig Findings Classification
- Acceptance Close-Out Tracking

Why Attend This Course:

- Return with a Rig Acceptance Inspection Plan and Findings Report built on a case rig
- Walk a rig system by system with criteria that separate spud-critical defects from items that can follow
- Stop rigs starting operations with open critical findings by applying conditional acceptance and close-out rules
- Compare acceptance practice with peers from operators, drilling contractors and inspection service companies working onshore and offshore

Conclusion:

A rig is only ready to spud when its hoisting, rotating, well control, circulating, power and safety systems have been checked against clear criteria and every critical finding is closed. The course moves from rig types and inspection purposes, through equipment criteria for each rig system, to dropped objects, lifting gear, safety systems and findings classification. The final day applies these methods to a case rig and produces a Rig Acceptance Inspection Plan and Findings Report ready for use on the next rig intake.