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Don't Blow Your Stack

A rig was experiencing recurring failures of the lower annular ring seal. During the investigation, it was found that when the drill crew performed pressure testing, they would close the lower annular and then close the upper annular before opening the lower annular. Due to the relatively small volume of fluid between the annulars, when the upper annular closed, it created a pressure spike that blew out the lower annular adapter ring seal. The seal problems stopped when they changed their procedure to open the lower annular before closing the upper annular.

For more information or technical questions, please contact WEST Engineering at west@westengineer.com, call **281-375-5515**, or visit our website at westengineer.com.