

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT  
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 25-AUG-2017 TIME: 0905 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Arena Offshore, LP

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
- DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
- INCIDENT >\$25K
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER

3. OPERATOR/CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR  
ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

6. OPERATION:

4. LEASE: G04452

AREA: EI LATITUDE:

BLOCK: 182 LONGITUDE:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- MOTOR VESSEL
- PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
- OTHER

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY:  EXPLORATION (POE)  
 DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION  
(DOC/POD)

8. CAUSE:

- EQUIPMENT FAILURE
- HUMAN ERROR
- EXTERNAL DAMAGE
- SLIP/TRIP/FALL
- WEATHER RELATED
- LEAK
- UPSET H2O TREATING
- OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

7. TYPE:

- HISTORIC INJURY
- REQUIRED EVACUATION 1
- LTA (1-3 days)
- LTA (>3 days)
- RW/JT (1-3 days)
- RW/JT (>3 days) 1
- Other Injury

- FATALITY
- POLLUTION
- FIRE
- EXPLOSION

- LWC  HISTORIC BLOWOUT
- UNDERGROUND
  - SURFACE
  - DEVERTER
  - SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION  HISTORIC  >\$25K  <=\$25K

9. WATER DEPTH: 88 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 42 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION:  
SPEED: M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:  
SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

**For Public Release**

On 25 August 2017, a Floorhand sustained a left hand thumb injury during drilling operations a jack-up drilling rig under contract to Arena Offshore, LP (Arena) at the surface location of Eugene Island (EI) Block 182. The severity of the injury to the Floorhand's left hand thumb required evacuation from the rig for medical attention.

On August 25th 2017, the drill crew was tripping out of the hole with a casing cutter on drill pipe. Since the Iron Roughneck was broken, the drill crew switched to using manual rig tongs. Prior to beginning operations with the rig tongs, the drill crew participated in a safety meeting that listed the changes and identified hazards when using manual rig tongs. The drill crew decided that the rig tongs were best suited for making-up to a tool joint by engaging the first latch on the rig tongs' head. The floorhand unlatched the rig tongs that were in the double latch position with his left hand placed on the rig tong's left latch handle. When the floorhand was attempting to relatch the rig tongs to a single latch position, his left hand thumb was pinched between the rig tongs' head and left latch handle. The injured floorhand reported to the Rig Medic for treatment and was then evacuated by crew boat for a medical evaluation onshore. He was diagnosed by a physician onshore with a laceration and minor fracture to his left thumb and a left thumb nail avulsion. The physician sutured the laceration on the left hand thumb and applied a finger splint to keep the left hand thumb stationery.

On 28 August 2017, the injured floorhand was released for restricted work duty with no grasping or griping with his left hand.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

The BSEE incident investigation team determined that the probable cause of the incident was due to improper hand placement on the manual rig tongs by the floorhand.

19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

BSEE's investigation into this incident identified the following contributing causes: 1) inadequate job risk assessment when equipment was changed out from an iron roughneck to manual rig tongs; and 2) hazards associated with the handling of rig tongs was not addressed in pre-tour safety meetings nor documented in the job risk assessment.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: NATURE OF DAMAGE:  
No property was damaged during this incident. Not applicable.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The BSEE Lafayette District makes no recommendations to the Office of Incident Investigations regarding this incident.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

Based on the incident investigation findings, a G-110 Incident of Noncompliance (INC) was issued "After the Fact" to Arena to document its failure to protect health, safety and the environment by performing operations in an unsafe and unworkmanlike manner on the Rowan Gorilla IV during well abandonment operations on Well A001 located in Eugene Island Block 182. On 25 August 2017, a Rowan Companies Floorhand sustained a laceration and fracture to his left hand thumb while unlatching rig tongs during tripping out of the hole activities. The severity of the left hand thumb injury required evacuation from the rig for medical attention and was diagnosed with a laceration and minor fracture to his left hand thumb.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION: 28. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION  
PANEL FORMED: NO

26. INVESTIGATION MEMBERS:  
Troy Naquin (Report Author)

29. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:  
Elliott Smith

APPROVED

DATE: 07-NOV-2017