
Incidents Associated with Oil and Gas Operations

Outer Continental Shelf 1997

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This report can also be obtained on MMS's homepage at <http://www.mms.gov>

Foreword

The following is a compilation of incidents that occurred on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for the year 1997. This report lists all of the incidents separately by Region and then by type of event. (Note: There is no section for the Alaska Region in this report because no incidents occurred there during the 1997 reporting period.) After the listing of the individual incidents we have a section that presents the information graphically.

Data in this report have been compiled from the Technical Information Management System (TIMS) database for the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico OCS Regions. It was cross-checked by performing multiple analyses and by checking paper records on file in Minerals Management Service's (MMS') headquarters office in Herndon, VA. TIMS is a large database created by MMS for both internal and public use. In addition to containing information on OCS incidents, TIMS also includes data on the following items: platforms, number and type of wellbores, seismic analysis, leasing data, production rates, and royalty management.

One of the major concerns with the incident component of TIMS is data quality. Both MMS and industry are placing increased emphasis on operator performance and safety. With this increased attention to safety, the quality of the incident data in TIMS takes on additional importance. As both MMS and industry rely more and more on incident data and data analysis, the potential impact of the incident information contained in TIMS will also increase.

As shown in the report, there are a large number of events caused by human error. Due to the wide scope of this definition, MMS will be working in the future to narrow the definition of this field.

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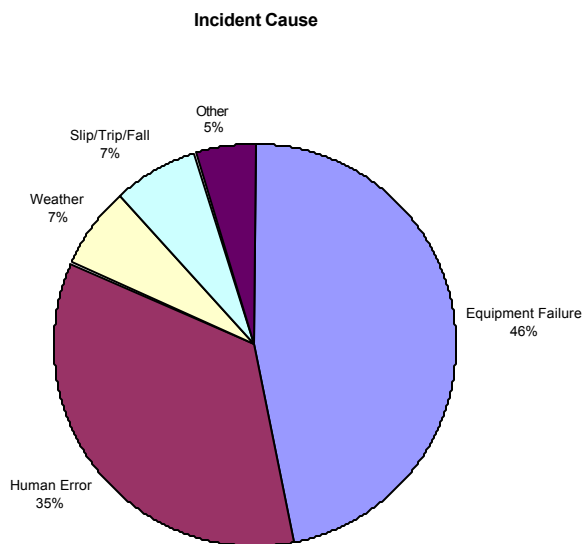
Abbreviations and Acronyms

AC	-Alternating Current
bbl(s)	-Barrel(s)
Bcf	-billion cubic feet
BOP	-Blowout Preventer
BOPD	-barrels of oil per day
BWPD	-barrels of water per day
CFR	-Code of Federal Regulations
CT	-coil tubing
CTM	-coil tubing measurement
CO ₂	-Carbon Dioxide
ESD	-Emergency Shut Down
ft	-Foot (feet)
FTP	-flowing tubing plug
G/L	-Gas / Liquid
gal	-Gallon
GOM	-Gulf of Mexico
H ₂ S	-Hydrogen Sulfide
HI	-High Island
in	-Inch
LEL	-Lower Exposure Limit
LSH	-Level Safety High
LSL	-Level Safety Low
MCC	-Master Control Center
MCFD	-thousand cubic feet per day
MD	-Measured Depth
MM	-million
MMS	-Minerals Management Service
MOU	-Memorandum of Understanding
M/V	-Mobile Vessel
NE	-Northeast
NRC	-National Response Center
OCS	-Outer Continental Shelf
OCSLA	-Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
POV	-Pressure Operated Valves
Ppg	-Pounds Per Gallon
PSE	-Pressure Safety Element
PSH	-Pressure Safety High
psi	-Pounds Per Square Inch
PSL	-Pressure Safety Low
PSV	-Pressure Safety Valve

RTU	-Remote Terminal Unit
SCADA	-Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCSSV	-Surface Controlled Subsurface Safety Valve
SM	-South Marsh Island
SS	-Stainless Steel
SSSV	-Subsurface Safety Valve
SW	-Southwest
TD	-Total Depth
TIMS	-Technical Information Management System
TLP	-Tension Leg Platform
TSE	-Temperature Safety Element (fusible material)
TSH	-Temperature Safety High
USCG	-U.S. Coast Guard
VRS	-Vapor Recovery System
VRU	-Vapor Recovery Unit
WHRU	-Waste Heat Recovery Unit

Executive Summary

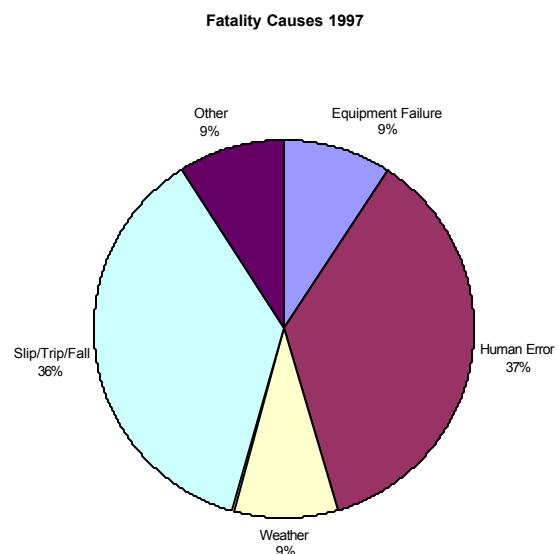
The purpose of this report is to present OCS incident information for 1997. Incident data are based solely on MMS's TIMS database; a nationwide OCS information gathering system. Incident information included in this report has been categorized by region, year, type, and sorted by date.



Overall, the main cause of all incidents in 1997 was equipment failure followed by human error. The majority of these incidents occurred during production operations. Fires were the most frequent type of incident reported to the MMS in 1997 followed by injuries. Both the number of fires and number of injuries recorded in TIMS doubled from 1995 to 1997. Part of this increase may be a result of changes in Gulf of Mexico (GOM) recordkeeping requirements effective August 1996. The majority of the reported injuries were minor.

The primary cause of fatalities (11) was human error followed by slip/trip/fall. Most fatalities occurred during production operations, followed by drilling, then well completion, and welding operations.

Blowouts (5) were mainly a result of equipment failure and human error resulting primarily from drilling operations followed by well completion activities. Explosions mainly occurred during production activities and were caused by

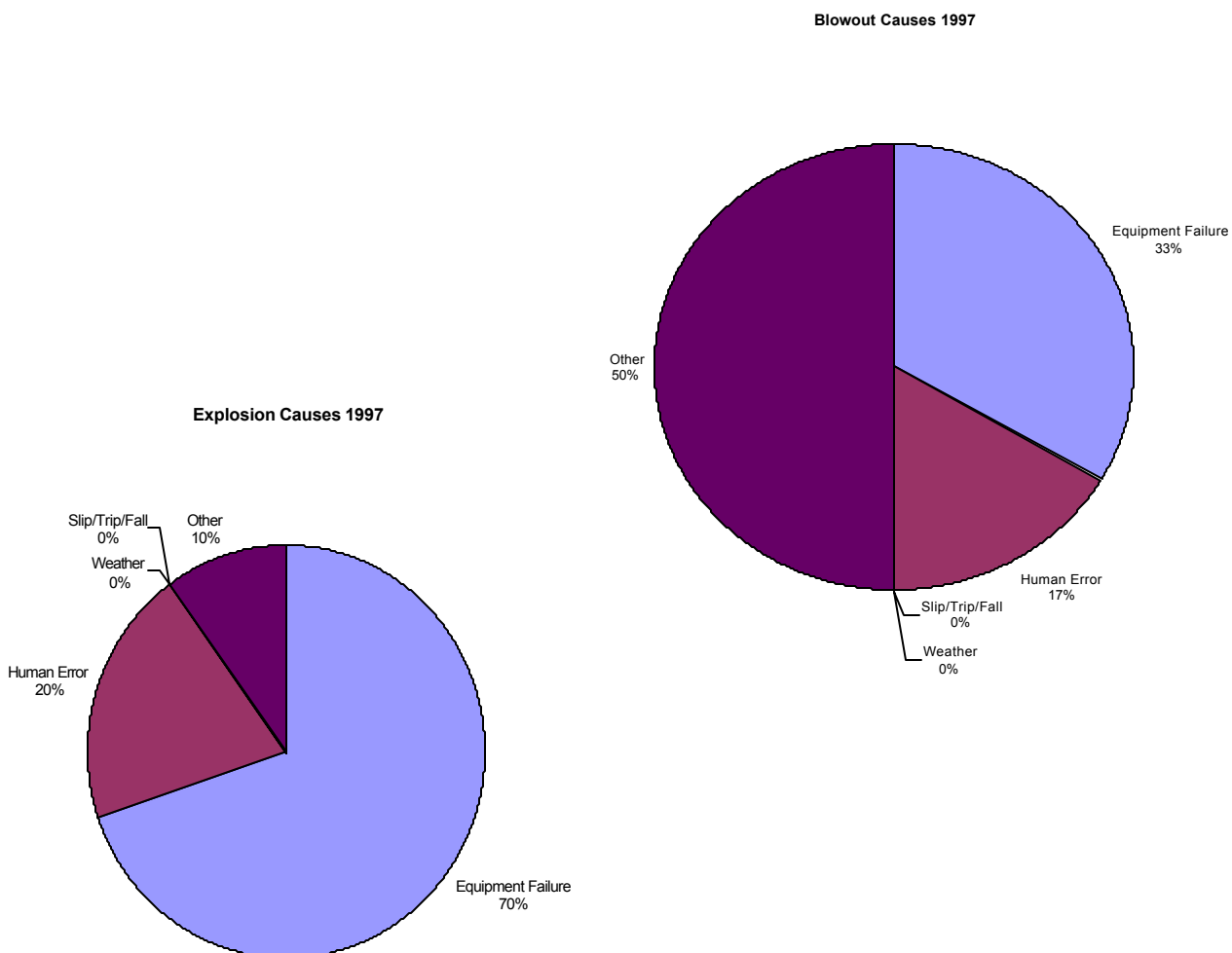


equipment failure and human error.

Another interesting thing to note is that although there was an increase in activity in water depths greater than 1000 ft there was a decrease in the number of incidents in those water depths.

Recently, the Workgroup from MMS Headquarters completed a review of crane incidents that occurred between January 1995 and August 1998. The [report](#) discusses the Workgroup's review and analysis of these accidents and makes recommendations for improving crane safety.

The Workgroup looked at 34 crane incidents from 1995 to August 1998. These incidents resulted in 7 fatalities and 20 injuries. The most significant finding of the review was that crane riggers appear to be at the greatest risk during crane operations. During this time period, all 7 of the fatalities and most of the injuries involved crane riggers or other personnel working around cranes.



INTRODUCTION

I. Authority

The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) requires that either MMS or the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) prepare a public report for all deaths, serious injuries, major fires, and major oil spillages (>200 barrels within 30 days) resulting from OCS mineral operations. To carry out the requirements in OCSLA, the MMS and the USCG have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that provides guidelines for identifying the agency that will normally conduct the investigation and prepare the report. Joint investigations can also be conducted.

II. IMPORTANCE AND RELATION TO OTHER ASPECTS OF SAFETY PROGRAM

A primary mission of the MMS is to manage OCS resources in a safe and environmentally sound manner. Safety of operations has always been a key element of the Federal Government's offshore program. Many factors have contributed to improved safety and environmental protection over the years, including: the development of operating regulations, increased regulatory oversight, improved industry safety programs, and improved technology.

Accurate reporting, recordkeeping, and analysis of incident information are integral components of a properly functioning regulatory program and a safe OCS oil and gas industry. Incident data can be used to identify operational trends and fluctuations from the norm. Evaluation of this information can then be used as a benchmark to evaluate the performance of the industry. Based on this evaluation, areas of concern can be identified and addressed through a variety of measures including regulatory changes or new research initiatives.

III. ACCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

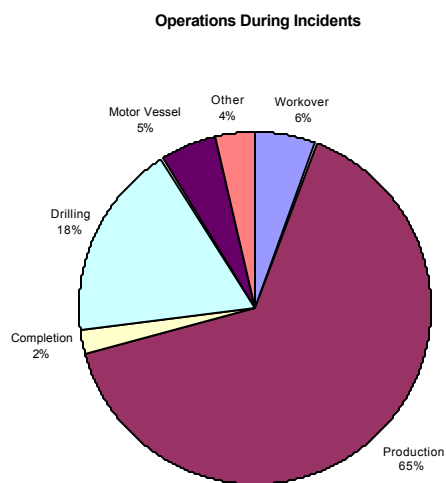
MMS regulations at 30 CFR 250.19 (a) specify industry accident reporting requirements. They require OCS lessees to notify MMS of all serious accidents, any death or serious injury, and all fires, explosions or blowouts connected with any activities or operations on the lease. All spills of oil or other liquid pollutants must also be reported to MMS. These regulations also address the preparation of public accident reports and procedures used in conducting accident investigations.

As of August 1997, MMS began revising Subpart A, including reporting requirements. MMS and the USCG are also beginning to move towards a joint reporting structure. They will put subpart A into a more logical order and respond to substantial changes requested by industry and generally improve the clarity of the regs.

In 1992, MMS instituted a basic policy for collecting accident data and conducting accident investigations. Under that policy, MMS must investigate all major accidents, some minor accidents, and all blowouts. The degree of investigation is left to the discretion of the District

Supervisor. Major accidents are fires and explosions that result in damage of \$1 million or more, liquid hydrocarbon spills of 200 barrels or more during a period of 30 days, or accidents involving a fatality or serious injury that causes substantial impairment of any bodily unit or function.

The regions followed this policy until August 1996 when the GOM Region implemented a more stringent policy. Since that date, the GOM Region investigates all fires and explosions, all blowouts, all spills greater than 1 barrel, all accident-related fatalities, all collisions involving structural damage to OCS facilities, and injuries and accidents requiring repairs on a case-by-case basis. The degree of investigation is still left to the discretion of the District Supervisor. The Pacific Region continues to follow the 1992 policy previously discussed. MMS completes an Accident Investigation Report (Form 2010) for all accidents investigated.



IV. GENERAL INCIDENT TRENDS

The following are trends that were found in the data that were compiled for this report.

- The primary causes of fatalities were human error (4), and slip/trip/fall (4).
- Most fatalities occurred during production operations, followed by drilling, then well completion, and welding operations.
- Explosions were mainly a result of equipment failure (7) and human error (2)

resulting primarily from production operations.

- Overall, the main cause of incidents in 1997 was equipment failure (120) followed by human error (88). The majority of these incidents occurred during production operations (162).
- There were 258 incidents on the OCS in 1997. At the same time there were 954 wells drilled on the OCS in 1997 (353 exploratory/601 development). There were 466 million barrels (MMBbls) of oil produced on the OCS in 1997. There were 5,222 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of gas produced on the OCS in 1997. There were .27 incidents per well drilled in 1997. There were .55 incidents per million barrels of oil produced on the OCS. There were .05 incidents per Billion cubic feet of natural gas produced in 1997.
- This compared with the 180 OCS incidents in 1996. There were 889 wells drilled on the OCS in 1996 (327 exploratory/562 development). There were 426 MMBbls of oil produced on the

OCS in 1996. There were 5,066 Bcf of gas produced on the OCS in 1996. There were .20 incidents per well drilled in 1996. There were .42 incidents per million barrels of oil produced on the OCS. There were .04 incidents per Billion cubic feet of natural gas produced on the OCS in 1996.

- This compared with the 94 OCS incidents in 1995. There were 798 wells drilled on the OCS in 1995 (278 exploratory/520 development). There were 429 MMBbls of oil produced on the OCS in 1995. There were 5,015 Bcf of gas produced on the OCS in 1995. There were .12 incidents per well drilled in 1995. There were .22 incidents per million barrels of oil produced on the OCS. There were .02 incidents per Billion cubic feet of natural gas produced on the OCS in 1995.

1997 Crane Incidents

There were at least 10 crane incidents in 1997 according to Accident/Incident forms and Accident Investigation Reports (referred to as reports for the rest of this paper) contained in our TIMS. Incidents ranged from minor personnel injuries and minor property damage to two accidents resulting in two fatalities.

Crane pedestals failed on two occasions causing major damage to the cranes and one serious injury. Mechanical failure caused these two incidents.

Two other incidents damaged crane booms as a result of improper lifting techniques. One boom failed due to overloading because the wrong boom angle was used to offload a rig. In the other, the boom damage occurred when the boom pawl brake failed, and the boom pivoted to the surface of the Gulf. Both of these incidents may have been caused by crane operator error. Fortunately there were no injuries in these two incidents.

Slings were involved in three incidents. Twice slings failed during the lifting operation, one failure resulted in a fatality. In that fatality, the floor hand handling the tag line was underneath the load when the sling failed. A second fatality occurred when a sling snagged and broke off the valve on an accumulator bottle, and the escaping pressure blew the rigger across the rig floor. According to the report, the probable cause of this accident was that the communication between the crane operator and the rigger was not appropriate.

The other three incidents involved minor injury to a rigger, minor injury to a person exiting a personnel basket, and minor damage to an offloaded box of cuttings. These incidents are likely due to human error.

1997 Deepwater Incidents

There were at least 10 deepwater incidents in 1997 according to the Accident/Incident forms and the Accident Investigation Reports contained in our TIMS database. Incidents were mostly minor involving personnel injuries and minor fires. There was one large 72 bbl spill. There were 4 fires and 3 injuries. The two events that were classified under other were an infectious pneumonia outbreak and smoke but no fire on a platform.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Blowouts - 1997

Date:	10-Jan-1997	Operator:	BHP Petroleum, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G14550	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	299	Cause:	Other – Diverter
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Gorilla 2	Water Depth:	337'

Remarks: The operator was drilling at 2428 ft on 01/10/97 when they encountered a shallow gas pocket. The mud weight in the hole was 9.6 ppg. The operator opened up the diverter valve on the starboard side of the rig to release the gas to the atmosphere. The operator started pumping 1500 bbls of 11.0 ppg mud into the well. This was followed by 500 bbls of 12.4 ppg mud. The well was still blowing gas at this point. While waiting on more mud and weight material to arrive at the rig, the operator started pumping seawater into the well at a rapid pump rate. Firefighters were called and non-essential personnel were evacuated at 1330 hrs. The operator then at 1130 hrs received 900 bbls of 13.8 ppg liquid mud on the rig. Flow appeared to be diminishing from the well at 1330 hrs. The operator started pumping 11.0 ppg mud into the well at 1640 hrs and received bottoms up at 1840 hrs. At 1900 hrs the well was under control. The operator built the mud weight level in the hole to 10.2 ppg. They then pumped seawater into the well to fill the hole. The well was static at this point, no longer flowing. The mud losses were treated with lost circulation material. The operator raised the mud weight in the hole to 10.6 ppg and resumed drilling.

Date:	04-Mar-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05646	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	295	Cause:	Other
Rig/Platform:	Pool 18	Water Depth:	288'

Remarks: On well A-29 at approximately 0100 hrs the 13 3/8-in surface casing was cemented in place at 4950 ft MD. At 0400 hrs, while in the process of nipping down the diverter, a flow was observed on the backside of the casing within the 13 3/8 X 18 5/8 annulus. The 18 5/8-in casing is set at 1614 ft MD. The diverter was nipped back up and the well was put back on diverter while pumping sea water down the annulus. At 0915 hrs the well was shut in while sea water was continuously pumped. Previously, 400 bbls of 11.8 ppg kill weight mud was mixed and pumped at 1100 hrs with more mud enroute to the rig.

Date:	01-Apr-1997	Operator:	American Exploration Company
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10638	Event(s):	Blowout / Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production / Drilling
Block:	328	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pride 1001E	Water Depth:	243'

Remarks: Prior to the blowout, the crew had set and cemented casing. The BOP stack was being nipped down with four bolts remaining when annular flow was observed. All personnel were safely evacuated. The rig and platform were on fire and the derrick collapsed. There was a sheen on the water. A relief well was spudded. The well eventually bridged over. The operator used a snubbing unit to plug and abandon the well. The relief well was also plugged and abandoned. Other wells were damaged on the platform.

Date:	31-May-1997	Operator:	Houston Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08641	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Completion
Block:	83	Cause(s):	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Falcon Phoenix II	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: The well started flowing completion fluid and dry gas while the crew was tripping out of the hole during well-completion operations. The crew safely abandoned the rig. There was no fire and no pollution. They attempted to enter the well from a jack-up boat to pump CaCl₂ water. Several attempts were made to secure the well and install control equipment from the jack-up barge, but all were unsuccessful. On 6/8/97 they spudded a relief well. They moved in a derrick barge to unload some equipment from the rig. On 6/8/97 the crew succeeded in pumping bridging material and the well ceased flowing. They pumped CaCl₂ water into the well. On 6/19/97 they successfully killed the well and resumed completion operations. The well was completed on 6/26/97

Date:	20-Oct-1997	Operator:	Freeport-McMoRan Resource Partners
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09372	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	299	Cause:	Underbalanced Wellbore
Rig/Platform:	Freeport Number 2	Water Depth:	210'

Remarks: Well SW237C was being drilled to caprock when all mud returns were lost at total depth of 2635 ft MD (1612 ft TVD) at 2230 hrs on 10/20/97. The top of the caprock is at 2635 ft MD. The hole was kept full with sea water. The drill pipe was being pulled out of the hole when the well started flowing formation fluid. The well was put on diverter at 2400 hrs. After killing the well, the bottom hole assembly and drill pipe was pulled into the 8 5/8-in casing. The well started flowing again and was put on diverter again at 0300 hrs 10/21/97. It was killed again. The bottomhole assembly was then pulled out of the hole. The well was taking approximately 1 barrel of fluid every 15 minutes.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Fatalities – 1997

Date:	03-Jan-1997	Operator:	Oryx Energy Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10311	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production / Drilling
Block:	A 385	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pool 143 / C	Water Depth:	363'

Remarks: A roughneck was assigned the job of installing ropes between handrail posts in open sections around the edge of the platform. The area was poorly lighted. The driller noticed the roughneck approaching the northwest area of the platform where there was no rope between the posts. Ten minutes later the driller noticed the area was still not roped off and that the roughneck was missing. The driller instructed all personnel to search for the roughneck. The roughneck was reported missing.

Date:	18-Jan-1997	Operator:	Mesa Petroleum Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G02271	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	348	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Glomar Main Pass IV	Water Depth:	238'

Remarks: A fatality occurred when the crane operator was lifting the lid off the accumulator bottles. The employee, who was giving the hand signals to the crane operator from the draw works roof, was struck by a release of accumulator fluid under pressure when the lid inadvertently snagged a valve on the accumulator manifold. The employee was thrown across the draw works roof, into the ladder handrail opening, and fell 14 ft to the drill floor level.

Date:	20-Jan-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00133	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	47	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Pride 1003K / L	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: A floor hand fell while assisting with the installation of the diverter. After guiding the 20-in diverter spool through a 7 ft by 7 ft opening in the main deck, the floor hand went to guide a hydraulic lift line through a 2.5 ft by 2.5 ft opening in the main deck. When he finished, he turned to go back to the 7ft by 7ft opening. In doing so he tripped over a welding lead and fell through the 7 ft by 7 ft opening to the wellbay deck below (approx. 22 ft).

Date:	11-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01331	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	23	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	3-CMP	Water Depth:	15'

Remarks: While attempting to set a gangway for the Allied II jack-up boat to Compressor #3 facility, the deck hand fell overboard. He was not wearing a life vest.

Date:	16-Mar-1997	Operator:	Burlington Resources Offshore Incorporated
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G15121	Event(s):	Fatality (1)/Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Drilling/Motor Vessel
Block:	634	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Whittington	Water Depth:	380'

Remarks: Supply boat M/V Seacor Texas was attempting to untie from the rig in heavy seas (8-10 ft). The boat was hit by a large wave causing the tie down rope to become slack. Then the boat dropped into a trough and the rope popped, throwing the two deck hands onto the deck of the boat. One suffered severe facial injuries and was killed; the other suffered possible fractures to his right arm and leg.

Date:	07-Apr-1997	Operator:	CXY Energy Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02103	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	257	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	155'

Remarks: Three members of a sandblasting and painting crew were moving scaffolding under the cellar deck of the platform (wellbay area). During the moving operations one man slipped and fell overboard. A search by air and boat was initiated. The body was recovered the next day.

Date:	21-May-1997	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01255	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	171	Cause:	Other – Unknown
Rig/Platform:	POOL 6 / D	Water Depth:	105'

Remarks: A roustabout was discovered missing. He was being sought to unload a supply boat. They conducted a search of the facility and the supply boat. He was never found and was assumed dead.

Date:	24-May-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G02118	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Workover
Block:	338	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pride 952	Water Depth:	253'

Remarks: An employee was hitting drill line to keep it tight on the drum. The drill line crossed over two wraps. The driller reversed out line and was rolling the drill line back on. The drill line got tight going up in the derrick, but had a bulge on drum. The employee pushed the bulge down with his right hand. His finger got caught in the cable. The draw works were stopped. Then without warning it began to turn again and wrapped the deceased in the line.

Date:	17-Sep-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G09200	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Completion
Block:	70	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	SEDCO LAFFIT PINCAY	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: The drilling crew was in the process of offloading a remote operational vehicle (ROV) from a boat to the rig. The ROV was being lifted by a nylon strap 15 ft above the deck. The floor hand reached for the ROV tag line, the nylon strap broke, and the ROV fell on him, killing him.

Date:	10-Dec-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G01014	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Drilling / Crane
Block:	145	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	41'

Remarks: The crane operator was using the port crane to move several pallets of chemicals into the mud room from a position near the port handrail to facilitate the unloading of casing. There was a 1-ft space between the pallet and the handrail. A worker was sent to insert the pallet hooks into the top pallet of the middle row of pallets. To do this the hooks had to be inserted on the outboard side of the pallet. The worker had to walk between the pallets and the handrail. He was told not to climb on the handrail. The worker was seen falling from the top deck of the jack-up (approximately 67 ft above the water). He hit the 4-in rope used to tie the supply boat to the jack-up. Once he hit the water, the prop wash from the boat pulled him under water, and then pushed him away from the boat and underneath the rig. He surfaced in a head down position under the heliport. Rescue efforts were commenced, but he sank before he could be rescued. The body was found on 01/02/98 in SS Block 277.

Date:	24-Dec-1997	Operator:	SONAT Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03275	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	331	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: While in the process of blowing down casing pressure, a Sonat employee was fatally struck in the head by a valve assembly that was blown off a well head casing line. USCG personnel visited the scene of the accident on December 24, at which time photographs were taken. An MMS representative attended a meeting on December 30 in Houston with Sonat to discuss the details of the accident and examine the valve assembly. The MMS representative is in the process of contacting the U.S. Coast Guard to coordinate the accident investigation. All current information is preliminary. Updates will be forwarded as additional information is made available.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Collisions - 1997

Date:	12-Jan-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00560	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	67	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error / Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	26'

Remarks: Field utility boat, M/V Ellen Anne struck platform on Vermillion Block 67

Date:	28-Jan-1997	Operator:	B T Operating Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03980	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	104	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	5	Water Depth:	62'

Remarks: M/V Joyce McCall hit boat landing due to fog, damaging one side of the boat. No other damage or pollution. Well was shut-in at time of accident

Date:	29-Mar-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00310	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	217	Cause:	Other
Rig/Platform:	4	Water Depth:	14'

Remarks: Unknown marine vessel apparently struck Well #4 causing minimal damage.

Date:	29-May-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00310	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production / Motor Vessel
Block:	236	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	160	Water Depth:	15'

Remarks: Unknown marine vessel apparently struck Well #4 causing minimal damage.

Date:	21-Jun-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03990	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Abandoned Platform
Block:	44	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	20'

Remarks: Incident has been reported to the Coast Guard. All wells are plugged and abandoned and plans are to remove platform at the end of summer. Platform has minimal damage, heater stack broke off and handrail damage. Boat's name is Kim Quang. Navigation lights and fog horn were working on the platform. Platform was not manned and no activity was in progress. Damage to platform was caused by boat's rigging. Damage to the vessel was minor and the boat made it back to port under its own power. Master of vessel stated that the cause of the accident was that his radar malfunctioned.

Date:	03-Jul-1997	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00796	Event(s):	Collision / Injury (25)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	100	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	JA15	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: The vessel Sea Bulk Beauregard collided with the Apache Jacket #15 in Eugene Island Block 100. Twenty five personnel were injured and five were medi-vaced to shore. The personnel were from a recent crew change from a Flores and Rucks contracted rig. A small slick was noticed flowing from the accident scene at the time of the accident but now cannot be found. At present there is only a small gas leak that is being investigated.

Date:	26-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Producing Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01241	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	South Timablier	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	52	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	B-QTR	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: M/V Discovery Island struck wellhead structure at 1240 Well #4. A night operator was contacted to shut in the well. The boat landing and upper working deck were smashed. The flowline was cut completely in two and was leaking a small amount of gas. Will attempt to close both wing valves and close the master valves as well. The NAV AID tower was damaged to a point that a portion of the structure piping was jammed against the SSV and the lower master valve's handle. Will cold cut the pipe and close the lower master valve. Existing well control panel was hanging by its SS tubing but otherwise looked okay. Initial cost estimate to replace damaged parts and place the well back in working order is approximately \$100,000.

Date:	28-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01240	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	South Timablier	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	51	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	4	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: The motor vessel Discovery Island collided with structure resulting in some damage to the structure, and a gas flowline being broken.

Date:	16-Sep-1997	Operator:	Mobile Oil Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04668	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	63	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	10	Water Depth:	70'

Remarks: An unknown boat hit well jacket #10 during the night. Structure received minimal damage. There was no pollution or no injuries. Damage consisted of the following: escape ladder, boat landing, navigation light, and solar panel is missing. Estimated damage: \$12,000.00 Time of incident is unknown.

Date:	24-Sep-1997	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G14385	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	349	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Fort Worth	Water Depth:	300'

Remarks: The M/V Cameron, a supply workboat, came in contact with the port leg of the jack-up drilling rig "Rowan Fort Worth". The M/V Cameron sustained a hole/tear in the port diesel fuel tank resulting in a spill of approximately 750 gallons. On 25-Sep-1997 at 0200 hrs the M/V Cameron was enroute to Cameron's dry docks accompanied by m/v Sea-aker Star. Platform at EC 349 is set at 300 ft of water and is 114 miles from shore.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Explosions - 1997

Date:	11-Apr-1997	Operator:	Stone Energy Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00775	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Workover
Block:	131	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner Dolphin 110	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: None

Date:	21-Apr-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Development
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03998	Event(s):	Explosion / Injury (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	182	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: A service representative arrived at Ship Shoal 182A Platform to perform annual servicing on the escape capsule. Around 1045 hrs he notified Mobil employees on the platform that he was going to depressurize a compressed gas cylinder (24 in x 6 in), and they would hear a loud noise and should not be alarmed. At 1058 hrs a Mobil employee, in the galley heard a loud bang and felt the platform shake. He ran out to the capsule and found the service representative unconscious on his back in the capsule. He was transported via Air Care to Terrebonne General Hospital and arrived at 0150 hrs.

Date:	21-May-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01316	Event(s):	Explosion / Injury (3)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	299	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	BA	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: An employee was using a 1/4-in hose and a Haskell pump to equalize Well BA-2D in order to open the SCSSV. The employee climbed down from the stand located by the wellhead to assess why the pump had stopped. He tapped the pump with a wrench, which started the pumping again. The pump quit a second time and the employee climbed down and was in the process of reaching for the wrench when the pump exploded.

Date:	02-Aug-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00060	Event(s):	Explosion / Pollution
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	72	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	J	Water Depth:	72'

Remarks: An employee was using a 1/4-in hose and a Haskell pump to equalize Well BA-2D in order to open the SCSSV. The employee climbed down from the stand located by the wellhead to assess why the pump had stopped. He tapped the pump with a wrench, which started the pumping again. The pump quit a second time and the employee climbed down and was in the process of reaching for the wrench when the pump exploded.

Date:	30-Aug-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00072	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Production
Block:	12	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: It appears that the primary fuel source for the fire was gas escaping from a cracked 1-in nipple that was attached to a flange holding a PSV on the compressor's third stage discharge line. It is suspected that vibration and metal fatigue may have caused the nipple to break. The PSV was bench tested immediately after the fire, and was found to be working correctly. There were no injuries, no pollution and damage was minimal. Repairs to the compressor have been made and additional bracing was installed to minimize the vibration.

Date:	31-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01367	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	42	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	I	Water Depth:	33'

Remarks: Two workers detected and investigated fires on "I" at the following locations: 1. Flames coming from two vent lines that departed the compressor building. These were extinguished by fire monitor; 2. Two small fires on outside walls of gauges office. These were extinguished by a water hose; and 3. Three small fires in the compressor building. These were extinguished by 30-lb Ansul fire extinguisher. The platform ESD system had shut-in all systems. The worker stated that it appeared something had exploded in the compressor building. At 0440 and using a flashlight, the area between #3 and #4 appeared to be the area of most concentrated heat. No obvious sign of cause.

Date:	05-Oct-1997	Operator:	Pogo Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02746	Event(s):	Explosion
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 356	Cause(s):	Other
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	235'

Remarks: The welder started cutting angle-iron braces from the top of the production skid, and it exploded.

Date:	16-Oct-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00068	Event(s):	Explosion
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	118	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	R	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: The welder started cutting angle-iron braces from the top of the production skid, and it exploded.

Date:	11-Nov-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02937	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	109	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: At approximately 1110 hrs, the operator acknowledged an LEL alarm followed by an explosion. The operator suspected it originated in the compressor building and ran there to find the inside of the building engulfed in flames. Platform personnel rushed to assist in suppressing the fire, which took about 10-15 minutes followed by cooling down precautions. Personnel used light water, dry chemical, and sea water to control the fire. There were no injuries or pollution as a result of the incident. Preliminary assessments indicate the No. 2 cylinder head on the No. 1 compressor blew off striking the idle No. 2 compressor igniting the hot escaping gas. The cylinder head and sheared bolts were sent to a lab to determine if metal fatigue may have been the cause.

Date:	02-Dec-1997	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01677	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	306	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	255'

Remarks: None

Gulf of Mexico Region

Fires - 1997

Date:	03-Jan-1997	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G03091	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	632	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 90	Water Depth:	69'

Remarks: An electrical panel shorted out when a plug on the saltwater relief valve rusted. The salt water sprayed into a 480-volt panel causing electrical sparking in the panel. The relief valve for this saltwater system, the electrical panel, and the circuit breakers have all been replaced. Estimated cost: \$500.00

Date:	04-Jan-1997	Operator:	CXY Energy, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00138	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	45	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Human Error
Rig/Platform:	G	Water Depth:	49'

Remarks: Compressor lost o-ring seal. Fire started. Damaged compressor building. Fire out at approximately 2045 on January 5, 1997. Started rest of platform. Both compressor areas isolated.

Date:	14-Jan-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00175	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	43	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	AA Compressor #3	Water Depth:	110'

Remarks: Sparks ignited small flame (2-3 in). Used 30-lb dry chemical extinguisher. All hot work is suspended.

Date:	16-Jan-1997	Operator:	MOBIL Expl&Prod SE, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01366	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	92	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	24'

Remarks: The operator observed a fire at the top of the unflux surge tank and the unflux exhaust stack. The operator woke the two contractors to help fight the fire. They activated the fire pump and directed a fire monitor towards the top of the unflux surge tank PSV and unflux exhaust stack. The fire was extinguished and the unflux pumps and blowers were manually shut down

Date:	21-Jan-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration&Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02439	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	335	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	280'

Remarks: Damaged rental air compressor shut in and will be sent in to beach for a replacement unit.

Date:	28-Jan-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01196	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	61	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	118'

Remarks: Rented portable light plant at junction box had electrical fire. Noticed fire within minutes and extinguished it.

Date:	31-Jan-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01147	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	246	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	128'

Remarks: The fire was caused by a broken nipple on the compressor suction scrubber, which caused gas to blow from the compressor and deflect off the heliport and then become ignited by the exhaust system of the compressor.

Date:	02-Feb-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration&Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06358	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	189	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	720'

Remarks: Small fire in the area of the compressor starter. The fire lasted approximately 2-3 minutes before it was extinguished using a 30-lb handheld unit. Normal production operations were being conducted at the time the compressor shut-in on a fire loop. Follow-up on February 3rd, vibration caused wear on sparkplug wire. Gas regulator was leaking, providing fuel source. Texaco replaced 4 plug wires and replaced the gas regulator. After testing and receiving verbal permission platform was put back on line.

Date:	05-Feb-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G12981	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	296	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	POOL 18	Water Depth:	282'

Remarks: Short in generator function box. Generator burned up. Used CO₂ extinguisher to put out fire.

Date:	06-Feb-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00175	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Other
Block:	43	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	AA – Compressor #3	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: Welding on ac main deck. Welding sparks ignited instrument gas leaking from fisher gas regulator. Used 30-lb dry chemical fire extinguisher. Regulator's diaphragm developed a leak allowing gas to be released from upper bonnet spring case vent hole. Lasted a few seconds. Fusible plug melted on instrument gas line and produced second fire.

Date:	12-Feb-1997	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02646	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Breaks	Operation:	Production
Block:	159	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	924'

Remarks: Small fire was discovered on the glycol reboiler. Smoke came from insulation and shut off the fuel gas to the burner. The fire was quickly put out with water and no pollution or injury occurred. Fill at glycol developed cracks and leaked out on insulation causing the fire. Nipple has been replaced and the unit was placed back on production.

Date:	14-Feb-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02015	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	565	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: Smoke and flames were noticed behind the chemical skid. A 30-lb fire extinguisher was used to put out the flames. There was no pollution released or injury to personnel. The cause of the circuit overload, which they suspect caused the flame, is being investigated.

Date:	16-Feb-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore Incorporated
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G13614	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	204	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Concord	Water Depth:	441'

Remarks: Transformer shorted out, which caused the coating to melt and drop on some blue prints that ignited. The fire was put out with no further damage.

Date:	18-Feb-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03079	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	555	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	75'

Remarks: The fire was started by a short in an old shielded electrical cable that ignited hydraulic oil drippings from one of the crane hoses. The fire was immediately extinguished using a hand-held dry chemical unit. No injuries or damages were reported. New stainless steel braided shield-type was installed as cable of choice for use in high movement areas.

Date:	18-Feb-1997	Operator:	OXY USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02665	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Brazos	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-133	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	204'

Remarks: A "dresser coupling" on the oil connecting line to the externally mounted "Oberg" oil filter parted, allowing engine oil to spray onto the exhaust manifold and ignite. The operators were able to extinguish the fire utilizing two 30-lb hand-held fire extinguishers and one 350-lb ansul unit. Total damage is estimated at \$500 with no injuries or loss of production. To insure that incidents of this nature be eliminated, all external oil filters are being inspected on OXY operated platforms, and any "dresser couplings" will be replaced with either hard piping or armored flex pipe.

Date:	18-Feb-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02712	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-561	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	255'

Remarks: Glycol reboiler was shut down after a drip was noticed. The reboiler was monitored, and 6 hrs later a small amount of smoke was observed in the PSV connection. The flame was extinguished with a freshwater hose. There was no pollution or injury that occurred. The operator will clean and repair as necessary.

Date:	19-Feb-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore Incorporated
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04424	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	221	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	111'

Remarks: Platform shut-in on a process upset. Operator was in the process of bringing the platform on production when the fire occurred. Process problem was corrected, compressor was restarted and in the process of being loaded with gas when a noise (backfire) was heard and fire was seen at the stack above the turbine compressor/engine. Engine stopped or was shut down by the safety system, and the fire was extinguished.

Date:	28-Feb-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02572	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	331	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Weather
Rig/Platform:	1	Water Depth:	260'

Remarks: The generator oil heat exchanger system was shut down for repairs but the generator was left running. After isolating the oil system from the heat source, the butterfly valves were locked out of

service, and the block valves were closed. The oil was subsequently drained from the segment to be repaired. Leaking valves and flanges were unbolted but not taken out of line. The generator was shut down by the smoke detector when the fire alarm announced a fire in the generator room. The fire was extinguished with water and chemical.

Date:	03-Mar-1997	Operator:	Callow Petroleum Operating Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06842	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Chandelier Area	Operation:	Production
Block:	40	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	108'

Remarks: The operator noticed a small flame 2 ft-3 ft high on the side of the glycol reboiler surge tank on the second deck of the platform. He got a 30-lb dry chemical extinguisher and told his assistant to shut in the reboiler. The fire was extinguished but reignited due to the heat from the surge tank. Water was applied to the tank to soak the insulation and cool the tank. The heat from the reboiler surge tank was the only possible ignition source determined.

Date:	04-Mar-1997	Operator:	Elf Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01670	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	293	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	247'

Remarks: Small fire on glycol dehydration system. Safety system (fusible plug in the loop) shut platform in. Little slug of condensate was dumped out of glycol line into still column of reboiler, which vented out of top and ignited on the exhaust stack on the reboiler. Slight damage to glycol control panel.

Date:	07-Mar-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01034	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	266	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	179'

Remarks: The operator noticed a small fire on the engine exhaust muffler of oil shipping pump No. 2. It was extinguished with a 30-lb handheld fire extinguisher. The fire was a result of the threads on the

pump's PSV test kit cracking due to excessive vibration of the pump.

Date:	13-Mar-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01034	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	266	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	179'

Remarks: A fire occurred when the threads on a PSV on an oil pump cracked. Oil sprayed on the engine exhaust. The fire was quickly extinguished with chemicals, water, and foam. Minor damage was caused by the fire. Paint and control tubing was the extent of the damage.

Date:	13-Mar-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01198	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Pipeline
Block:	66	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	129'

Remarks: Construction activity was being conducted approximately 10 ft above and 10 ft horizontally from the area that the fire occurred. Slag from hot cutting work fell onto a pipeline expansion tank flange resulting in ignition of leaking natural gas. A 3-in flame was noticed by the fire watch and extinguished with one hand-held extinguisher. All hot work ceased and further work was done by cold-cut method. The area and flanges were sniffed prior to commencement of hot work/construction activities.

Date:	15-Mar-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration&Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12803	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production/Completion
Block:	580	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Main Pass I	Water Depth:	243'

Remarks: During testing of newly completed well, rapid blowdown of test separator into a 100-bbl stock tank caused gas to vent through a 4-in vent line. The vent line was pointing down to within 8 in of the skid pan. The venting gas was possibly ignited by static electricity or trash in the vent line or skid pan. The fire was put out within 5 minutes by rig personnel, and no injuries occurred.

Date:	22-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02047	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Workover
Block:	272	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: A rental air compressor was being used to power air pumps that fill volume tanks with sea water as a working fluid for coiled tubing operations. The air compressor had been in operation for approximately 1 hr. While closing off air pressure to the air pumps it was noticed that the electrical wiring to the air compressor high temperature shut down switch had ignited and was burning the wire insulation. The air compressor was shut down, and the fire was extinguished by holding a rag over the temperature switch. The flame flared up from the wire insulation, approximately ½ in above the temperature switch and burned only momentarily.

Date:	24-Mar-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02061	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	321	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	220'

Remarks: A fire occurred as a result of overheated coastal Thermalane 600, which is used as a heat transfer medium in the waste heat recovery unit. Thermalane, which had leaked into the waste heat recovery unit drip pan, became stagnant due to a clogged drain line and apparently autoignited. A post fire pressure test of the unit identified leaks on a seal located on the hot oil pump and a valve bonnet flange. Both leaks were contained in the drip pan. The fire self-extinguished, and the damage was very minor.

Date:	31-Mar-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Production SE, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02947	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	73	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	174'

Remarks: While servicing the glycol system, a workman noticed there was no glycol returning from the contact tower. The contactor gave a high-level indication, and it was noted that the glycol reboiler was overfilled. An overflow was experienced, and the glycol system was shut-in. During the investigation of the glycol problem, a weak point was found around the base of the glycol refill nipple. The glycol refill nipple was repaired, the glycol return problem was solved, and the system was put back into service. Later that night, the insulation around the glycol reboiler ignited and began to burn.

Date:	01-Apr-1997	Operator:	American Exploration Company
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10638	Event(s):	Fire/Blowout
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production/Drilling
Block:	328	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pride 1001 E	Water Depth:	243'

Remarks: Prior to the blowout, the rig crew had set and cemented casing and the BOP stack was being nipped down with four bolts remaining when annular flow was observed. All personnel were safely evacuated onto the standby workboat. The rig and platform were on fire and the derrick collapsed. Clean up marine vessels were notified when there appeared to be an apparent oil spill.

Date:	01-Apr-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03466	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	713	Cause:	Human Error

Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	109'
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Remarks: Flash fire in generator room when welder was installing rebuilt generator. Fire was immediately extinguished. No injuries or damages.

Date:	07-Apr-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00182	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	70	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: A roof, supported by scaffolding, was formed with 2 in x 6 in boards spaced about 12 in apart and covered with a canvas tarpaulin. The inside edge of the tarp was secured to the scaffolding at a height of about 3 ft from the deck and pulled over the roof supports. The excess was rolled up and tied along the outer edge of the roof with a portion resting on the well-insulated turbine exhaust. The wind loosened the ties causing the tarp to extend over the end of the turbine exhaust. The tarp ignited and flames traveled down the length of the structure. Burning material was ingested into the turbine causing it to shut down.

Date:	09-Apr-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01608	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	60	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	190'

Remarks: The 3-stage turbine gas compressor was taking an unusual amount of time to load up and start working at its normal capacity. While the operator was trying to bring the compressor into full service, the auxiliary seal oil pump was in recycle, which put unusual stress on the bearings in the pump. The bearings in the pump failed causing a metal-to-metal seal, which resulted in friction in the pump. There was also an o-ring seal failure, which allowed oil to escape from the pump while the metal-to-metal friction resulted in a small fire. The mechanic immediately shut down the compressor and extinguished the fire with a 30-lb dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	11-Apr-1997	Operator:	Stone Energy Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development

Lease:	00775	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	131	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner Dolphin 110	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: None

Date:	14-Apr-1997	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04000	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timablier	Operation:	Production
Block:	53	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	62'

Remarks: The fill valve on the fill line to the lubricating oil day tank for Generator #1 was left open. The tank for this generator was part of an oil fill manifold in which the lube oil pump was located on the top deck of the platform, and the generator tank was located on the lower deck. The oil fill pump on the top deck began pumping oil into the oil fill manifold to fill the day tank for the compressor on the same deck, while oil migrated down to the lower deck and began filling the day tank for Generator #1. The tank on the lower deck overfilled and spilled oil onto the exhaust pipe of Generator #1. A fire started setting off fire alarms and shutting in the platform. The fire was extinguished using a 30-lb dry chemical fire extinguisher and water for cooling.

Date:	16-Apr-1997	Operator:	Allwaste Oilfield Services, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01633	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	133	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: Trianthelene glycol ignited. Insulation damaged. Used water hose to put out fire. Lasted approximately 5 minutes.

Date:	16-Apr-1997	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00297	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production

Block:	26	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: While cutting out a pan to remove a tripping hazard, a piece of hot slag flew through the grating. The area was sniffed for gas, and there was a fire watch upstairs and downstairs. The phi fueling system, located just below the pan, was covered with wet tarps and being sprayed with fire hoses. The pump supply was still hooked up with polly flow. A small leak in the polly flow allowed an accumulation of natural gas to build up under the protective tarp, which ignited when a piece of cutting slag fell on the tarp. The fire hose was used to put the flash fire out within seconds.

Date:	01-May-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01449	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	79	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	112'

Remarks: Gaslift compressor turbo charger had developed a leak, and oil leaked from the turbo onto insulation. Insulation caught fire due to excessive heat. No damage to equipment. Turbo charger on order. Employee nearby saw smoke and immediately shut down compressor and extinguished fire using 30-lb dry chemical and water to cool.

Date:	14-May-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02137	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Workover
Block:	60	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: None

Date:	15-May-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02137	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Workover
Block:	60	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: Coil tubing injector head, bearing grease, overheated resulting in a fire. A 30-lb dry chemical was used to extinguish fire.

Date:	22-May-1997	Operator:	Shell Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05889	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Production/Drilling
Block:	65	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: A small electrical fire was observed originating from an electrical connection adapter between the platform power supply receptacle and an electrical extension cord used by construction workers on the platform. Personnel responded immediately by unplugging the adapter, which consequently extinguished the fire.

Date:	22-May-1997	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02111	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	314	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	233'

Remarks: A tarpaulin was suspended on top of an engine's muffler when it came in contact with the engine's muffler. A small fire ensued that was quickly extinguished with one 30-lb fire extinguisher.

Date:	24-May-1997	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A., Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00456	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Production
Block:	130	Cause:	Human Error

Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	160'
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Remarks: Low pressure separator had been cleaned and gas freed for welding within. Welder attempted to cut out mist extractor when he noticed smoke. He got out and personnel saw small flame inside of vessel, which was paraffin burning.

Date:	29-May-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05889	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Other
Block:	65	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: Welding operations were being conducted in the Safe Welding Area of the platform. Sparks from a grinding operation ignited acetylene leaking from an acetylene cylinder regulator fitting at the cylinder's valve. The fire watch observed a 12-in flame that he extinguished using a dry chemical fire extinguisher. The cylinder's fittings and regulator had been checked with an LEL meter about 30 minutes prior to the accident.

Date:	30-May-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03394	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	146	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	85'

Remarks: A contract operator realized that the #1 gas compressor was on fire. He extinguished the fire using a 30-lb dry chemical unit. The molten plastic on the pressure gauges and controller covers subsequently reignited the fire. A 350-lb wheel-mounted dry chemical unit was used to extinguish the fire. The platform was shut-in by a melted temperature safety element above the third compressor cylinder volume bottle. A containment skid located under the compressor cylinder and companion piping prevented any pollution. It is thought that a 1/2-in needle valve may have vibrated open, releasing gas.

Date:	30-May-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company

Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	633	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	77'

Remarks: Welding during construction. The production skid pan plug was inadvertently pulled and subsequently the water drained out of the skid pan. This allowed vapors to accumulate and flash from welding sparks. The fire was immediately put out with two(2) 30-lb hand-held fire extinguishers. There were no injuries or damage to equipment.

Date:	07-June 1997	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04258	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Brazos	Operation:	Production
Block:	436	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	71'

Remarks: During ESD, the compressor engine backfired, and a flash fire occurred near the back of the engine. No indication of the source of the gas could initially be found. A manufacturer's representative arrived and determined that: 1) check-valve in the starter gas discharge line failed, 2) a piece of stainless tubing that provided supply gas to the fuel control valve had a pinhole leak caused by vibration, and 3) the compressor backfired due to the fuel shutdown valve not closing properly. All conditions were corrected, and the unit was restarted under normal operating conditions.

Date:	08-June-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12136	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ewing Bank	Operation:	Production
Block:	873	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	775'

Remarks: A vapor flame originated about 3 ft high on the side of a chemical tank located on the production platform chemical skid area. Production was immediately shut-in. The public announcement system was used to inform everyone of a fire in the chemical skid area. The fire self-extinguished, but the area was sprayed to prevent reignition. A watch person was posted and observed the area for 30 minutes before returning the platform to normal production.

Date:	08-June-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
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Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02116	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	331	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	246'

Remarks: A flash fire resulted while a contract crew was repairing latches on the Wemco unit. The crew was using an electric drill and gas from the Wemco ignited from the drill's electric arc. Fire was extinguished with a 30-lb dry chemical unit. There were no injuries. The cause of the fire was using a common electric drill in lieu of a pneumatic drill in a classified area.

Date:	09-June-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01604	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	152	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	373'

Remarks: The drilling foreman discovered a fire on the production platform. It originated from the No.2 generator on the platform with a flame 3-5 in high and 12-15 in long. The location of the fire on the generator was on the exterior of the exhaust pipe insulation, upstream of the muffler at the point the muffler exited the top of the generator building roof. The fire was immediately extinguished using a handheld 30-lb dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	09-June 1997	Operator:	Midcon Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03323	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	220	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	99'

Remarks: A regulator located between the shut down valve and the burner control valve on the glycol reboiler fuel supply failed due to a deteriorated diaphragm. Escaping natural gas was ignited either by exposed reboiler burner flange bolts or possibly through a broken burner view gauge.

Date:	10-June-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development

Lease:	G09529	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	398	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	381'

Remarks: Onsite investigation occurred 20-Jun-97. Welders were fabricating flowlines on the +10 level. A tarp had been placed to be used as a wind breaker. Welding sparks ignited exhaust gas from a pump. A small section of the tarp was burned by the ignited gas.

Date:	21-June-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14103	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	759	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	154'

Remarks: The operator was filling the compressor oil day tank in 45-mph winds when he noticed a couple of 550-gallon plastic tanks got loose from the hand rail. He went to secure the plastic tanks, and he over-filled the compressor day tank. High winds blew the oil onto the compressor muffler causing a small fire, which was extinguished within 30 seconds with a salt water unit. There were no injuries or damages.

Date:	23-June-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00206	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other
Block:	39	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: Storage room air conditioner compressor failed; compressor oil ignited resulting in a small fire.

Date:	24-June-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company, USA
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development

Lease:	00031	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	22	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: A small fire was detected on top of the #5 1550 Compressor. The fire was confined to a small 1-in gas regulator on top of the compressor building. The fire was extinguished using a portable hand extinguisher, and water was applied to prevent re-ignition. It was determined that the diaphragm on the regulator had developed a small leak, escaping through the weep hole, and that lightning was the ignition source. Slight discoloration of paint was the only damage. The regulator was repaired and recommissioned.

Date:	25-June-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company USA
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00031	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	22	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: A small fire was discovered on the top of the No.5 gas compressor. The fire originated from a 1-in gas regulator on top of the compressor building. The fire was extinguished using a portable handheld chemical fire extinguisher. Water was used to prevent reignition.

Date:	04-July-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company USA
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G04109	Event(s):	Fire / Injured 2
Area:	South Marsh	Operation:	Production
Block:	99	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	ENSCO 94	Water Depth:	145'

Remarks: At the time of the flash fire, the platform was shut-in. The crew was in the process of installing new header valves for a well that had been worked over. At the same time, a new PSE in the flare scrubber was being installed.

Date:	17-July-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development

Lease:	00128	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Drill/Other
Block:	40	Cause:	Human Error/Other
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	130'

Remarks: The rig and adjacent production platform were being secured in order to evacuate for Hurricane Danny. The rig welder was using a burning torch to cut loose a temporary stairwell. A rig worker observed a small fire and smoke coming from the top of the production office building. The rig crew immediately notified their supervisor and used handheld dry chemical fire extinguishers to try and control the fire. The rig workers were finally able to control and extinguish the fire using a water hose. The fire resulted from hot welding slag dropping down onto the fiberglass roof of the production office.

Date:	18-July-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00840	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	103	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Weather
Rig/Platform:	GLOMAR ADRIATIC VI	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Personnel on the drilling rig "Adriatic VI" discovered a fire on top of the Bulk Oil Tank. They activated the fire alarm, initiated a platform shutdown, and notified the platform operator. The operator went to investigate the situation and found the fire had self-extinguished after burning for only a short time.

Date:	18-July-1997	Operator:	Flores & Rucks, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00049	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Pipeline
Block:	119	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	35'

Remarks: A 4-in pipeline riser from Eugene Island Block 199 parted 2-3 ft above the water line and caught fire. The ensuing fire lasted for 20 minutes. The fire was extinguished by closing the block valve on the pipeline. One person jumped overboard at the time of the fire and was picked up by boat. This 4-in pipeline was inside a 6-in protector and was found to be corroded. The company will replace.

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Date:	25-July-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G09529	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other
Block:	398	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	NABORS 75	Water Depth:	381'

Remarks: The drilling rig was in the process of rigging down and demobilizing. Welders were in the process of repairing a padeye on the pipe deck with a cutting torch when they accidentally burned through the deck. Sparks fell to the top of the dry oil tank igniting hydrocarbon vapors from the pressure vacuum relief hatch and a rag on top of the dry oil tank. The fire melted a fire loop fusible plug, which subsequently initiated a platform shut-in as well as activating the dry and wet oil tank foam blanket system.

Date:	30-July-1997	Operator:	American Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10638	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	328	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	240'

Remarks: None

Date:	30-July-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00133	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production/Other
Block:	47	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	85'

Remarks: During painting and sandblasting operations, a tarpaulin, to prevent paint overspray, had been placed on the top deck railing of the quarter's platform. At the time of the accident, the tarpaulin had been moved off the railing and placed on the deck. They began welding on the underside of the top deck, and the heat generated by the welding process ignited the tarpaulin that was directly above the area being welded. The tarpaulin smoldered and flamed up slightly before being extinguished by personnel using their shoes to stomp out the fire.

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Date:	31-July-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00840	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	103	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	223'

Remarks: While work was underway to modify the mud ditch on the Adriatic VI, tarps were placed over the WEMCO unit on the production platform and other areas that slag could fall onto, and the tarps were wet down with a fire hose. Fire watches were stationed at the work location on the rig, on the wood deck area near the WEMCO, and on the well deck level under the WEMCO unit. While cutting out the mud ditch, slag blew around the tarps onto the WEMCO unit. A small gas fire started at an inspection hatch on the WEMCO unit. The fire was extinguished using a 15-lb dry chemical extinguisher. Work was stopped and tarps moved where slag could not be blown around the tarps by the wind. Work was completed with no additional problems. The fire caused no damage and no injuries.

Date:	06-Aug-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00182	Event(s):	Fire / Injured 1
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Other
Block:	70	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	146'

Remarks: The work crew arrived on the West Delta 70-H platform to resume P&A operations on Well A-3. While in the process of cutting the 7 5/8-in casing with a portable pneumatic hacksaw, the exhaust gas on the saw caught fire and emitted a flame, which struck a contract employee who received 1st degree burns.

Date:	06-Aug-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02937	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	109	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: A leaking seal on the lubricating bearing caused oil to leak onto the hot surface of the turbo charger on the No.2 compressor. The oil ignited and resulted in a fire that was approximately 18 in to 24 in high and lasted only a moment before extinguishing itself.

Date:	07-Aug-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02322	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	349	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	296'

Remarks: A tarp inadvertently became loose, fell onto the gas compressor exhaust, and caught a 1.ft² section of the tarp on fire. The fire was immediately extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	11-Aug-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00133	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	47	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	89'

Remarks: The pump failure alarm and the flare gas alarm was received in the Control Room. The operator left the Control Room to start the fire water pumps. He noticed smoke coming from the pump deck. A decision was made to fight the fire, which was coming from the pipeline pump area. Six production workers proceeded to fight the fire using water hoses and dry chemical units. Pipeline pump A was on fire spreading to the upper deck. Once the fire was extinguished, the manual valve on the suction side of the pump was closed. The fire flared up three more times before finally being extinguished.

Date:	12-Aug-1997	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04000	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Production
Block:	53	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	62'

Remarks: While working around compressor 802, the mechanic on duty noticed a change in the sound of the engine. He saw flames coming out of a crack on the exhaust piping. He shut the compressor down, and the flame extinguished itself. Further investigation found that the oil line to the turbocharger was partially plugged causing bearing failure, temperature problems, and causing the seal to fail allowing lube oil into the exhaust system. Estimated damage - \$6,000.

Date:	12-Aug-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04475	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	143	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	369'

Remarks: Platform operator noticed an odor in the Master Control Center (MCC) and heard clicking sounds. He went to investigate when he detected a small indication of smoke coming from glycol heater "A" control panel. He discharged a 20-lb dry chemical fire extinguisher, turned off the power at the disconnect, and opened the panel for inspection. He saw the electrical cable insulation on fire and sprayed the control panel with dry chemical extinguishing the fire. An investigation found the connecting lug to be loose causing the wire to overheat leading to the insulation burning. All connecting lugs will be tightened to prevent a recurrence. There was minimal property damage.

Date:	21-Aug-1997	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01677	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	306	Cause:	Other
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	255'

Remarks: Smoke was seen coming off the engine of the #3 mud pump. A small flash of fire was seen on the exhaust manifold of the engine. Workers immediately closed the fuel line to the engine shutting down the engine and stopping the fuel leak. The fire went out before the fuel line was closed. Upon further inspection, a small pin hole was found in the ¼-in steel fuel line going to the injector on the diesel engine. The fuel line was changed out and operations resumed. Only a small amount of fuel sprayed on to the engine manifold causing the smoke and flash prior to the leak being noticed and stopped. No diesel got into the water, and since the mud pump is on the main deck, the small flash of fire posed no immediate danger to the production facilities.

Date:	26-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07877	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Viosca Knoll	Operation:	Production
Block:	69	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	95'

Remarks: TSE's burned out and shut the compressor down. Fire burned itself out with minimal damage. Unit was shut down and left shut down until parts to perform necessary repairs were received.

Date:	26-Aug-1997	Operator:	Walter Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12845	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	276	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	181'

Remarks: A fire of undetermined origin occurred resulting in severe damage to the glycol reboiler, glycol separator and associated controls, regulators, dump valves, and safety system panels.

Date:	30-Aug-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00072	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Production
Block:	12	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: It appears that the primary fuel source for the fire was gas escaping from a cracked 1-in nipple that was attached to a flange holding a PSV on the compressor's third stage discharge line. It is suspected that vibration and metal fatigue may have caused the nipple to break. The PSV was

bench tested immediately after the fire and was found to be working correctly. There were no injuries, no pollution, and damage was minimal. Repairs to the compressor have been made, and additional bracing was installed to minimize the vibration.

Date:	31-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A., Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01367	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	42	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	33'

Remarks: Two MMS representatives detected and investigated fires on "I" at the following locations: #1. Flames coming from two vent lines, which departed the compressor building. These were extinguished by fire monitor; #2. Two small fires on outside walls of gaugers office. These were extinguished by a water hose; and #3. Three small fires in the compressor building. These were extinguished by 30-lb Ansul fire extinguisher. The platform ESD system had shut-in all systems. One MMS representative stated that it appeared something had exploded in the compressor building. At 0440 and using a flashlight, the area between #3 and #4 appeared to be the area of most concentrated heat. No obvious sign of cause.

Date:	09-Sep-1997	Operator:	Forcenergy, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01181	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	10	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	65'

Remarks: Representatives were in the process of sandblasting corroded and deteriorated piping. A 20 ft x 20 ft tarp had been placed over the No.1 pipeline pump as protection from the sandblasting operation. The canvas tarp apparently came in contact with an exposed portion of the No.1 pipeline pump exhaust piping, resulting in ignition. Sandblasting crew members observed the tarp in flames and sounded the alarm. The platform was shut-in by the fire loop system and manual activation of the ESD system. The fire was extinguished immediately with portable dry chemical units and the fire water system. There were no injuries or pollution.

Date:	09-Sep-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03194	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	59	Cause:	Equipment Failure

Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	69'
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Remarks: Fire occurred at 0100 hrs. Personnel awakened by alarm and at 0130 hrs were evacuated by boat sent to Chevron's MP 41. No injuries. Major damage to platform. Pollution - spotty, dark sheen, 5 miles by 10 miles.

Date:	10-Sep-1997	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02310	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	268	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	35'

Remarks: The oil on the CIA compressor was changed, and then the unit was brought back on-line. The compressor had been running for about 20 minutes when a fire was noticed around the turbo-charger expansion joint by the mechanic and operator who were working on the compressor. The fire alarm was sounded, ESD was activated, and the compressor and platform were shut-in. The fire was extinguished immediately with no visible damage to the compressor or its components. There were no injuries or pollution.

Date:	15-Sep-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00310	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	217	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	MALLARD 55	Water Depth:	14'

Remarks: A leak developed in the diesel generator fuel line. Diesel fuel was released near the generator turbo-charger and exhaust header. Diesel fuel came in contact with the generator's hot surface of the exhaust system resulting in ignition. There were no injuries or pollution.

Date:	18-Sep-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G12136	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ewing Bank	Operation:	Unknown
Block:	873	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A (Lobster)	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: Wiring on the starter of the Wedge wireline unit caught fire (insulation on the wire). The starter on the unit remained engaged, drawing amperage and overheating causing a 4-in to 6-in flame. Fire was extinguished with a portable fire extinguisher.

Date:	19-Sep-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01665	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	288	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	400'

Remarks: Welding was being done on a cantilever beam to the platform top deck. Slag fell to the next deck igniting gas from a pinhole leak in a fuel gas line. Fire watch saw a small 12-in to 14-in flame. It was extinguished with a 30-lb Ansul fire extinguisher. There were no injuries; minor damage to some wiring.

Date:	21-Sep-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration & Production Co.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00786	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production/Other
Block:	48	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	107'

Remarks: A section of the platform vent pipe system had been isolated with a blind flange on one end and a plumbers plug placed in the other end. Welding was being conducted in close proximity to the end of the pipe containing the plug. Field mechanics were in the compressor building on the drill side of the structure performing repair work that required draining the oil from the compressor. This procedure required the use of a Pneumatic Pump that operates on supply gas with the exhaust piped back into the vent system. The discharge from the pump into the isolated section of the vent line caused pressure to build and blow the plug out of the piping. Gas, condensate, and water that escaped onto the deck was ignited by a welders arc. The fire was extinguished in seconds.

Date:	23-Sep-1997	Operator:	CNG Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development

Lease:	G05391	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production/Other
Block:	299	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: Contract riggers and welders were in the process of installing a compressor and fabricating associated piping from pressure vessels. The instructions were to remove every other nut and bolt; however, all nuts and bolts were removed, and the water discharge line was mistakenly unflanged. Water and condensate dripped from the intermediate separator water discharge piping flange into the pollution pan and then into the platform deck drain system. Condensate leaking from the intermediate separator water discharge flange migrated to the welding area and was ignited by hot slag. Fire migrated up the drain to the production skid pollution pan. The fire was extinguished with portable units, wheeled units, and the fixed fire water system. There were no injuries or pollution.

Date:	28-Sep-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01874	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	80	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	102'

Remarks: Fire started on WD 80 D when the power generator backfired forcing gas out the flange packing and setting the insulation on fire. Put out with 30-lb unit. Insulation blanket scorched.

Date:	29-Sep-1997	Operator:	Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03171	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Production
Block:	13	Cause:	Equipment Failure

Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	35'
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Remarks: While cleaning compressor with soap and minerals spirits solution came in contact with exhaust, and a small fire erupted. Extinguished with 30-lb chemical handheld unit. Minimal damage.

Date:	29-Sep-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00434	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	149	Cause:	Other
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: The IR Compressor Shut down. The operator attempted to start the compressor and a 2-ft flame came out of the exhaust pipe. The fire was immediately put out with a 30-lb fire extinguisher.

Date:	30-Sep-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03394	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	146	Cause:	Equipment Failure/Human Error/Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	85'

Remarks: None

Date:	03-Oct-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12136	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ewing Bank	Operation:	Production
Block:	873	Cause:	Other

Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	750'
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Remarks: A flash fire occurred on the gas compressor cooling water discharge line. Marathon suspects that natural gas from the gas compressor lines leaked into the gas compressor cooling water and was discharged overboard below the +20 deck level. The ignition source was from falling slag/sparks being generated from hot work conducted on the sub-cellar deck.

Date:	12-Oct-1997	Operator:	Forest Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09627	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	277	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	218'

Remarks: The pipeline pump was put into service after the air clutch was replaced. The operator smelled smoke in the area of the galley and immediately informed all personnel and proceeded to investigate the situation. A minor fire was found at line pump #2. The pump was shut down and the fire extinguished (using a fire extinguisher) with no harm to any personnel or other equipment. Upon further inspection, it was found that the cap on the 3/8-in copper supply line to the clutch had backed off due to suspected vibration. The lack of supply to the clutch caused the drum and the clutch to overheat, igniting the rubber seat.

Date:	13-Oct-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05889	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Production
Block:	65	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: Insulation caught fire. Small fire.

Date:	14-Oct-1997	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G02754	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling

Block:	A-376	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A / Nabors 85(Mayronne 162)	Water Depth:	341'

Remarks: A short in the electrical wire going to the drawworks was the cause of the small fire. This short was located in the cable tray in the substructure. The small fire was approximately 1ft high and 1 ft wide and apparently caused by the insulation burning around the wire. The fire was extinguished by rig personnel with a hand-held fire extinguisher, and the fire alarm was sounded. The platform was shut-in and rig operations shutdown. The line was repaired with waterproof connections, the platform was put back on production, and drilling operations continued at 0300 hrs.

Date:	15-Oct-1997	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03241	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-443	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	182'

Remarks: Platform Operators started the Life Saver Capsule for a weekly inspection; the engine compartment started smoking within a matter of seconds. The engine was shut off, and the compartment was opened. The wiring between the battery and the starter was on fire. The fire was extinguished with dry chemical, and the cables from the battery were disconnected. It appeared that after start-up the wire became loose from the crimped connection and grounded to the solenoid on top of the starter. The cable was replaced and insured crimp is tight. No injuries occurred. Replacement cost was \$2,110.00.

Date:	17-Oct-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12355	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	198	Cause:	Other
Rig/Platform:	Cliff Drilling 200	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: While rigging up, prior to starting rig work. The area was tested with a gas sniffer and tarps were erected to protect certain areas. A fire watch was on duty. Sparks from the welding operation flew past the protective fire tarp and ignited gas escaping from a nearby hatch. The fire was put out within 10 seconds with a dry chemical unit by the fire watch. No damage was sustained.

Date:	18-Oct-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development

Lease:	G02690	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-471	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Other
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	189'

Remarks: Operator opened glycol control panel with a gas accumulation in the panel from the control lines. Newfield believes that static electricity resulting from the cool dry weather ignited the gas causing a brief flash. The flash started and the operator jumped back, turned, and cut his forehead on a piece of angle iron. The cut was given a first aid treatment and the operator elected to stay on the platform for the night. He returned to shore on regular flight for days off the next day, and visited the doctor, with no change to his treatment. Few loose coupling were tightened to eliminate all leaks. The panel was then returned to normal operation.

Date:	19-Oct-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company, USA
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06093	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Galveston	Operation:	Production
Block:	209	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	58'

Remarks: When attempted to start pipeline pump, fire erupted around the starter and clutch housing. The night operator extinguished the fire as it was dying out. No damage to anything. The platform was not shut-in. Replaced starter, redressing ring gear teeth. Also pulled starter assemblies from two other pipelines to pressure test.

Date:	19-Oct-1997	Operator:	Mobil Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02392	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-572	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	295'

Remarks: The engine No.1 made a noise indicating that its operation had become irregular. The engine was varying up and down in speed. Smoke detectors in the generator room and the MCC initiated shut-in of the platform. The generator room was full of smoke, and a small fire was found in the insulated area where the engine exhaust manifolds join the exhaust pipe. This resulted from a malfunction in the automated crankcase lube oil level controller, there were no injuries.

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Date:	20-Oct-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01604	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	65	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: Oil exhaust of generator.

Date:	25-Oct-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03998	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	182	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	70'

Remarks: Radiator guard on generator No.1 broke and punctured the radiator. This caused ambritrol to spray on the exhaust and catch fire. The fire was extinguished with a 30-lb hand-held fire extinguisher.

Date:	26-Oct-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01665	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	288	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner X	Water Depth:	393'

Remarks: A small fire occurred on the PZ-9 mud pump at MP 288-A Sundowner Rig 10. The fire was caused when exposed electrical wires on the mud pump motor arched igniting the wires and insulation. Rig crews activated the fire alarm and extinguished the fire with a 30-lb dry chemical extinguisher. There were no injuries. There was some minor damage to the wiring for the mud pump motor.

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Date:	28-Oct-1997	Operator:	Zilkha Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12989	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	78	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	102'

Remarks: During startup, oil from the compressor crankcase blew out of the breather cap hitting the exhaust manifold and ignited. The fire was extinguished within seconds and no injuries or damage occurred.

Date:	30-Oct-1997	Operator:	Marathon Energy Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02934	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	86	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	150'

Remarks: A coupling of a diesel fire pump caught fire. The fire was extinguished with a 30-lb fire extinguisher.

Date:	01-Nov-1997	Operator:	CNG Producing Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14581	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	225	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	255'

Remarks: A small fire broke out on the platform gas compressor. The fire started after a hydraulic cooling fan shaft parted causing the shaft seal to leak hydraulic oil onto the engine. The fire was extinguished immediately using a 30-lb dry extinguisher.

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Date:	08-Nov-1997	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13808	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-379	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: None

Date:	11-Nov-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02937	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	109	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: None

Date:	12-Nov-1997	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07486	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	388	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A(Cooper)	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: Rainwater migrating to an electrical receptacle box located in the welder's shop caused a grounding of the electrical wire and resulting flame.

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Date:	14-Nov-1997	Operator:	Flextrend Development Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09743	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Viosca Knoll	Operation:	Development
Block:	817	Cause:	Weather / Leak / Hot Slag
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	700'

Remarks: None

Date:	18-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02047	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	272	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: Lightning struck flare boom resulting in ignition of low pressure vent gas. Extinguished immediately.

Date:	19-Nov-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G11455	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	128	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Grease fire ignited in stove oven. Extinguished immediately.

Date:	22-Nov-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01612	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Workover
Block:	67	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	258'

Remarks: Smelled packing burning. Extinguished with 8-lb ABC fire extinguisher. Fire was approximately the size of a cigarette lighter's flame. Fire was restricted to packing only.

Date:	22-Nov-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G11885	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	297	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	190'

Remarks: Trash can fire ignited by barbecue charcoal. Extinguished immediately.

Date:	23-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00820	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	169	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	54'

Remarks: None

Date:	24-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01442	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Production
Block:	27	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: None

Date:	26-Nov-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G11455	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	128	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Reboiler still column had glycol come out of vent and blow on to the turbine generator exhaust and ignite. This was put out immediately with a water hose.

Date:	27-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01240	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	51	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Hercules 22	Water Depth:	61'

Remarks: Motor oil line developed vibration on hose. Sprayed top of engine with motor oil. No damage. A dry chemical fire extinguisher was used to extinguish fire.

Date:	02-Dec-1997	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01677	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion / Pollution
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	306	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	255'

Remarks: None

Date:	11-Dec-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02184	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	77	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: None

Date:	16-Dec-1997	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12136	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ewing Bank	Operation:	Production
Block:	873	Cause:	Welder

Rig/Platform:	A (Lobster)	Water Depth:	300'
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Remarks: Tarp was smoldering in the area of the leg B-2 pin receiver. Welder cutting deck around the B-2 Pin receiver caused hot slag to ignite unwetted section of tarp. Fire was extinguished with one 30-lb fire extinguisher and water.

Date:	17-Dec-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03331	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	251	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	160'

Remarks: None

Date:	18-Dec-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company USA
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02970	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mississippi Canyon	Operation:	Production
Block:	268	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	343'

Remarks: Lean fuel released though exhaust piping and ignited at flange gasket leak on exhaust piping expansion joint flange causing small flash fire. Fire did not spread and was confined locally.

Date:	18-Dec-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration&Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12803	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production

Block:	580	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	243'

Remarks: None

Date:	20-Dec-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03288	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	46	Cause:	Human Error/Weather/Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	48'

Remarks: None

Date:	24-Dec-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02697	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	536	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: Wind blew a canvas tarp into a catalytic heater setting the tarp on fire. System fire loop activated and shut in platform. The only damage was to the tarp, polyflow tubing, and small pressure gauges.

Date:	27-Dec-1997	Operator:	BP Exploration & Oil, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G09896	Event(s):	Fire

Area:	Mississippi Canyon	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	899	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean America	Water Depth:	

Remarks: Fire reported in lower deck, room 103. Fire located in the light and heater unit in the ceiling of the bathroom. Fire was extinguished using a dry chemical extinguisher. There were no injuries.

Date:	29-Dec-1997	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14590	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Sabine Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	12	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: None

Gulf of Mexico Region

Injuries – 1997

Date:	07-Jan-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	633	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 83	Water Depth:	74'

Remarks: An Ensco employee was cleaning the ceiling in the lower hull. When he moved his lanyard, he slipped and fell approximately 8 ft onto 2-in lines. The employee was transported to the Corpus Christi Memorial Hospital, examined, and released. This was not a lost-time accident since he returned to work.

Date:	14-Jan-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	633	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 83	Water Depth:	74'

Remarks: A worker was injured during the drilling of the B2 well. While putting tongs on the drill pipe, the worker caught his hand between the latch and arm of the other tong. He was transported to the hospital, treated for a broken finger, and released. There was no time lost resulting from this accident.

Date:	19-Jan-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01085	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	75	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	172'

Remarks: Out of work for more than 72 hrs. Install step of stairs from cellar deck to walk at top of unicell.

Date:	25-Jan-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08101	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	591	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: An employee injured his left ankle as he stepped off the platform test separator process skid. He stepped on the edge of a 3/8-in steel plate used to secure the skid in place and sprained his left ankle. He was sent for medical evaluation.

Date:	30-Jan-1997	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12831	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling / Motor Vessel
Block:	157	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	78'

Remarks: An employee of Diamond Offshore Drilling was injured while offloading a fluid tank from motor vessel.

Date:	15-Feb-1997	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01960	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Production / Drilling
Block:	148	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	246'

Remarks: The wireline operator and his helper were on the production deck rigging down their wireline equipment. At the time the accident occurred, the wireline operator was picking up the wireline hay pulley with an attached chain from the grating around one of the wells. His back was to another well when he either stepped or stumbled backwards, tripping over an iron sawhorse. He fell backwards into an opening in the grating. He fell from the production deck to the wellhead deck below, which was about 15 ft.

Date:	15-Feb-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02324	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	361	Cause:	Human Error – Lifting
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	308'

Remarks: Received report of accident through mail. The following is from the company accident report: Two employees were pulling/removing tubing bundle from water maker and as they turned holding the weight of the bundle one felt a pain in his lower back. The injury occurred on 2/15/97 and his first day absent was 5/6/97.

Date:	20-Feb-1997	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G09478	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	332	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Pride Offshore roustabouts were moving 4-in drill pipe into position for later drilling use. They were rolling drill pipe on to the last two pipe mats and part of a third of the pipe rack. From the edge of the pipe rack there were 30 joints of pipe per row going toward the center of the rack, which was approximately 15 ft across. At approximately 1400 hrs. roustabouts had just laid out 10 joints of pipe and were turning to get off the pipe when suddenly the pipe rack collapsed. One was able to jump off. As the pipe rolled, the other's right leg was caught just below the knee pinning him between pieces of pipes. The rig shut down, a crane was used to tie onto the pipe, and the rig crew began to use pry bars to get his leg freed. Approximately 10 minutes later he was freed, put on a backboard, and brought to the breakroom. The pants leg and boot were cut off his right leg, an air splint was applied, and his leg was elevated above his heart. He was covered with a blanket awaiting arrival of the Coast Guard helicopter some 3 1/2 hrs later. Coast Guard was unable to get out earlier due to dense fog, however, when they did arrive he was taken to South Cameron Hospital in Cameron, Louisiana.

Date:	27-Feb-1997	Operator:	BHP Petroleum (Americas), Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G09384	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	61	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Spur	Water Depth:	37'

Remarks: Floorhand was working backup tongs, and while releasing the tongs his finger was smashed between tong handle and the other set of tongs. The injured was treated at Lake Charles hospital.

Date:	06-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02047	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	272	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: High pressure valve was opened too soon and CAMCO employee was knocked off a 9-ft ladder by the released pressure. Injury to foot, ankle, and lower leg. He was medi-vaced out to a hospital.

Date:	08-Mar-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07963	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mississippi Canyon	Operation:	Completion
Block:	807	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A (MARS)	Water Depth:	2933'

Remarks: An employee was struck by a joint of tubing hitting him in the neck and head area resulting in acute thoracic strain. Out of work 5-7 days.

Date:	16-Mar-1997	Operator:	Burlington Resources Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G15121	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fatality (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Drilling / Motor Vessel
Block:	634	Cause:	Weather Related
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Offshore Whittington	Water Depth:	380'

Remarks: Supply boat M/V Seacor Texas was attempting to untie from the rig in heavy seas (8-10 ft). The boat was hit by a large wave causing the tie down rope to become slack, then the boat dropped into a trough and the rope popped throwing the two deck hands onto the deck of the boat. One suffered severe facial injuries and was killed, the other was transported to the hospital in Lake Charles with possible fractures to his right leg and arm.

Date:	18-Mar-1997	Operator:	BHP Petroleum (GOM), Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09386	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Completion
Block:	76	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall / Weather
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Spur	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: Roustabout was walking down stairs to port crane. Stairway was wet from rain, roustabout slipped and fell down approximately 8 ft of stairway. He landed on his forearm and wrist. There were contusions and swelling to the left wrist (possibly broken) and forearm.

Date:	30-Mar-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05889	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Production
Block:	65	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A (Bullwinkle)	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: A Shell Offshore Inc., employee was injured while working at Shell's Green Canyon Block 65 location, in the Gulf of Mexico waters. The employee fractured his finger on 3/30/97 while removing an orifice plate from a Daniels Senior. He broke his finger on the side of the orifice plate while turning the wrench. He was treated by a physician and was able to return to work the same day. On a follow up visit to the doctor it was determined that the damage was more extensive and required surgery, which took place on 4/09/97.

Date:	30-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00456	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Production
Block:	130	Cause:	Human Error – Pulling
Rig/Platform:	CP	Water Depth:	187'

Remarks: Employee was attempting to close sliding door using his weight to rock the door so it would slide. He strained his lower back. Will be out for more than 72 hrs.

Date:	02-Apr-1997	Operator:	W&T Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G11881	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Workover
Block:	279	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Marine 300	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: Lost time accident discovered when arrived for inspection and found there had been an unreported accident 7 days earlier.

Date:	03-Apr-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01023	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Other – Crane Incident
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover
Block:	224	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	150'

Remarks: On Thursday, April 3, 1997, at approximately 1330 hrs, a crane fell overboard on Lease OCS-G 1023, Platform A, Ship Shoal Block 224. Murphy Exploration and Producing Company had latched on to the tree of well A-10 to lift the tree and replace the lower master valve. Plugs were set in the well (procedure reviewed by w/o engineer) before operations to lift the tree began. This crane was a remote operated crane. As they began to lift, something happened and the crane had metal fatigue on the pedestal. The crane fell overboard and the tree stayed in place on the well. The person operating the crane from the remote location had to jump out of the way to avoid getting hit. He either injured or broke some ribs. He was flown to Terrebonne General Hospital.

Date:	16-Apr-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00438	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	175	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	87'

Remarks: An employee, while walking in the wellbay, bumped his head on manifold piping jarring his neck. He was off work for 3 days.

Date:	17-Apr-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G08785	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Viosca Knoll	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	914	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Transocean Discoverer 534	Water Depth:	3535'

Remarks: A TransOcean Offshore employee was laying down drill pipe. One joint got stuck. He lost his footing, and his head got trapped between the drill pipe and yellow tugger. He broke his jaw.

Date:	19-Apr-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04547	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	668	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: An employee lost his footing on the production deck after starting the fire pump. He reached out to brace himself, and his hand entered the fire pump cooling fan beneath the guard. He was transported to the hospital where he required stitches for finger lacerations and was found to have a broken finger.

Date:	21-Apr-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Production SE, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03998	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Explosion
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	182	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: On the morning of April 21, a Service Representative with Survival Systems International arrived at Ship Shoal 182A Platform to perform annual servicing on the escape capsule. Around 1045 hrs he notified Mobil employees on the platform that he was going to depressurize a compressed gas cylinder (24 in x 6 in), and they would hear a loud noise and should not be alarmed. At 1058 hrs a Mobil employee in the galley heard a loud bang and felt the platform shake. He ran out to the capsule and found the service representative unconscious on his back in the capsule. He was transported via Air Care to Terrebonne General Hospital and arrived at 0150 hrs.

Date:	25-Apr-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Production SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02925	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Production
Block:	10	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	38'

Remarks: The employee involved was pulling an inspection plate off a generator. The plate slipped and fell on top of employee's left foot. Employee was wearing safety toe shoes.

Date:	27-Apr-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06044	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	638	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	96'

Remarks: Employee was injured while changing suction valve on the compressor. Required stitches to the head and an overnight stay in the hospital.

Date:	07-May-1997	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01619	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	93	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Nabors 92 / B	Water Depth:	450'

Remarks: Two roustabouts were untying Baker Crossover Tool on production deck pipe rack. They were using a set of 2-part braided pipe slings with hooks. Each leg had a tagline. The crane operator was told by both that the slings were clear and he could pick up the slings. One of the roustabouts noticed that his tag line was tangled up. As he turned to the tag line, the hook hung up on a production I-beam. He grabbed the sling in an effort to pull the sling free. The hook broke at that time and struck him in the right arm. He fractured his arm and underwent a closed reduction procedure.

Date:	12-May-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G05000	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	622	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	83'

Remarks: Employee was being picked up off of the deck with an air hoist when he hit his right elbow on a leg,

causing a bone chip. This resulted in a 72-hr lost time accident.

Date:	20-May-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04453	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	240	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	139'

Remarks: Employee, along with two other employees, was involved in removal of the master SSV on Well A-5. The work involved using sledge hammers and wrenches to remove flange blots. The work was completed routinely. During the night, employee started feeling pain in his lower back with an increase in the amount of pain the next day.

Date:	21-May-1997	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01316	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	299	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: Employee was using ¼ -in hose and a Haskell pump to equalize Well BA-2D in order to open the SCSSV. Employee climbed down from stand located by wellhead to assess why pump had stopped. He tapped pump with wrench, started pumping again. Pump quit a second time and employee climbed down. He was in the process of reaching for the wrench when the pump exploded.

Date:	27-May-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G01240	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Unknown
Block:	51	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Hercules 20	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: While working under starboard side of rig floor, an individual slipped or lost footing. Safety hook that was attached to safety lanyard was torn loose from lanyard. Fell into water striking shoulder on cantilever beam. Retrieved, only bruised shoulder.

Date:	29-May-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Production SE, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02925	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Sandblasting
Block:	10	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: A sandblasting crew working on the "B" Platform. One of the sandblasters had the sandblasting line plug up. He failed to close the main line valve. When he unplugged the 120 psi line, the line valve hit him in the chin, and sand was blown in his face.

Date:	12-Jun-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05370	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	148	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	84'

Remarks: An employee was injured while climbing the BOP stack approximately 15 ft above production deck. Injured was not wearing anti-fall/arrest harness. Injured fell to production deck.

Date:	03-Jul-1997	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00796	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Collision
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	100	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	JA15	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: The vessel Sea Bulk Beauregard collided with the Apache Jacket #15 in Eugene Island Block 100. Twenty-five personnel were injured, and five of these were medi-vaced to shore. The personnel were from a recent crew change from a Flores and Rucks contracted rig. A small slick was noticed flowing from the accident scene at the time of the accident. At present there is only a small gas

leak that is being investigated.

Date:	04-Jul-1997	Operator:	Exxon Company USA
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04109	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	99	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 94 / A	Water Depth:	145'

Remarks: At the time of the flash fire, the platform was shut-in. The crew was in the process of installing new header valves for a well that had been worked over. At the same time, a new PSE in the flare scrubber was being installed.

Date:	04-Jul-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05064	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mobile	Operation:	Production
Block:	864	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	57'

Remarks: Employee was stepping down from a beam that runs along side the chemical tank area. Employee's left foot slipped due to sulfur and water on the deck. Twisted left knee when he slipped.

Date:	17-Jul-1997	Operator:	Coastal Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13808	Event(s):	Injury (2)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	A-379	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	B Platform	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: In the early morning hrs of July 17, 1997, the Motor Vessel (MV) "Nimrod", under contract to lessee Coastal Oil and Gas Corp. (COGC) in the Gulf of Mexico, was buoyed near E.I. 327. It nearly capsized in rough seas. The Nimrod was attached to the buoy and a second vessel, the MV

"Munson Tide", also on contract to COGC was attached by a rope line to the stern of the Nimrod. In the process of nearly capsizing, two crew members jumped overboard and were picked up by the Munson Tide. Some of the tools, equipment, and other cargo tied down to the deck of the Nimrod were lost overboard. After sunrise and visibility improved, it was reported that some equipment/tools previously thought lost were still on the Nimrod deck.

Date:	26-Jul-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05504	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Construction
Block:	224	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	140'

Remarks: While breaking down scaffolding a section of scaffolding collapsed onto the wrist of a construction worker. He was employed by Bagwell Contractors. This is a minor injury.

Date:	03-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02625	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	37	Cause:	Lifting
Rig/Platform:	Hercules 20 / H	Water Depth:	57'

Remarks: Employee was lifting a 2-in mud hose on rig floor. The hose unrolled while being lifted causing employee to twist his back.

Date:	06-Aug-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00182	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Workover
Block:	70	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	H	Water Depth:	146'

Remarks: A small flash fire occurred on the West Delta 70-H platform. The work crew arrived on the platform to resume P&A operations on Well A-3. While in the process of cutting the 7 5/8-in casing with a portable pneumatic hacksaw, the exhaust gas on the saw caught fire and emitted a flame that struck a contract employee who received 1st degree burns.

Date:	22-Aug-1997	Operator:	Mobil E&P US Development Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02163	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	94	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	210'

Remarks: Employee was working on a step ladder installing heater in A/C unit and twisted back while standing on ladder.

Date:	23-Aug-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02193	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	140	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	165'

Remarks: An employee of Hydraulic Well Control was involved in an accident resulting in the first two fingers on his right hand being cut and smashed. The accident occurred when the tong operator, not knowing the snubbing operator had his fingers in door, engaged tongs in reverse to operate camgear.

Date:	28-Aug-1997	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00244	Event(s):	Injury (2)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Workover
Block:	71	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	12	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: Motor Vessel Aries Ram 7 had been doing wireline work at W.C. 71 #12. The Jack-up boat had finished work and was jacking down when they lost hydraulics to the back leg. The jack-up boat turned over in 40 ft of water. Seven people were on board. Mobil had a field work boat and they

picked up all seven with no fatalities. All seven were sent to the hospital in Lake Charles.

Date:	29-Aug-1997	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02625	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	37	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Hercules 20	Water Depth:	57'

Remarks: Employee received chemical burn in eye from drilling chemical solution, according to doctor.

Date:	03-Sep-1997	Operator:	Mobil Exploration and Producing NA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03417	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	72	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	137'

Remarks: Employee was putting Well C-1B in test, and the valve on the low-low header bank was frozen open. Employee used a 24-in pipe wrench on the valve and it would not close. He tried using a 3-ft cheater pipe and when that did not work used a 6-ft cheater pipe in order to close the valve. As a result of this activity, his back began causing him pain and continues to do so.

Date:	05-Sep-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02177	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	49	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	300'

Remarks: Employee lifted 5-gallon bucket and felt pull in back; ruptured disc.

Date:	09-Sep-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03194	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	59	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	69'

Remarks: A fire occurred at 0100 hrs. Personnel were awakened by alarm and at 0130 hrs were evacuated by boat sent to Chevron's MP 41. No injuries. Major damage to platform. Pollution - spotty, dark sheen, 5 miles by 10 miles.

Date:	11-Sep-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05753	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mobile	Operation:	Production
Block:	916	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	51'

Remarks: Employee with Energy Catering Co. was exiting the helicopter when he stepped on the tie-down ring on the skid and twisted his left ankle. Unocal was notified on 9/22/97 that he had suffered a hairline fracture in his left ankle and would be unable to resume normal duties for 6 weeks.

Date:	25-Sep-1997	Operator:	Total Minatome Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G06237	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A-553	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	263'

Remarks: The Crane Pedestal on the Ensco 51 tore off of the Jack-Up during lifting operations in which the

crane was rated above the capacity it was lifting at the time. The crane was partially on the back of the work boat, which was damaged. No one on the work boat was injured. However, the man in the cap jumped from the crane into the water and was swimming. His injuries consisted of broken bones in his left leg and ankle, and minor cuts on his head. Doctors announced that a full recovery can be expected within 6 months.

Date:	18-Oct-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02690	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A-471	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	189'

Remarks: Operator opened glycol control panel with a gas accumulation in the panel from the control lines. Newfield believes that static electricity resulting from the cool dry weather ignited the gas causing a brief flash. The flash started and the operator jumped back, turned and cut his forehead on a piece of angle iron. The cut was given a first aid treatment, and the operator elected to stay on the platform for the night. He returned to shore on regular flight for days off the next day.(Sunday 10-19, 1997), and visited the doctor, with no change to his treatment. Few loose couplings were tightened to eliminate all leaks. The panel was then returned to normal operation.

Date:	21-Oct-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	633	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	77'

Remarks: An employee was stepping into the living quarters and hit his foot below the ankle on the above step. He went in on OCT 23 to have x-rays taken of his foot. This is a lost time accident

Date:	26-Oct-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02193	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	140	Cause:	Human Error

Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	165'
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Remarks: Employee stepped out from personnel basket and walked about 6 feet away. Keeping his back to the personnel basket, he stopped to talk to his relief person. The crane operator was in the process of picking up four personnel when the seas came up lifting the boat. The basket swung pinning the employee between the personnel basket and an iron wire mesh hose. The employee suffered a bruised ankle.

Date:	29-Oct-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00392	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	37	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	R	Water Depth:	49'

Remarks: Employee was attempting to disconnect discharge piping on sump pump. As he began disconnecting the union, some fluid started to leak, then stopped, indicating no more pressure existed. Once employee broke the connection, he was sprayed in the eyes with oily sand.

Date:	09-Nov-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G17242	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	EB	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	250	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Ambassador	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: While removing the end of the thread protectors from drill pipe, a thread protector was cross threaded, an employee hit the cap with a 12-lb maul. The injured employee reached down to remove the cap, while the second employee took a swing with the maul and hit his finger. He was transported to Brazosport Memorial Hospital in Lake Jackson and transferred to Hermann Hospital for surgery on his finger. This is a lost time accident.

Date:	11-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01250	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	164	Cause:	Human Error

Rig/Platform:	Hercules 22	Water Depth:	50'
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Remarks: The drilling crew was in the process of breaking the top connection on the Kelly. The driller pulled on the make up tongs to get the breaker tongs to bite. No snug line was on the tongs, and the tongs came around and struck. He was caught between the tong arm and a joint of 3 ½-in drill pipe that was in a mouse hole, causing a laceration to his left side in the lower rib area.

Date:	25-Nov-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01608	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	60	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	G	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: Crewman was trailing pipe. He was standing in the ally when the driller picked the pipe up. He turned in order to allow the pipe to swing out of the ally. The pipe swung out, catching his finger between the pipe and the spinnerhawks. The hospital treated crewman and inserted a pin in his finger to hold the break. Crewman returned to work on 11-26-97.

Date:	25-Nov-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01072	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	40	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	78'

Remarks: While pressure testing separator, the worker tripped over containment ring on the deck penetration. The employee's right elbow was fractured.

Date:	06-Dec-1997	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	
Lease:	G14467	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	135	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall

Rig/Platform:	Ensco 83 / A	Water Depth:	68'
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Remarks: This was a boat accident and falls under Coast Guard jurisdiction. Casing on the boat shifted and injured a crewman.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Pipeline Events – 1997

Date:	02-Feb-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00595	Event(s):	Damaged Pipeline
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Pipeline
Block:	24	Cause:	Human Error – Insufficient Communication
Rig/Platform:	CM	Water Depth:	45'

Remarks: While stationed at South Timbalier block 23, SB platform, the captain of the lift barge “Barracuda” received orders to move approximately a half mile to the southwest corner of the CM platform at South Timbalier block 24. While in transit, the captain was notified via radio by CC platform personnel that he was passing up the CM platform. The barge captain turned his vessel toward the CM platform and, when the barge was at a distance of about 200 ft from the structure, all four legs of the barge were lowered until bottom was contacted. Then all four legs were raised about 5 ft and maneuvering operations toward the CM platform were begun. When the barge was about 125 ft from the structure, the captain noticed bubbles in the water. The captain notified CM personnel via radio that a line may have been damaged. He then backed the barge up about 200-300 ft and checked the legs to see if a pipeline was still attached. Seeing the legs were free, the lift barge drifted and waited for orders.

Date:	10-Feb-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01898	Event(s):	Pollution
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Pipeline Segment 549
Block:	148	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: None

Date:	03-Mar-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01198	Event(s):	Pipeline / Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Welding
Block:	66	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	129'

Remarks: Construction activity was being conducted approximately 10 ft above and 10 ft horizontally from the area that the fire occurred. Slag from hot cutting work fell onto a pipeline expansion tank flange resulting in ignition of leaking natural gas. A 3-in flame was noticed by the fire watch and extinguished with one hand-held extinguisher. All hot work ceased and further work was done by cold-cut method. The area and flanges were sniffed prior to commencement of hot work/ construction activities.

Date:	07-Apr-1997	Operator:	ANR Pipeline Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03484	Event(s):	Pipeline
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Pipeline Construction
Block:	557	Cause:	Collision
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	224'

Remarks: An 8-in pipeline was dragged by an anchor causing a rupture at the tie-in of the following P/L - a 30-in and a 20-in ANR lines.

Date:	18-Jul-1997	Operator:	Flores & Rucks, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00049	Event(s):	Pipeline / Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	199	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	35'

Remarks: A 4-in pipeline riser from Eugene Island Block 199 parted 2-3 ft above the water line and caught fire. The ensuing fire lasted for 20 minutes. The fire was extinguished by closing the block valve on the pipeline. One person jumped overboard at the time of the fire and was picked up by boat. This 4-in pipeline was inside a 6-in protector. Very corroded. The company will replace.

Date:	22-Aug-1997	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00758	Event(s):	Pipeline
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	165	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	46'

Remarks: Helicopter flying in area discovered the slick with a few bubbles and reported this to the people on WC 165 platform. Pennzoil personnel determined that the pipeline belonged to NGPL. Pennzoil notified NGPL and diverted their production to another pipeline.

Date:	08-Sep-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03786	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (2.2 gals oil)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	372	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	Unknown

Remarks: Verbally reported to MMS on Sep 08 1997. Everything is shut-in until a decision is made on what to do. Only a 2.2-gallon spill.

Date:	17-Sep-1997	Operator:	ANR Pipeline Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	Unknown	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (500'x500' sheen)
Area:	Sabine Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	321	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Leak
Rig/Platform:	D3302	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: Leak came from a 6-in ruptured flowline located on a ROW platform (D3302). Approximately 100 miles directly from Sabine Pass a 500 ft x 500 ft sheen dissipated within few hrs. Flow line was replaced, currently is shut-in.

Date:	17-Nov-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00438	Event(s):	Pipeline
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	175	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	C – D	Water Depth:	87'

Remarks: A helicopter notified slick. Shut in field. It was determined that the 4-in pipeline from the "C" platform to the "D" platform was leaking oil. There was a barge in the field laying a pipeline from the "C" to the "G". It is believed that a cable was dragged over the 4-in pipeline and caused the leak. At the present time there are a few bubbles of oil coming from the pipeline.

Date:	19-Nov-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05862	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (sheen)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	143	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	369'

Remarks: Sixty-three mile long, 1-in steel tubing that transports methanol from WD 143 A to subsea manifold/wells developed a leak. The exact location is unknown at this time. The operator has stopped pumping and is mobilizing a ROV to survey the line. Methanol is miscible, therefore the sheen observed seas 5-7 ft 20 knot winds.

Date:	27-Nov-1997	Operator:	Columbia Gulf Transmission Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00992	Event(s):	Pipeline
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	285	Cause:	Leak / equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	193'

Remarks: Leak appears to be coming from a subsea tie-in between a 12-in producer line (SN 1490) from EI 273 "B" and a 26-in transmission line (SN 1495) in EI 285. Both are owned by Columbia Gulf (CG). Bad weather is preventing divers from surveying leak, so they may be unable to get to site until early next week. Bubble is 25-30 ft in diameter. Platform B has not been shut in. CG believes leak is coming from downstream of block valve at tie-in. The 26-in line is flowing 140MMCFD and the 12-in line 15MMCFD.

Date:	24-Dec-1997	Operator:	Pogo Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02062	Event(s):	Pipeline Damage
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Pipeline
Block:	334	Cause:	Human Error / External Damage
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	238'

Remarks: Approximately 2,000 ft of Pogo Producing Company's 6-in oil pipeline Segment No. 11131, departing EC 334, E-platform to a subsea tie-in at EC 330 sustained severe damage as a result of being snagged by a M/V anchor and dragged approximately 765 ft from the original installation right-of-way. Damage to pipeline Segment No. 11131 occurred on December 24, 1997, at approximately 0300 hrs and apparently by the same marine vessel anchor that snagged Marathon Pipeline Company's 8-in oil pipeline Segment No. 3833 and Stingray Pipeline Company's 16-in gas pipeline Segment No. 3396. Marathon Pipeline Company's 8-in oil pipeline originates at Oryx Energy Company's EC 338, A platform and terminates at Marathon Oil Company's EC 321, A platform. Stingray Pipeline Company's 16-in gas pipeline, which is adjacent and parallel to the 8-in oil pipeline originates at Oryx Energy Company's EC 338, A platform and terminates at Stingray Pipeline Company's WC 509, compressor station. Damage to Pogo's 6-in pipeline was determined during a side-scan sonar survey being performed for Marathon Pipeline Company and subsequent video and visual inspections by ROV and divers. Damage is as follows: approximately 14,700 ft from subsea tie-in, the 6-in pipeline was pulled approximately 765 ft off of the existing pipeline right-of-way causing the pipe to flatten in the area hooked by the anchor (see enclosed sketch #1). The EC 334-E pipeline riser was pulled away from the platform approximately 900 ft before making contact with the sea floor. The riser was wrapped around the platform leg.

Date:	24-Dec-1997	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02063	Event(s):	Pipeline Damage / Pollution
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production / Pipeline
Block:	338	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error / Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	270'

Remarks: A Oryx energy company platform operator experienced a vibration of the platform and heard a loud noise coming from the production deck. Upon investigation, he observed that the 8-in oil pipeline pig launcher skid had been pulled through the ¼-in steel decking of the production deck on the south west end of the platform. He immediately activated the ESD to shut in the platform and start up the fire water deluge system. The water deluge system operated only briefly due to a rupture of the fuel gas piping to the gas driven generator. Damages to the platform and pipeline were severe. The 8-in oil piping parted on the pipeline pumps discharge at a downstream block valve flange. The 8-in oil pipeline pig launcher measuring 3 ft 2 in by 8 ft 10 in was pulled through the ¼-in steel decking. The steel decking was holed 1 ft 4 in by 2 ft 10 in by 8 ft. Weld-o-lets on the pipeline were sheared and three saddles supporting the pipeline were broken. Divers and side-scan-sonar verified that the 8-in oil pipeline from ec 338-a to ec 321-a had been snagged by a marine vessel anchor and dragged approximately 400 ft from the original installation boundry. Also, the 16-in gas stingray pipeline, which is adjacent and parallel to the 8-in oil pipeline showed tracks and marks of a marine vessel anchor snag that had slipped. The marine vessel anchor snagged the 8-in oil pipeline approximately 9,800 ft north of ec 338-a platform. Neither the 8-in nor the 16-in pipelines were parted at the anchor contact point. Divers verified that the ec 338-a platform sub-structure sustained no damage. The 8-in oil pipeline has been flanged off at the ec 338-a platform and flushed with seawater from the sub-sea tie-in back to ec 338-a platform. Oil recovery was estimated at 1,200 bbls. The 8-in oil pipeline has been secured. No additonal pollution is occurring or expected. A total of 15 bbls of oil was discharaged into the gulf waters and none recovered. There were no injuries.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Significant Pollution Events - 1997

(

50 barrels)

Date:	15-May-1997	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G06987	Amount(bbl):	106 bbl – Oil
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Unknown
Block:	6	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	200'

Remarks: Texaco initiated a fly over after a Coast Guard Inquiry. They will have another fly over to check their pipelines. Winds are ESE at 6-8 mph and current is out of the NE. As of May 16, 1997 sheen is breaking up and hardly visible.

Date:	19-Nov-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05862	Amount(bbl):	72 bbl – Methanol
Area:	Mississippi Canyon	Operation:	Production / Pipeline
Block:	686	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1700'

Remarks: Sixty-three mile long, 1-in steel tubing that transports methanol from WD 143 A to subsea manifold/wells developed a leak. The exact location is unknown at this time. The operator stopped pumping and mobilized on ROV to investigate.

Date:	16-Dec-1997	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12940	Amount(bbl):	200 – Condensate / yellow paraffin
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	126	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: On December 16, 1997, at 1300 hrs, Platform No. 2, Ship Shoal Block 126, was brought back on line after a shut-in of UPR's Platform A. Whenever UPR's (company) Platform A shut's in Platform No. 2 will shutin by cascading (pressure buildup) activates the PSH. UPR's operators left the platform at approximately 1530 hrs. At 1600 hrs, the Ship Shoal 105 field was shut in again. This should have initiated a cascade shut in of Platform No. 2. On December 17, 1997, at 0800 hrs, UPR's operators were in flight over the field when they spotted a mist coming from the vent boom of Platform No. 2. The heliport was in the path of the mist, so they flew to Phillips Petroleum Company's Platform A, Ship Shoal Block 149, to borrow their field boat. At approximately 0900 hrs, the UPR's operators boarded Platform No. 2 and went to the panel to manually shut in the well.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Other Events – 1997

Date:	05-Jan-1997	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02193	Event(s):	Dropped Load
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	140	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	170'

Remarks: The port side crane on the Reading & Bates drilling rig was being used to offload equipment from the rig floor to the work boat Fast Supporter. The crane operator had picked up an 18,000-lb. Filco filter unit and was in the process of setting it on the boat deck when the sling broke. The filter unit struck the boat's handrail and fell overboard into 172 ft of water. The wire sling used for the lift was underrated and its age and physical condition was such that it should not have been part of the lifting appliance inventory. The operator's on-site incident investigation revealed that the wire sling was 1 in in diameter, approximately 4 years old, and had visible corrosion. Southwest Wire Rope Riggers Manual approved this size sling for loads not exceeding 17,000 lbs. The Filco filter unit exceeded the approved load limit by 1,000 lbs.

Date:	11-Jan- 1997	Operator:	Pel-Tex Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09574	Event(s):	Valve Stem Leak
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	30	Cause:	Equipment failure
Rig/Platform:	Cliffs Drilling 154	Water Depth:	13'

Remarks: None

Date:	31-Jan-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00593	Event(s):	Objects fell overboard
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	198	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	K	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: Two 25-ft water hoses fell overboard.

Date:	05-Feb-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12010	Event(s):	Possible Casing Parting
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover
Block:	359	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	ENSCO 21	Water Depth:	320'

Remarks: Shut pipeline in at 0835 and pressure is 0. NRC #376109

Date:	22-Feb-1997	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02105	Event(s):	Crane Boom Collapse
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	296	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	210'

Remarks: None

Date:	04-Mar-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05646	Event(s):	Diverter / Blowout
Area:	South Timablier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	295	Cause:	Shallow Gas
Rig/Platform:	POOL 18	Water Depth:	288'

Remarks: 12:10 a.m. - Bumped plug on cement job for 13-3/8 in casing. Full returns through cement job and displacement.
12:10 - 1:30 - Monitor well and wash out diverter stack.
1:30 - 2:00 - Rig down Halliburton lines.
4:00 - 4:30 - Well begins to flow between 13 3/8 in x 18 5/8 in annulus. Monitor well. Tighten up breaks on diverter stack. Close in annular preventer.
4:30 - 8:45 - Start tightening up breaks on diverter spool and nipple up diverter lines. Divert flow (gas, mud & cement) through diverter. Finish tightening the diverter lines and stack. Continuously pump seawater into casing valve on east side of stack.
8:45 - Finished tightening stack. Close diverter. Continue pumping seawater into casing valve at 3 BPM with 250 psi pressure.
8:45 - 10:45 - Continue pumping seawater at 3 BPM with 250 psi. Mix 400 bbls of water based mud at 11.8 ppg.
10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Pump 400 bbls 11.8 ppg mud into 13-3/8in. x 18-5/8in. annulus. 230 bbls pumped so far of the 400 bbls.
12:45 - 1:30 - Pumped remainder of 11.8 ppg mud - well dead.

Date:	08-Mar-1997	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09529	Event(s):	Piping Parting
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	398	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	NABORS 75	Water Depth:	381'

Remarks: Lafayette Well Testers representatives were in the process of testing Well A-4 when the portable well test piping parted near the weld joint between the half union and the straight pipe. The piping came from the production tree, vertically to the production equipment on an upper deck, and was secured by chains lashed to the upper deck. The piping arrangement was tested to 10,000 psig prior to bringing Well A-4 on line. At the time the piping parted, Well A-4 was flowing with 6305 psig FTP, 2318 MCFD, 624 BOPD and 3 BWPD. The well was shut-in immediately by the Lafayette Well Testers operators actuating the wing valve at the production tree. There were no injuries and only minimal pollution resulted from this incident.

Date:	09-Mar-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05889	Event(s):	Smoke, no fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Production
Block:	65	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A (BULLWINKLE)	Water Depth:	1353'

Remarks: Received report by mail. Electrical smoke fire. No fire was observed. Generator ESD was experienced. Operators had trouble restarting.

Date:	23-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03265	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (20 gals condensate)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	198	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: During the normal daily platform inspection the operator spotted bubbles in the water. As a result, operator shut-in all production to the 12-in pipeline in the WC 198 field. Best guess is approximately 20 gallons of condensate.

Date:	03-Apr-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01023	Event(s):	Crane Accident / Injury (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover
Block:	224	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	150'

Remarks: Murphy Exploration & Producing Company's Lease OCS-G 1023, Platform A, Ship Shoal Block 224, has a pedestal mounted crane which it uses for general lifting service such as personnel and supplies; and also for service work on the platform. At the time of the accident, the crane operator was attempting to lift a valve tree from a well head which was 62 ft away from the center of the crane. All of the lower valve flange bolts were either removed or loosened enough that they did not restrain the valve tree (A later examination of this flange revealed that the gasket was frozen to the flange faces).

Date:	22-Apr-1997	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02372	Event(s):	Equipment Leak
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Workover
Block:	A-489	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: While washing sand and cement from inside 3-1/2-in production tubing at 9,627' CTM with 1 1/4-in CT, the CT began to leak at the gooseneck. The leak was small enough to make the Preeminent Energy Services operator think the stuffing box was leaking. After applying more pressure to the stuffing box, the leak did not stop so he climbed the stack to the injector head and found the leak near the 2nd roller from the bottom of the gooseneck. He then shut the pipe and slip rams below the shear rams, holding the CT fish and closed the cutter rams making a good, square cut on the CT. The CT was pulled up and the blind rams closed, securing the well. As 5-7 minutes had passed before the blind rams were closed, 3-1/2 bbls of filtered seawater was sprayed on the platform deck.

Date:	25-Apr-1997	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00593	Event(s):	Platform part fell in Gulf
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	198	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	G	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: None

Date:	24-May-1997	Operator:	Equitable Resources Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G15110	Event(s):	Punctured Fuel Tank
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	540	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	MARINE III	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: None

Date:	15-Jun-1997	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08241	Event(s):	Infectious Pneumonia Outbreak
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	426	Cause:	Virus
Rig/Platform:	A (Auger)	Water Depth:	2861'

Remarks: None

Date:	17-Jul-1997	Operator:	Coastal Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02910	Event(s):	Boat Capsized / Injury (2)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	327	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	261'

Remarks: None

Date:	26-Jul-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00989	Event(s):	Casing Burst
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	276	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	176'

Remarks: The source of the pressure on the surface casing was the gas lift gas in the production casing. On 7-26-97, after repairing the test port threads on the starter head of the surface casing, the operator began feeding gas lift gas into the 9 5/8-in, 47#ft, N-80 production casing. At 1340 hrs the 20-in, 106.5 #ft, K-55, surface casing failed at approximately the +10ft. level. The pressure recorder attached to the surface casing indicated that the casing failed at 980 psig. The gas supply line to the 9 5/8-in casing was immediately closed at the gas lift manifold. No fire or pollution occurred due to the incident. After discussing the situation with their office supervisor, the gas lift gas was bled off the 9 5/8-in casing. Two pump-thru-type tubing plugs were installed in the tubing and the tubing was bled to zero.

Date:	30-Jul-1997	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G07757	Event(s):	Crane Failure
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Crane
Block:	268	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	PRIDE 650 / C	Water Depth:	202'

Remarks: During a rigging down operation for a platform workover rig, a Bullfrog Crane was lifting the rig's Master Skid off the platform. The load cleared the platform and was being lowered onto the workboat. About 30 ft above the boat, the crane boom failed, dropping the load onto the deck of the workboat where it struck the other rig packages already on the deck. There were no injuries sustained.

Date:	21-Aug-1997	Operator:	Forcenergy, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06643	Event(s):	Wellhead seal leak
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Exploration
Block:	300	Cause:	Human Error / Leak
Rig/Platform:	ROWAN JUNEAU / A	Water Depth:	186'

Remarks: Rig personnel had just completed plug and abandon procedures on Well A-2. A Cameron representative had set a back pressure valve in the tubing hanger of Well A-3. Prior to setting the valve both the tubing and all casing annuli were checked for pressure. Zero psi was observed. Rig personnel proceeded to remove the studs and nuts to remove the tree from the casing head flange. As the tree was being rocked back and forth the seal was broken (metal ring seal) on the casing flange and gas started escaping. The crew immediately reset the tree in place and proceeded to bolt the tree onto the casing head to effect a seal. A full seal between the tree and the casing head flange was not successful and a small gas leak continued.

Date:	25-Sep-1997	Operator:	TOTAL Minatome Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Unknown
Lease:	G06237	Event(s):	Crane torn off of pedestal rig / Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A-553	Cause:	Equipment Failure

Rig/Platform:	ENSCO 51 / A	Water Depth:	263'
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Remarks: None

Date:	06-Oct-1997	Operator:	CXY Energy Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02103	Event(s):	Helicopter Water Landing
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Transportation
Block:	257	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	152'

Remarks: None

Date:	05-Nov-1997	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06037	Event(s):	Structural Failure
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	604	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	8	Water Depth:	85'

Remarks: Cassion #8 failure of the 72-in cassion at the weld caused the structure to fall to the bottom of the sea floor around 0500 hrs. Production operator noticed a drop in gas sales chart. He started checking around 0600 hrs and found no flow from the #8 cassion. He did a visial around 1000 and the #8 cassion could not be seen. Aircraft over flight was ordered at 1015 hrs and no sighting of the #8 was made and no pollution was seen.

Pacific Region

Fires – 1997

Date:	17-Mar-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00316	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	6A	Operation:	Production
Block:	5584	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Hermosa	Water Depth:	603'

Remarks: A high amp alarm for K-11 electric motor was observed by the control room operator. Control room notified area operator. On the way to the unit the unit shut down. Both operators observed smoke coming from the motor area. The Head Operator Electrician was notified who dropped out the main circuit breaker. The covers were removed and the motor was inspected. A fire was observed and extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher, and the motor housing was then cooled with water.

Date:	25-Jul-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00315	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	6A	Operation:	Production
Block:	5585	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Harvest	Water Depth:	675'

Remarks: Operator responded to a ODU that activated near the charge pump area. After investigation evidence of a fire was found at the charge pump. Motor wiring was melted and damaged initial assessment is either a motor wiring short or motor bearing friction.

Date:	09-Dec-1997	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00188	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	6A	Operation:	Production
Block:	5374	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Hondo	Water Depth:	824'

Remarks: Person in control room (20 ft from air compressor) heard noise and came out of control room to investigate. Upon exiting the control room he saw fire on air compressor "A" and used the 350-lb dry chemical extinguisher and put the fire out. He said the fire lasted between 2-5 minutes. He then cooled the air compressor "A" with a water hose.

Pacific Region

Injuries – 1997

Date:	01-Nov-1997	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00205	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	6B	Operation:	Production
Block:	4661	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Gail	Water Depth:	739'

Remarks: Two men were working on a 6-in line removing a bleed ring from between two flanges. As the ring was removed, the two flanges snapped together mashing the tip of one man's left index finger off. Tip that was severed was removed from inside his glove. Injured was medivaced to St. John's Regional Medical Center where his fingertip was sewed back on. As of 18-Nov-1997 the injured had not returned to work but is expected to return next week.

Pacific Region

Significant Pollution Events – 1997 (>50 BBLs)

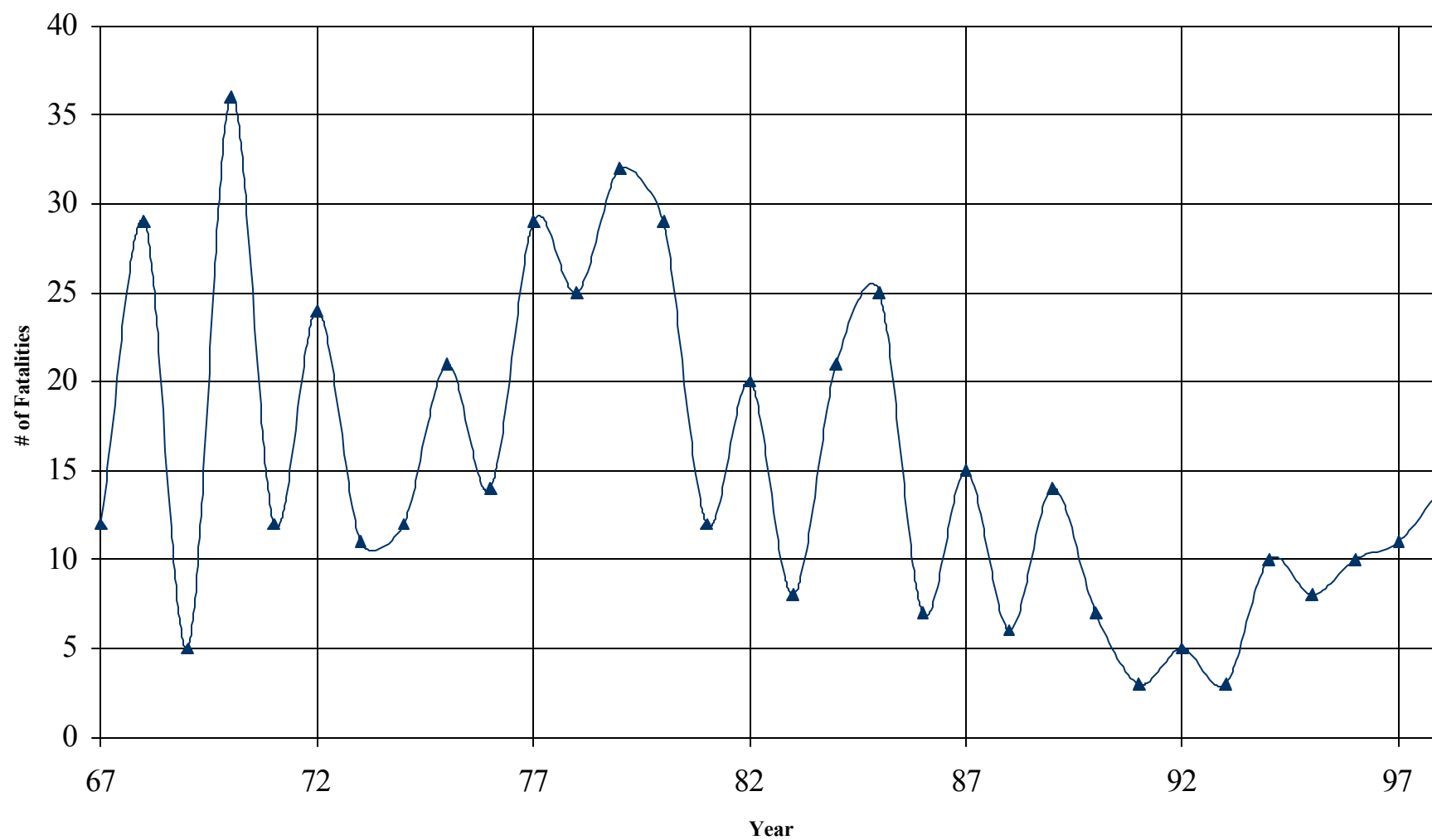
Date:	28-Sep-1997	Operator:	Torch Operating Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00441	Event(s):	Pollution (163 BBL)
Area:	SM	Operation:	Pipeline
Block:	332	Cause:	Pipeline Failure
Rig/Platform:	Irene	Water Depth:	242'

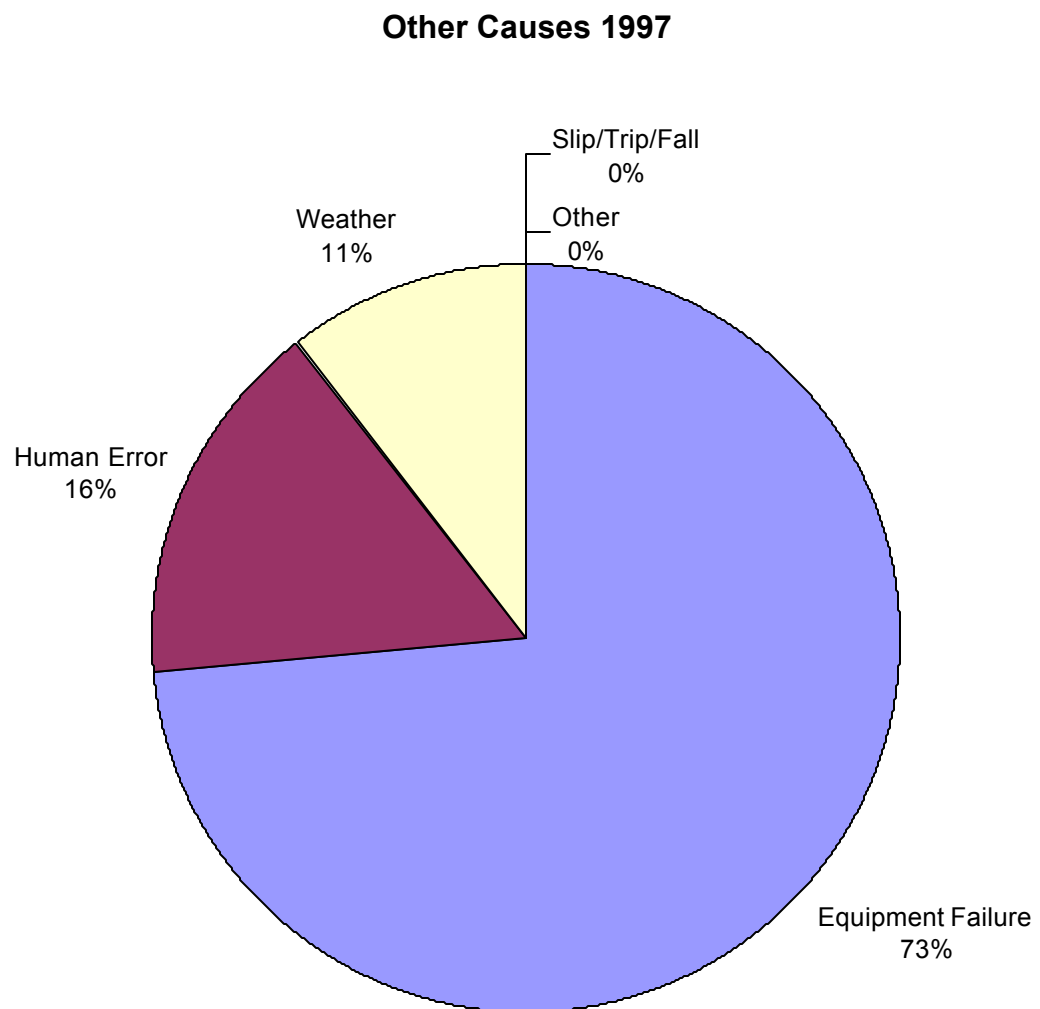
Remarks: On September 28, 1997, a pipeline break in the 20-in oil emulsion pipeline occurred, which resulted in a spill of up to 500 barrels of crude oil. The break in the line occurred approximately 31,000 ft northeast of the platform in 122 ft of water in the State water portion of the pipeline. The platform was automatically shut down due to low pipeline pressure at 2217 hrs on September 28, 1997. The leak occurred along the offshore portion of the 20-in wet oil pipeline, in State waters southwest of Pt. Pedernales.

Appendix

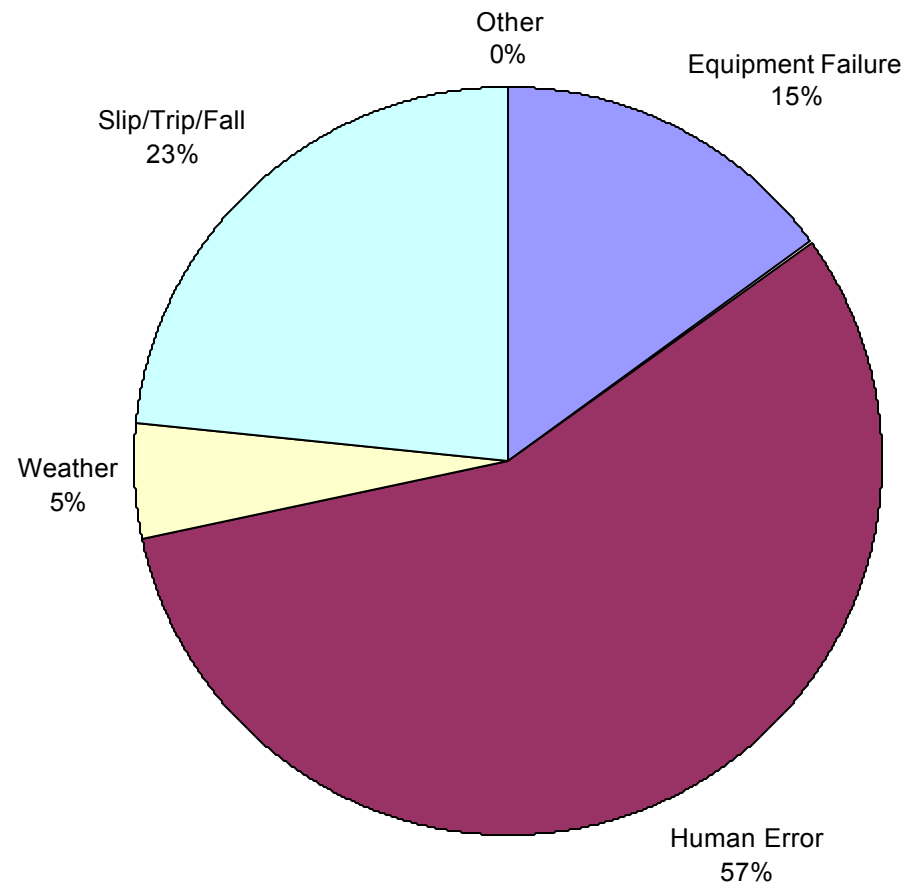
Graphical Summary of OCS Incident Data 1997

OCS Fatalities Reported to MMS 1967-1998

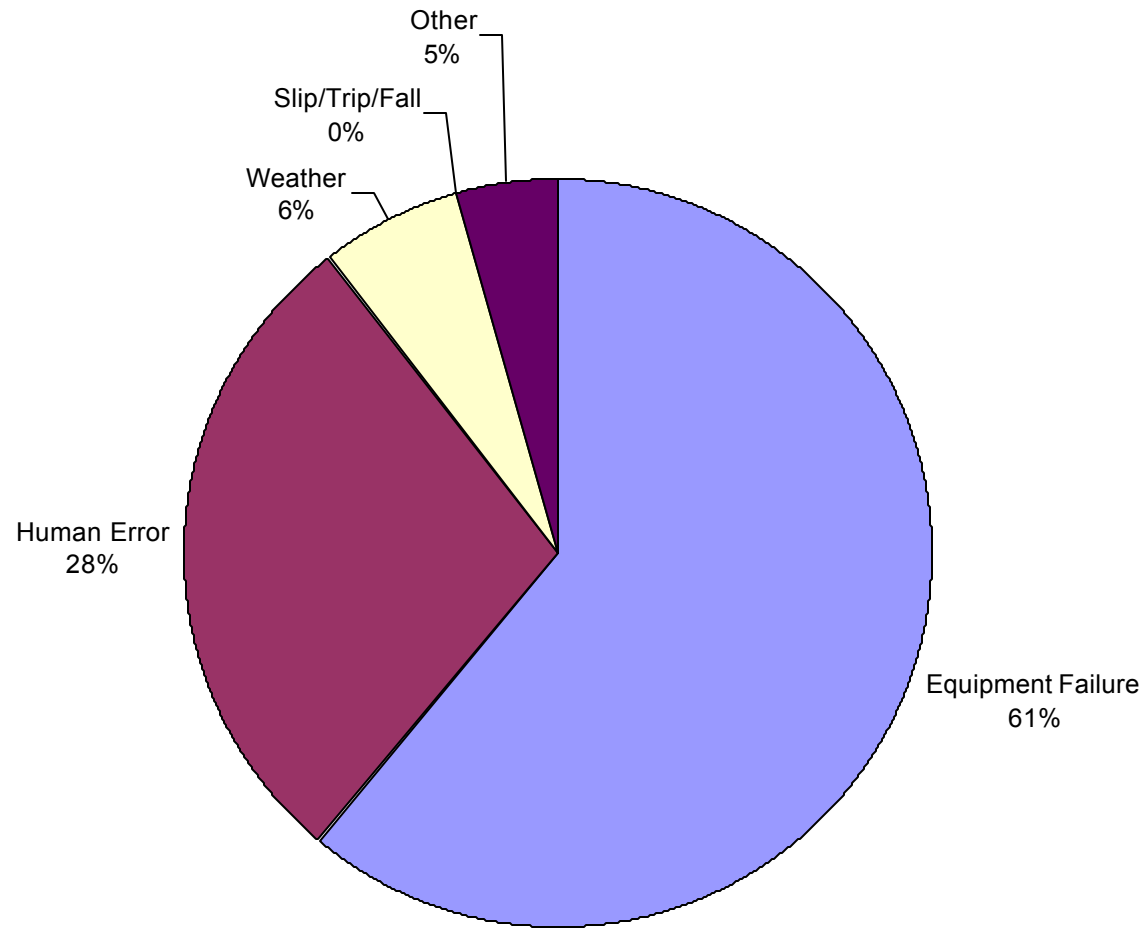




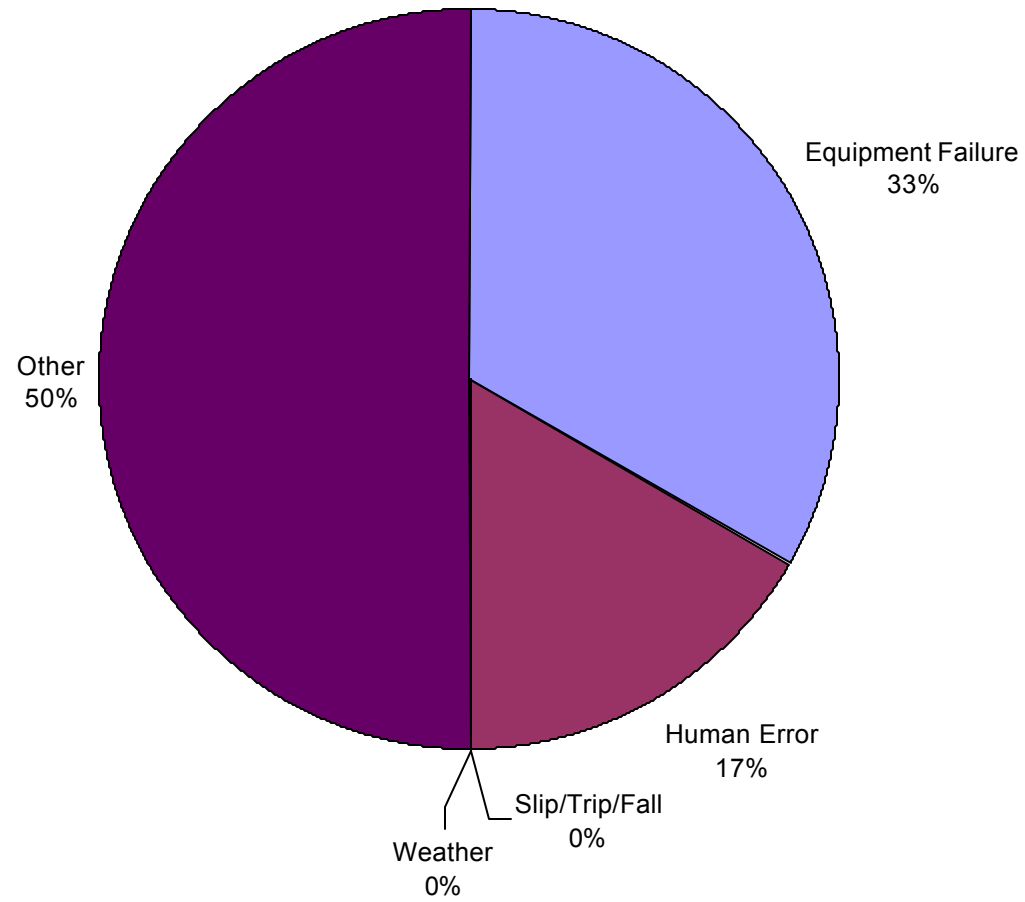
Injury Causes 1997



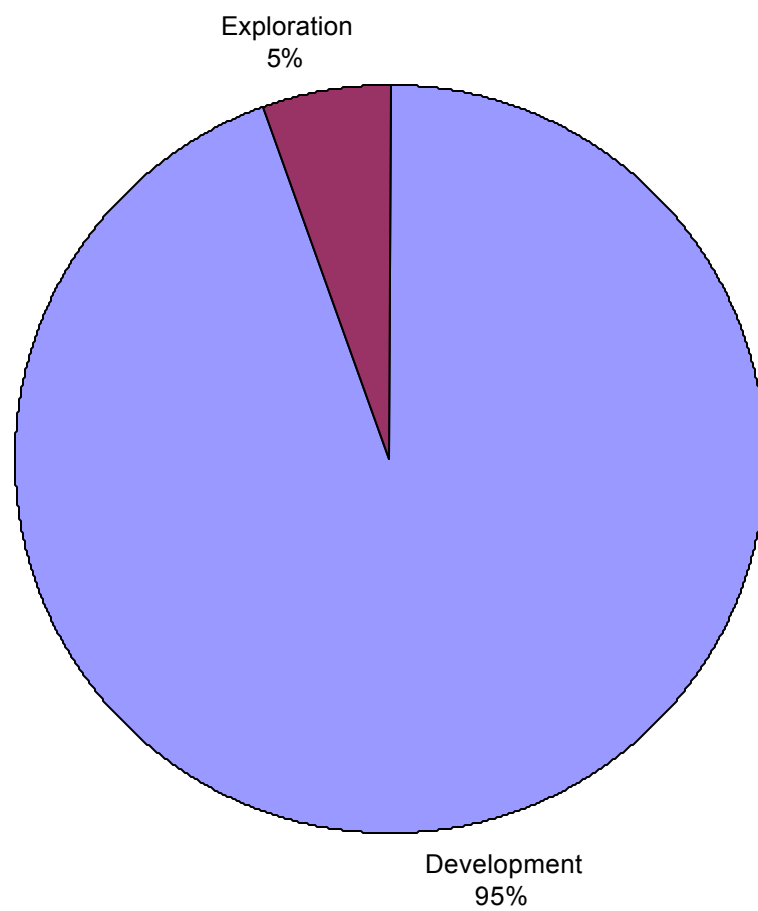
Fire Causes 1997



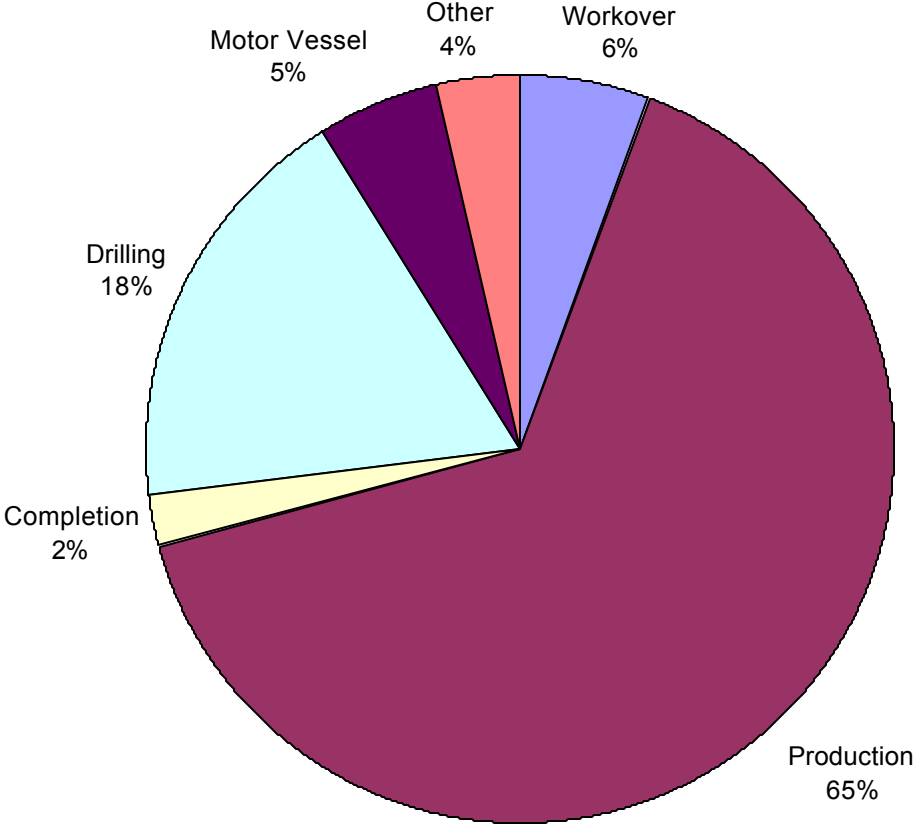
Blowout Causes 1997

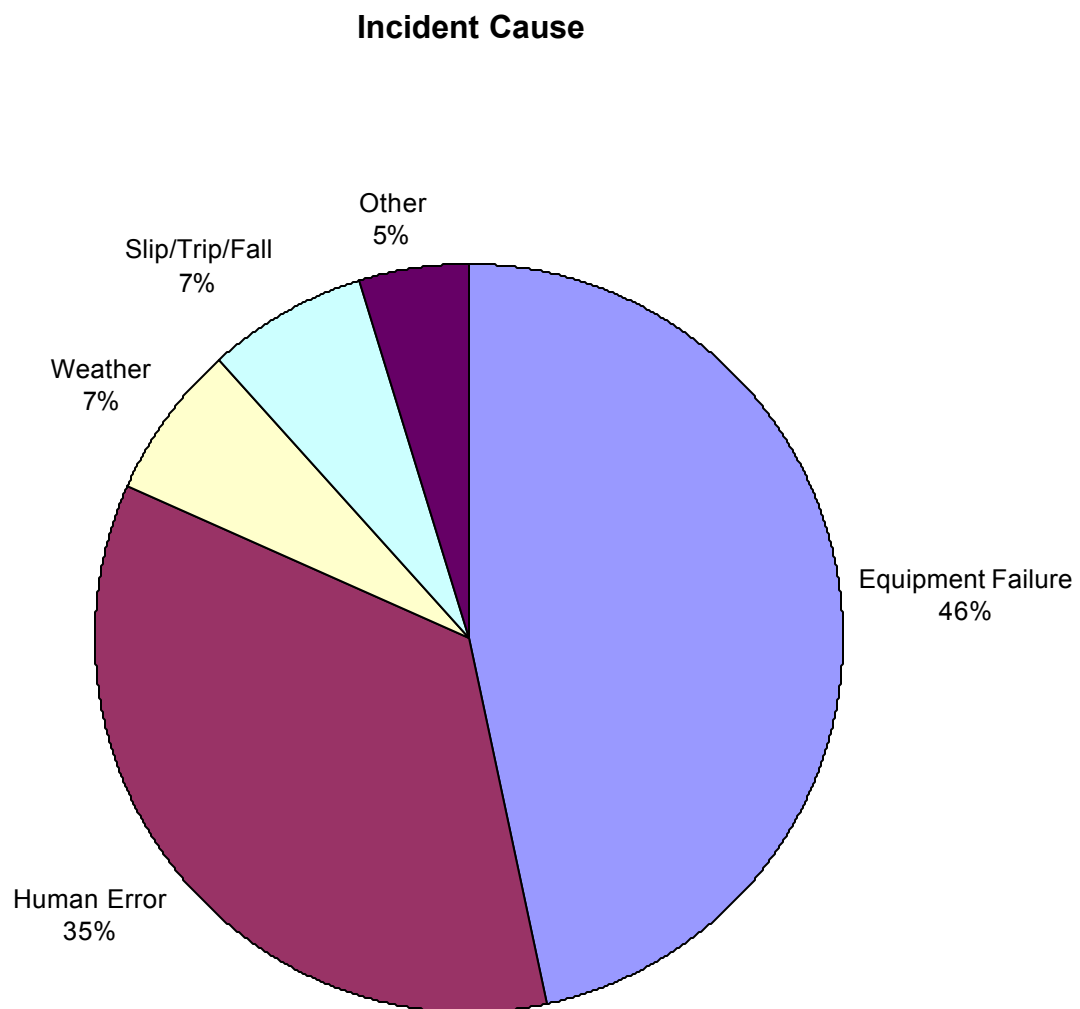


Type of Activity During Incidents

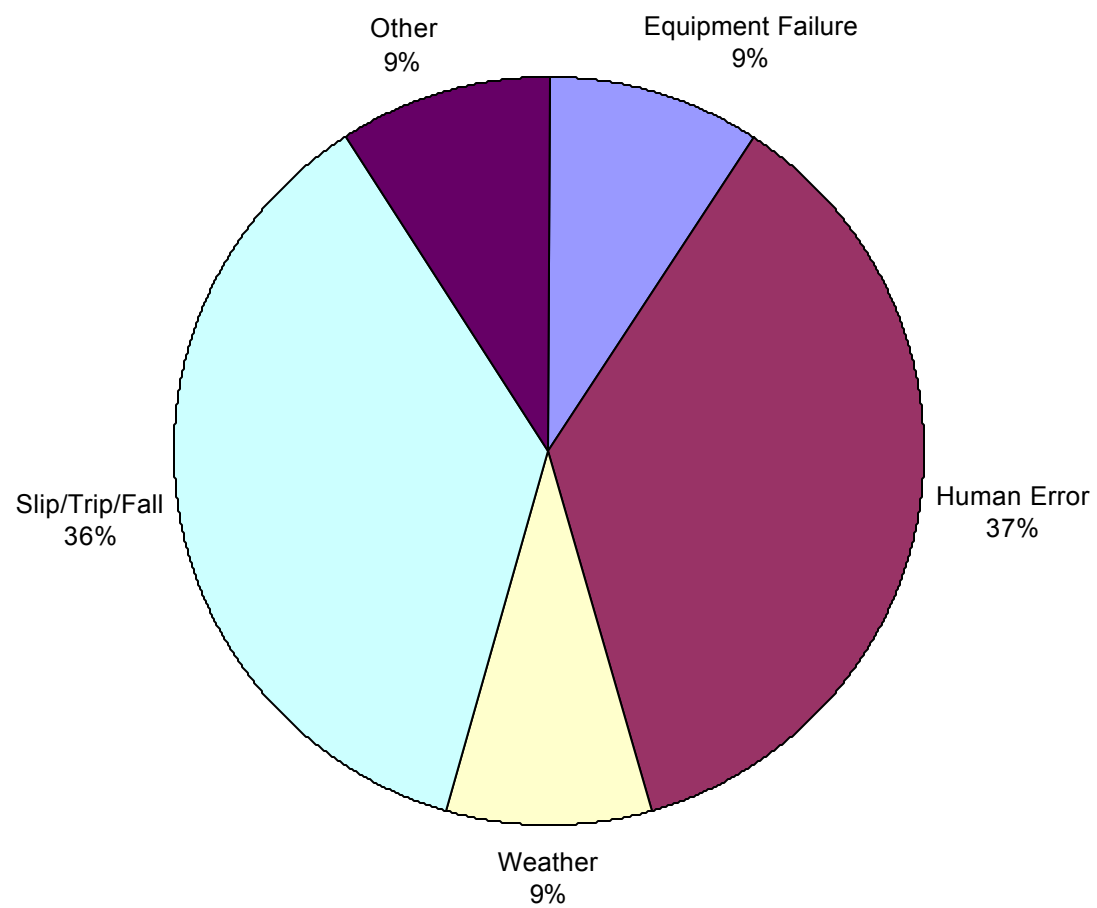


Operations During Incidents

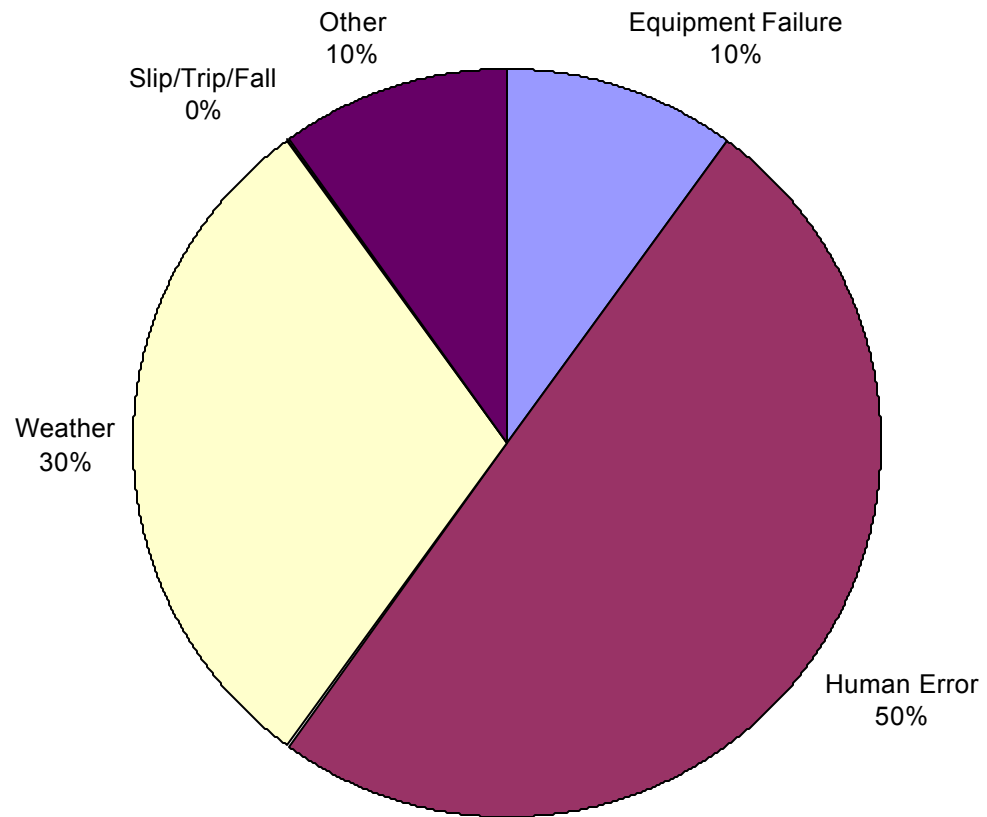




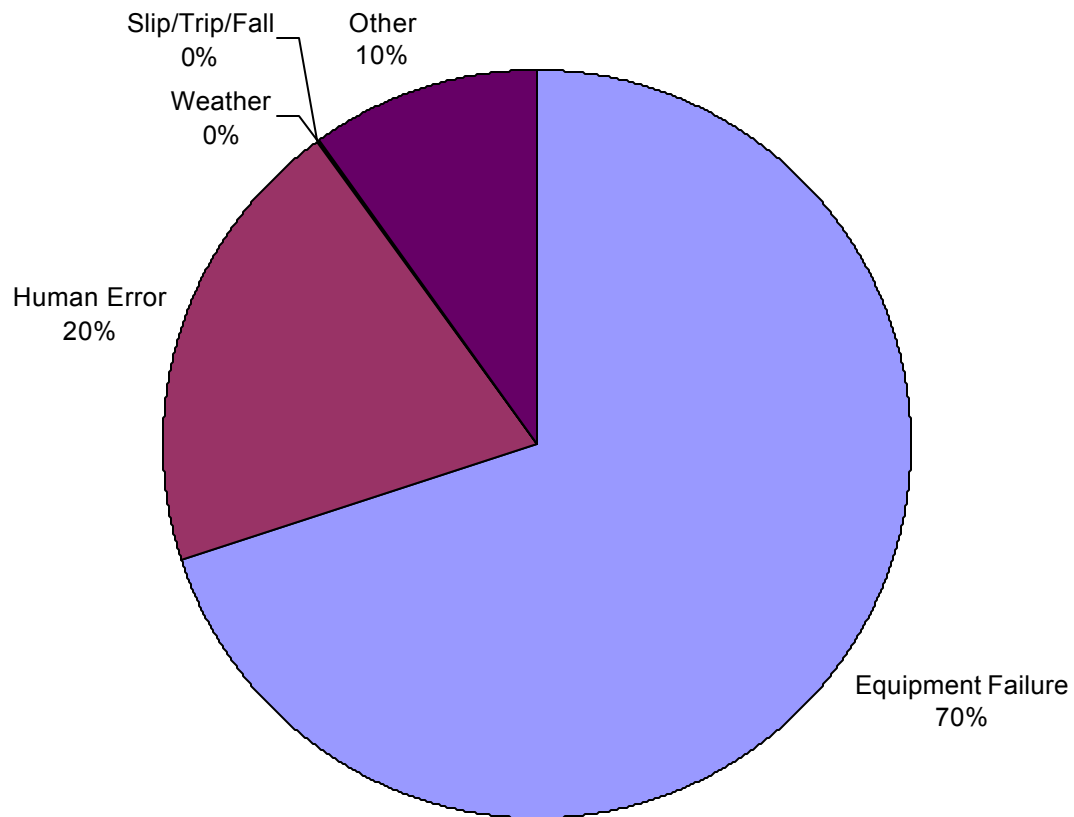
Fatality Causes 1997



Collision Causes 1997



Explosion Causes 1997





The Department of the Interior Mission

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.



The Minerals Management Service Mission

As a bureau of the Department of the Interior, the Minerals Management Service's (MMS) primary responsibilities are to manage the mineral resources located on the Nation's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), collect revenue from the Federal OCS and onshore Federal and Indian lands, and distribute those revenues.

Moreover, in working to meet its responsibilities, the **Offshore Minerals Management Program** administers the OCS competitive leasing program and oversees the safe and environmentally sound exploration and production of our Nation's offshore natural gas, oil and other mineral resources. The MMS **Royalty Management Program** meets its responsibilities by ensuring the efficient, timely and accurate collection and disbursement of revenue from mineral leasing and production due to Indian tribes and allottees, States and the U.S. Treasury.

The MMS strives to fulfill its responsibilities through the general guiding principles of: (1) being responsive to the public's concerns and interests by maintaining a dialogue with all potentially affected parties and (2) carrying out its programs with an emphasis on working to enhance the quality of life for all Americans by lending MMS assistance and expertise to economic development and environmental protection.

