OCS Operations Safety Alert
Crane Accident--Fatality

A recent accident occurred on a drilling rig while offloading a casing spider. The crane operator was booming down when the boom began to fall. The clutch was moved to the neutral position and the brake applied. The boom line parted and the falling line and ball on the fast line struck a roustabout, inflicting fatal injuries.

To attempt to prevent a recurrence of this type accident, the drilling contractor is more closely following the recommendations of the crane manufacturer in reconditioning and maintenance of the crane and is also requiring review of procedures for safe crane operations by all rig personnel.

Available publications containing information for use as guidelines for safe crane operations are as follows:


[signature] D.W. Solanas
Oil and Gas Supervisor
Field Operations
Gulf of Mexico Area