

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

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **22-SEP-2020** TIME: **1430** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Shell Offshore Inc.**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR: **Helmerich & Payne, Inc.**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

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

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

4. LEASE: **G07963**

AREA: **MC** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **807** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: **OLYMPUS N88**

6. ACTIVITY:

- EXPLORATION (POE)
- DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION (DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:

INJURIES:

HISTORIC INJURY

REQUIRED EVACUATION

LTA (1-3 days)

LTA (>3 days)

RW/JT (1-3 days)

RW/JT (>3 days)

FATALITY

Other Injury

OPERATOR

CONTRACTOR

0

1

0

1

8. OPERATION:

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

9. CAUSE:

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

10. WATER DEPTH: **3028** FT.

11. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **72** MI.

12. WIND DIRECTION: **NE**
SPEED: **35** M.P.H.

13. CURRENT DIRECTION: **NE**
SPEED: **15** M.P.H.

14. SEA STATE: FT.

15. PICTURES TAKEN:

16. STATEMENT TAKEN:

- POLLUTION
- FIRE
- EXPLOSION

LWC

HISTORIC BLOWOUT

UNDERGROUND

SURFACE

DEVERTER

SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION

HISTORIC

>\$25K

<=\$25K

INCIDENT SUMMARY:

On September 22, 2020 at approximately 14:30 hours, a floorhand injured his left ankle while descending a stairway at a Shell Offshore facility (Olympus N-88 rig) located at Mississippi Canyon 807 Platform B. The worker was evacuated to Terrebonne General located in Houma, LA. At 16:00 hours the same day, Shell Offshore verbally reported the incident to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) New Orleans District (NOD).

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

The floorhand (IP) was tasked to weigh a bucket of metal shavings after he returned to the rig floor. The IP (Injured Person) was previously tasked to close a casing valve located in the well bay approximately 5 decks below. The metal shavings that accumulated on top of the test plug were placed in a bucket to be carried to a scale located on the shaker deck. As the floorhand approached the northwest stairway leading from the rig floor down to the shaker deck, the IP "stated that he placed his right hand on the handrail while holding the seven-pound bucket of materials in the left hand." He then made the first step down when he lost his footing on the wet grating stair cover and began to stumble downwards toward the shaker deck landing. After stumbling approximately six steps, he was able to stop his fall by using the hand that was on the handrail but landed awkwardly on his left leg and eventually coming to rest on his backside. The IP was able to notify the tool pusher that was nearby and get assistance.

There were adverse weather conditions (high winds and rain) around the time of the incident. The rubber boots that the IP was wearing contained a mixture of water and zinc bromide that accumulated from the rig floor. The combination of this mixture compromised the stability of the IP's boots.

The IP was evaluated by the medic on site and the decision was made to send the IP to shore via med-evac for further evaluation by a physician. X-rays confirmed a fracture to the left ankle. The IP had surgery and will be on restricted duty.

BSEE INVESTIGATION:

On September 23, 2020, BSEE NOD started an incident investigation consisting of communicating with the company representative and HSE representative on location. BSEE requested daily reports, photos, statements, and contact information from the H&P HSE representative onshore.

CONCLUSIONS:

The post incident investigation revealed the following:

- 1) The stairs had medium grit coated covers that were worn
- 2) Adverse weather conditions (high winds and rain)
- 3) Rubber boots contained a mixture of water and zinc bromide (which caused the IP's boots to be slippery)
- 4) Muscular fatigue due to the employee being tasked with weighing the material immediately after returning from closing the casing valve in the well bay, approximately 5 decks below

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

- The stairs had medium grit coated covers that were worn
- Rubber boots contained a mixture of water and zinc bromide (which caused the IP's boots to be slippery)

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

- Adverse weather conditions (rain and high winds)
- Muscular fatigue due to the employee being tasked with weighing the material immediately after returning from closing the casing valve in the well bay, approximately 5 decks below

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

This was an office investigation; no onsite investigation warranted.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: NATURE OF DAMAGE:

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The BSEE New Orleans District office makes no recommendations at this time.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **NO**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION:

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION
PANEL FORMED: **NO**

26. INVESTIGATION TEAM MEMBERS:
Frank Musacchia/Author

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE:

David Trocquet

