

Incidents Associated with Oil and Gas Operations

Outer Continental Shelf 1995-1996

Data Collected By
Regional and District Personnel

Database Managed By
Regional and District Personnel

Publication Compiled By
L. John Chadwell

With Assistance From
Melinda Mayes
Cheryl Anderson

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Foreword

The following is a compilation of incidents that occurred on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and were reported to the Minerals Management Service (MMS) for the years 1995 and 1996. This report lists the incidents separately by Region and then by type. (Note: There are no sections for the Atlantic and Alaska Regions in this report because no incidents occurred there during the 1995-1996 reporting period.) After the listing of the individual incidents, we have included a new section that summarizes the information graphically. For the purpose of this report, incident is defined as any event classified as a blowout, collision, explosion, fatality, fire, injury, pipeline release, or spill greater than 50 barrels.

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 MMS's headquarters office in Herndon, Va. TIMS is a large database recently created by MMS, which contains data gathered from many MMS sources for both internal and public use. In addition to containing information on OCS incidents, TIMS also includes data on items such as: platforms, number and type of wellbores, seismic analysis, leasing data, production rates, and royalty management.

As of 1995, all OCS incidents reported to MMS are entered into the TIMS database (older data are still maintained in other MMS databases and as paper copies). One of the major concerns with the incident component of TIMS is data quality. With the recent increase in operations in the Gulf of Mexico, both MMS and industry are placing increased emphasis on operator performance and safety. With this increased attention to performance, 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 as a component of performance measurement, the potential impact of the incident information contained in TIMS will also increase.

In this regard, MMS has made every effort to ensure that data taken from TIMS and contained in this report are as accurate as possible. However, we remind users of this report that, as with any live database, MMS continues to update and amend the data as new information is obtained. The MMS welcomes any suggestions or corrections regarding this report in general or concerning specific data contained in the report. Comments about this document may be sent to:

Mr. Joe Levine
Chief, Operations Analysis Branch
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street, MS 4022
Herndon, VA 20170-4817
Email: joseph.levine@mms.gov

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AC	-Alternating Current
bbl	-Barrel(s)
BOP	-Blowout Preventer
CFR	-Code of Federal Regulations
CO ₂	-Carbon Dioxide
ESD	-Emergency Shut Down
ft	-Foot (feet)
G/L	-Gas / Liquid
gal	-Gallon
GOM	-Gulf of Mexico
H ₂ S	-Hydrogen Sulfide
HI	-High Island
in	-Inch
LSH	-Level Safety High
LSHL	-Level Safety High Low
LSL	-Level Safety Low
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
psi	-Pounds Per Square Inch
PSH	-Pressure Safety High
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
TLWP	-Tension Leg Well 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 the years 1995 and 1996. 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, type, year, and sorted by date.

During 1995-1996, 285 incidents occurred on the OCS (see bar chart in the Appendix, p. A-2). Almost half (129) of these incidents were fires. Most of the fires were minor and resulted in little or no damage and no injuries. Almost one-third of the incidents were injuries, with 88 occurring during 1995-1996. The majority of these injuries were minor. Both the number of fires and number of injuries recorded in TIMS doubled from 1995 to 1996. Part of this increase may be a result of changes in GOM record-keeping requirements that became effective August 1996. Blowouts, explosions, fatalities, pipeline incidents, and incidents in the other categories have also shown some increase from 1995-1996. During 1995-1996, there were 5 blowouts, 8 explosions, 18 fatalities, 11 pipeline events, 8 significant pollution events (≥ 50 bbls), and 7 incidents in the "other" category. There were also 11 collisions with OCS facilities during this period.

Overall, the most frequent cause of incidents in 1995 and 1996 was equipment failure; the second most frequent cause was human error. The majority of these incidents occurred during production operations.

Using the cause determinations from the initial incident reports, the primary cause of fires was equipment failure, the second most frequent was human error. For injuries, the primary cause was human error, the second most frequent was slip/trip/fall, and the third most frequent cause was equipment failure. The primary causes of fatalities were human error and slip/trip/fall. Most fatalities occurred during production operations. The second most common operation was drilling, and the third was well completion and welding operations. Blowouts were mainly a result of equipment failure and human error, occurring primarily during drilling operations and secondly in well completion activities. Explosions mainly occurred during production activities and were primarily caused by equipment failure and human error. Collisions with OCS facilities were caused primarily by human error and equipment failure. Pie charts showing the causes of these incident categories can be found in the Appendix of this report.

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

The MMS mission 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. Looking at the number of fatalities for the past 30 years (see graph in the Appendix, p. A-1), there is an indication that OCS operations are generally safer now than they were in the past. 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.

Due to recent record lease sales in the GOM and the resulting increase in activity, especially in deep-water areas, increased attention has been placed on the performance of operators, including the occurrence of incidents. With the rise in activity, the potential for a major incident increases and the importance of accurate data and analytical techniques also increases.

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

III. ACCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND INVESTIGATION 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.

In 1992, MMS revised a basic internal policy for collecting accident data and conducting accident investigations. Under that policy, MMS must investigate all major accidents, and some minor accidents. 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 MMS implemented a more stringent policy. Since that date, the MMS conducts an onsite investigation for 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. In some cases an accident investigation panel will be formed and a more detailed report will also be prepared. During 1995-1996, over 50 percent of all incidents had a completed Accident Investigation Report.

IV. OCS ACTIVITY 1995-1996

The Federal OCS encompasses about 1.4 billion acres. MMS has divided this area into four regions: Atlantic, Alaska, Gulf of Mexico (GOM), and Pacific (POCS). At the present time, most of the OCS activity is taking place in the GOM and POCS Regions. At the end of 1996, there were over 3,800 production facilities installed in the GOM. As of this same date, 23 production facilities were installed in the POCS. To date, no production facilities have been installed in either the Atlantic or Alaska Regions. Also, during the period of this report (1995-1996), no exploratory drilling operations occurred in the Atlantic Region. During the same period, two wells were spudded in the Alaska Region. No incidents were reported from the Atlantic and Alaska Regions during 1995-1996.

V. SUMMARY OF OCS INCIDENT DATA AND TRENDS 1995-1996

This section briefly summarizes the incident data presented in the body of this report. The graphs referenced in this section can be found in the Appendix.

MMS categorizes types of incidents as blowouts, collisions, explosions, fires, fatalities, injuries, significant pollution incidents (for spillage \geq 50 barrels), pipeline incidents, and other. In some cases, more than one incident type will occur during the same event on a facility. As an example, a fire at a facility may result in injuries to an individual or an explosion may also involve a fire. For the purposes of this report, each incident type is listed separately under the appropriate category and counted separately as one incident.

During 1995-1996, 285 incidents occurred on the OCS (see bar chart in the Appendix, p. A-2). Almost half of these incidents were fires, with 129 occurring during 1995-1996. Most of the fires were minor and resulted in little or no damage and no injuries. Almost one-third of the

incidents were injuries, with 88 occurring during 1995-1996. The majority of these injuries were minor. Both the number of fires and number of injuries recorded in TIMS doubled from 1995 to 1996. Part of this increase may be a result of changes in GOM record-keeping requirements that were effective August 1996. Blowouts, explosions, fatalities, pipeline incidents, and incidents in the other category have also shown some increase between 1995-1996. MMS continues to monitor and analyze these incidents to help focus its regulatory program as needed. During 1995-1996, there were 5 blowouts, 8 explosions, 18 fatalities, 11 pipeline events, 8 significant pollution events (≥ 50 bbls), and 7 incidents in the other category. There were also 11 collisions with OCS facilities during this period.

Although Significant Pollution Incidents (spillage of ≥ 50 barrels) and Collisions with OCS facilities decreased slightly between 1995-1996, MMS continues to monitor these incidents as well. In particular, the MMS is working with the U.S. Coast Guard to determine what can be done to reduce Collision incidents.

The majority of the 1995-1996 incidents occurred during production operations. Overall, the main cause of all incidents in 1995 and 1996 was equipment failure followed by human error. As shown in the report, there are a large number of events caused by human error. Due to the wide scope of the term, MMS is trying to narrow the definition of this cause.

Using the cause determinations from the initial incident reports, the primary cause of fires was equipment failure, followed by human error. For injuries, the primary cause was human error, followed by slip/trip/fall, and then by equipment failure. The primary causes of fatalities were human error and slip/trip/fall. Most fatalities occurred during production operations, followed by drilling, then well completion and welding operations. Blowouts were mainly a result of equipment failure and human error, occurring primarily during drilling operations followed by well completion activities. Explosions mainly occurred during production activities and were primarily caused by equipment failure and human error. Collisions with OCS facilities were caused primarily by human error and equipment failure. Pie charts showing the causes of these incident categories can be found in the Appendix of this report.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Blowouts - 1995

Date:	03-JAN-1995	Operator:	Agip Petroleum Company, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G12901	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	South Marsh	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	250	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Marine XVII	Water Depth:	27'

Remarks: Well #1 broached to the surface after reaching total depth (T.D.) and taking a kick. During the kill operation, a hole developed in the surface casing that allowed the influx to broach around the conductor shoe. The well bridged over within a couple of days with no injuries or pollution.

Blowouts - 1996

Date:	24-JAN-1996	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02327	Event(s):	Blowout / Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Completion
Block:	380	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner 15A	Water Depth:	338'

Remarks: Oryx was in the process of completing the upper sand. The perforating guns were pulled from the well and a packer plug retrieving tool was made up to the bottom of the workstring/tubing. The packer plug was then pulled. A gravel pack assembly and gravel pack screen were then run in the well. Completion fluid started to flow out the top of the workstring/tubing as it was being worked in the well. The crew was not able to connect the top drive unit to the workstring/tubing. The blind rams were closed but the flow out the workstring/tubing did not change. Additional rams and the annular preventer were closed. Gas flowing out the workstring/tubing ignited. Forty-five personnel were evacuated from the rig by two vessels without incident. Within 2 hours after the fire ignited, the top drive fell to the rig floor. Shortly afterwards, the derrick toppled. The fire extinguished itself about midnight on January 28, 1996, and the well was killed on February 7, 1996.

Date:	10-NOV-1996	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	G13885	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Investigation Pending
Block:	216	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	Falcon 17	Water Depth:	123'

Remarks: INVESTIGATION PENDING

Date:	27-NOV-1996	Operator:	Tana Oil and Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	00146	Event(s):	Blowout / Explosion / Fire / Injury(3)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Completion
Block:	58	Cause(s):	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Marine XV	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: On November 27, 1996, at 2105 hours, an explosion occurred with an ensuing fire, all of which was the result of the loss of well control. The crew was nearing the end of its completion procedure for the well. The SCSSV had just been opened to allow a wireline gauge run. After the gauge run, a wireline tool would have been used to open the isolation valve on the dual-sliding sleeve. It had been necessary to use the mud pumps to pressure up on top of the SCSSV to equalize pressure so the SCSSV would open. This pressure was bled off into the mud pit room. Within seconds of opening the valve in the mud pit room, the explosion occurred. The fire continued to burn and the rig was evacuated.

Date:	03-DEC-1996	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05504	Event(s):	Blowout
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	224	Cause:	Loss of Hydrostatic
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Middletown	Water Depth:	129'

Remarks: Upon removal of the grout string, a window was cut in the 20" pipe to facilitate installation of the 13⁵/₈" wellhead. Fluid was observed in the annulus. After waiting on cement for approximately 12 hours, the 20" and 13⁵/₈" casings were cut for wellhead installation. The slip-lock wellhead was then installed with a base plate located between the wellhead and the drive pipe. At approximately 1730 hours on December 3, 1996, while nipping-up a 3-foot riser, an odor was noted by the personnel installing the riser. Within a short period of time, fluid was burping from beneath the base plate. Spray hoses were rigged up and directed at the wellhead. Personnel were mustered in preparation for evacuation. The rig was evacuated via survival craft at approximately 1900 hrs as gas began to flow from beneath the base plate. The well initially flowed gas; however, at first light on the morning of December 4, 1996, the well flow appeared to be predominately saltwater with entrained gas. The well continued to flow until surface flow ceased at 0630 hours on December 6, 1996.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Collisions - 1995

Date:	21-APR-95	Operator:	Texaco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02241	Event(s):	Collision / Pollution (11.9 bbls)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production / Motor Vessel
Block:	643	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	375'

Remarks: A standby boat was offloading a snubbing unit when rough seas and high winds pushed the boat into the platform. This resulted in a ruptured diesel tank.

Date:	28-JUN-95	Operator:	CNG Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03969	Event(s):	Collision / Pollution
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	478	Cause:	Vessel Struck Platform
Rig/Platform:	A (removed)	Water Depth:	123'

Remarks: A ship or barge struck the southeast corner leg of the platform, which may have caused a small underwater leak in the departing pipeline. The aids to navigation were working before and after the accident. A derrick or lay barge may have caused the damage. On June 29, 1995, CNG reported that the pipeline was not leaking and was holding 1000 psi.

Date:	11-JUL-95	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02412	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Other / Preloading Rig
Block:	A317	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	217'

Remarks: A rig was positioned on the NE corner of the platform. The bow leg had been preloaded and preload had been dumped. The port leg had been preloaded to about 50% when the leg penetrated about 8 feet into the soil causing the rig to lean into the platform. There was structural damage to the platform. No spills or injuries occurred.

Date:	21-JUL-95	Operator:	Hall-Houston Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05322	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Other
Block:	421	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	105'

Remarks: A workboat was tied up for the night at the platform, waiting on daylight to begin work. The workboat and the platform were struck by a tug pushing a 180' notch barge. No personnel were injured, and no pollution was observed. The flowline/pipeline and handrails were damaged and will need to be replaced.

Date:	01-SEP-95	Operator:	Texaco Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00310	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	229	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	106	Water Depth:	20'

Remarks: The remote monitoring and control operator located at the platform found that the RTU signal was no longer being received. Personnel were dispatched to the well and found the RTU antenna bent and the fog horn and navigation light toppled from their welded stand. Cable scrape marks were found on the hand rail adjacent to where the fog horn was located. There were no boats tied to the structure, although many shrimp boats were in the vicinity.

Date:	03-OCT-95	Operator:	Meridian Oil Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G14200	Event(s):	Collision / Pollution (89.0 bbls)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling / Motor Vessel
Block:	A371	Cause:	Human Error / Weather
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Gorilla IV	Water Depth:	430'

Remarks: A weather change caused the motor vessel to drift into the port leg of the drilling rig resulting in punctures to the saddle tank of the boat and the release of approximately 3,722 gallons of diesel fuel. Due to rough weather and sea conditions, no attempt was made by the boat company to recover the spilled fuel. There was no damage to the drilling rig, and the boat returned safely to shore.

Collisions - 1996

Date:	07-JUL-96	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00206	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other / Offloading
Block:	39	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	I	Water Depth:	27'

Remarks: Two workers were using a crane to off-load materials onto an unmanned structure. Once off-loading operations were completed, the crane was left parallel to the platform heliport. When the assigned helicopter approached the heliport, the pilot maneuvered the tail boom of the aircraft in a direction towards the crane boom. The aircraft tail rotor blades struck the crane boom and 3 inches of the blade broke off from each end of the tail rotor blades.

Date:	20-SEP-96	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00310	Event(s):	Collision / Explosion / Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	236	Cause:	Boat Collision
Rig/Platform:	#160	Water Depth:	14'

Remarks: A steel hull shrimp trawler collided with a single satellite well resulting in an explosion and fire. All personnel abandoned the vessel and were rescued. All safety devices operated properly and closed off flow from the wells. G/L gas was shut in at the production facility. The fire was extinguished with the fire water system aboard the rescue vessel. The collision and subsequent explosion and fire resulted in severe damage to the satellite well. No injuries or pollution were reported

Date:	29-SEP-96	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07486	Event(s):	Collision / Pollution (104.8 bbls)
Area:	Grand Banks	Operation:	Drilling / Motor Vessel
Block:	388	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Enserch Cooper/A	Water Depth:	2097'

Remarks: A 166-ft workboat was tied up to the facility and came in contact with the CSC-4 column three times before it could be released. The captain reported that he had a hole in his fuel tank and was losing fuel and taking on water. An assistance call was placed to the U.S. Coast Guard. The vessel sustained structural damage along the starboard side and a hole in the diesel fuel day tank. The rig received structural damage to the CSC-4 column. The fuel loss was approximately 4,400 gal.

Date:	14-OCT-96	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07485	Event(s):	Collision / Pollution (23.8 bbls)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Drilling / Motor Vessel
Block:	387	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Voyager	Water Depth:	2081'

Remarks: A 166-ft supply workboat lost air pressure to its vessel controls resulting in loss of maneuverability. The vessel drifted into the floating drilling rig, sustaining a hole in the diesel fuel tank. A total of 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled. The rig sustained a 4x20 inch indentation to a column, which was determined to be cosmetic only.

Date:	06-DEC-96	Operator:	Newfield Exploration Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03577	Event(s):	Collision
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	69	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	#10	Water Depth:	26'

Remarks: A marine vessel struck a caisson at 0400 hours on Dec 6, 1996. Some damage was sustained by the caisson, however, the boat was able to depart the scene under its own power. The caisson was flowing but was shut in after the accident. No pollution occurred.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Explosions - 1996

(There were no explosions in 1995)

Date:	05-JAN-96	Operator:	DelMar Operating, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00437	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	199	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A-QRTS	Water Depth:	101'

Remarks: The platform operator was warming up (idling) the gas compressor engine when the final discharge piping exploded and a small flash fire occurred with the explosion. The flash fire extinguished itself immediately. One operator was near the compressor piping when the explosion occurred, resulting in minor injuries to the eyes and face and ringing in the ears.

Date:	15-FEB-1996	Operator:	TOTAL Minatome Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03135	Event(s):	Explosion / Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	267	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	F	Water Depth:	165'

Remarks: Platform operators were sitting in front of the operator's desk located in the southeast corner of the living quarters at approximately 0530 hours when the giatronic box exploded. It is believed that the explosion occurred due to the ignition of a possible chemical leakage and build-up of hydrogen from a 12Vdc/55AH sealed battery inside the airtight-sealed giatronic box. Following the explosion, the battery, estimated to be approximately 10 pounds in weight, fell from the shattered giatronic box onto an operator's lower back. He and a coworker immediately exited the east doorway of the living quarters following the explosion. Both returned to the area of the explosion within minutes, and an investigation revealed that damage was limited to the giantronic box and no additional fire damage was evident.

Date:	21-MAY-1996	Operator:	PANACO, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	Louisiana State Lease 979	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire / Injury (3)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Storage Tank Cleaning
Block:	54	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	State Lease 979	Water Depth:	9'

Remarks: [NOTE: The accident occurred on State Lease 979, West Delta, Block 54. This facility is located in State waters; however, OCS oil is processed into Tank No.1 giving MMS authority to investigate.] Workers were preparing to clean storage tanks on the platform. Two workers in a tank were handed a, supposedly, secured steam cleaning sprayer nozzle. The explosion occurred when the cleaning unit was started. The safety representative grabbed an extinguisher but the unit failed to discharge chemical into the tank. All personnel were evacuated. Only one fire monitor was activated due to the fire pump malfunctioning. The fire was extinguished using the fire monitor and water spray from the life boat. There were three minor injuries as a result of the accident.

Date:	09-JUL-1996	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01520	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Drilling / Production
Block:	204	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	105'

Remarks: An explosion was heard and smoke was noticed at the generator building. The fire alarm was sounded and the emergency shutdown system was activated. The crew commenced to extinguish the fire with two 150# dry chemical extinguishing units and the fire pump from the platform. A workboat assisted in extinguishing the fire with the fire cannon. The fire was extinguished in approximately 20 minutes. During the investigation, it was determined that the 2" steel flexhose for the gas supply ruptured, flooding the generator building with natural gas. The ignition source appears to have been the engine shut-down panel, which is in close proximity of the hose. When the hose ruptured, it struck the panel and detached the cover and wiring, which probably caused a spark.

Date:	20-SEP-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00130	Event(s):	Explosion / Collision / Fire
Area:	South Marsh	Operation:	Production
Block:	236	Cause:	Boat Collision
Rig/Platform:	160	Water Depth:	21'

Remarks: A 98-ft steel hull shrimp trawler enroute to Grand Chenier collided with the single satellite Well No. 160 resulting in an explosion and fire. All personnel abandoned the vessel and were rescued. All safety devices operated properly and closed off the well stream flow. G/L gas was shut in at the SM 236 A production facility. The collision and subsequent explosion and fire resulted in severe damage to the satellite well, as well as to the shrimp trawler. No injuries or pollution were reported.

Date:	21-SEP-1996	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	G08151	Event(s):	Explosion / Fire / Injury (3)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Investigation Pending
Block:	207	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	207	Water Depth:	53'

Remarks: INVESTIGATION PENDING

Date:	27-NOV-1996	Operator:	Tana Oil and Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	00146	Event(s):	Blowout / Explosion / Fire / Injury(3)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Completion
Block:	58	Cause(s):	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Marine XV	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: An explosion occurred with an ensuing fire, all of which was the result of the loss of well control. The crew was nearing the end of its completion procedure for the well and the SCSSV had just been opened to allow a wireline gauge run. It had been necessary to use the mud pumps to pressure up on top of the SCSSV to equalize the pressure so the SCSSV would open. This pressure was bled off into the mud pit room. Within seconds of opening the valve in the mud pit room, the explosion occurred. The fire continued to burn and the rig was evacuated.

Date:	07-DEC-1996	Operator:	W & T Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04228	Event(s):	Explosion / Fatality (1) / Injury (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	P&A
Block:	133	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Gulf Island IV / #4(Removed)	Water Depth:	37'

Remarks: Residual Gas in flowline or well.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Fires - 1995

Date:	04-JAN-1995	Operator:	British-Borneo Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10605	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	2	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	28'

Remarks: A fire occurred due to a backdraft in the line heater stack and fire box caused by the vibration of an air mixer vent. The fire activated a temperature safety element (TSE) and the platform was shut-in. The fire was fueled by exhausting fuel supply gas in the system upon activation of the TSE. The fire burned itself out after the platform shut-in.

Date:	10-FEB-1995	Operator:	Anadarko Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02754	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	376	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	340'

Remarks: The cause of the fire was a ruptured fuel injection line that sprayed fuel on the exhaust system of the diesel generator. The fire detection system operated as designed, and the fire was extinguished via a Halon discharge. There were no injuries or pollution as a result of this incident.

Date:	13-FEB-1995	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13808	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A379	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	360'

Remarks: A small fire occurred when a hammer union on the fuel gas line to the glycol reboiler developed a leak. The fire was immediately put out by platform personnel with a 30# dry chemical extinguisher. Insulation on the fire tube flange had been loosened to work on the reboiler's ignitor. The union and the insulation on the fire tube flange were tightened to prevent this incident from reoccurring. There were no injuries and no damage.

Date:	21-FEB-1995	Operator:	Coastal Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04213	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Re-piping level controller on HP separator
Block:	289	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	192'

Remarks: Contractors on the platform were in the process of removing a level bridle from the high-pressure separator by using an electric band saw, which was not explosion proof. As the crew cut through the bridle, condensate dropped into the electric motor, resulting in a flash fire. The construction crew used eight (8) 30# dry chemical units and a fire boss unit to extinguish the fire.

Date:	15-MAR-1995	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00205	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (.24 bbls)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other / Returning production after shut-in
Block:	38	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	36'

Remarks: The platform operator was returning the platform to production after a total shut-in. All incoming pipelines were opened to production apparently too fast causing a surge and carryover of oil that had accumulated in the low-pressure separator and carried over to the flare scrubber. Oil that carried over and out the vent boom was blown back onto the platform and came in contact with the compressor turbo charger. The turbo charger temperature was in excess of 900 degrees and a flash fire resulted. An additional 5 to 10 gallons of oil was discharged into the offshore waters as a result of the same carryover through the flare scrubber and out the vent boom.

Date:	15-MAR-1995	Operator:	Mobil Exploration & Producing NA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02393	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A573	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	336'

Remarks: During a thunderstorm, lightning struck the platform and ignited the flare boom. Workers also noticed a fire on the top deck. The fires were extinguished using dry chemical extinguishers and water.

Date:	19-MAR-1995	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01673	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	296	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	220'

Remarks: The muffler on an engine caught fire possibly due to an internal build-up of oil in the engine. The fire lasted approximately 30 seconds and was extinguished using water and a 30# dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	20-MAR-1995	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05504	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	224	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	140'

Remarks: A welder was cutting welds on a small building located on the top deck of the platform. Welding slag fell through the grating to the bottom deck igniting natural gas leaking from a relay in the safety system panel. The fire was immediately extinguished with a portable fire extinguisher. The firewatch remained in the area 30 minutes after cutting operations ceased. Hours later the operators were awakened by a popping sound followed by the platform shut-in alarm. The safety system panel was again on fire. They sounded the fire alarm, extinguished the fire, then repairs were made. The ignition source was unable to be determined.

Date:	14-APR-1995	Operator:	Gulfstream Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00806	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	206	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: The level controller failed to open the dump valve on the heater treater. Oil was carried over the Peco filter, which also failed to operate. The liquid hydrocarbons were carried to the main burner and accumulated in the flame arrestor, which developed a leak and caught fire. The platform was shut-in. The fire lasted 5 minutes and was extinguished with dry chemical.

Date:	18-APR-1995	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02572	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other / Welding Operations
Block:	331	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	215'

Remarks: A welder was removing old angle iron and piping near the chem-electric treater drain pan. The hoses for the oxygen-acetylene cutting torch accidentally opened a 1/2" ball valve on the chem- electric dump line, draining approximately 1 quart of water and oil to the drain pan. Slag from the torch cutting operation ignited the oil. The firewatch immediately extinguished the fire with a 30# dry chemical extinguisher. There was no damage.

Date:	05-MAY-1995	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration & Production Co.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development / Production
Lease:	G12355	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover / Welding Operations
Block:	198	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	J-Drill	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: A welder was welding the living quarter's stairway. Slag from the welding operations entered the master panel through a partially opened door on the back of the panel. A faulty latch assembly was the cause of the door being partially opened. The hot slag from the welding operation melted the poly-flo tubing inside the master panel and ignited the gas released from the tubing.

Date:	09-MAY-1995	Operator:	Mobil Producing TX & NM, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02721	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A595	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	395'

Remarks: A heater was being brought on line. The expansion joint had oil in it that ignited when it came into contact with hot exhaust gases. The fire was put out and there was no damage.

Date:	17-MAY-1995	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02061	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	321	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	220'

Remarks: A contractor representative informed the company electrician that he observed an electrical wire arcing over the floatation cell. The electrician turned off the corresponding circuit breaker. In the act of confirming that the power was off, the wiring arced and caused a small flash fire lasting for a period of 2 to 3 seconds. No injuries or property damage occurred.

Date:	29-MAY-1995	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13608	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	50	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Glomar High Island VIII	Water Depth:	102'

Remarks: The oil lubrication line for the turbo-charger came apart from the brazed flange on top of the turbo-charger. This in turn caused lube oil to be sprayed onto the turbo-charger. The temperature of the turbo-charger was sufficient to ignite the oil spray. The motorman and derrickman saw the top of the turbo-charger smoldering and used portable fire extinguishers to extinguish the fire.

Date:	01-JUN-1995	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09478	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Workover / Torch cutting operation
Block:	332	Cause:	Inadequate equipment design
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Flash gas was being continuously vented through thief hatches of oil tanks. Some of the gas collected under the solid top deck and migrated through the decking and ignited from a welder's cutting torch. Ignition caused a flash fire.

Date:	09-JUN-1995	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02061	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	321	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	220'

Remarks: A mechanic was in the process of changing the crane diesel fuel filters. The mechanic set a 2.5 gallon container of diesel fuel down near the crane engine. The mechanic proceeded to locate tools in the mechanic shop and upon returning, realized that the container had spilled over onto the No.3 compressor exhaust located on a lower deck. The fire was extinguished immediately with the fire water system.

Date:	10-JUN-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02316	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	288	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	1-CA	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: Saturated triethylene glycol boiled over and out of the glycol reboiler and seeped between the insulation blanket and the hot external shell of the glycol reboiler. Platform operators immediately used two 30# fire extinguishers to control the fire. Fire water was used to cool the external area of fire tube where the incident occurred.

Date:	26-JUN-1995	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05359	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	60	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: A small smoldering fire occurred in the diesel generator exhaust insulation and muffler. A worker smelled something burning as he walked past the diesel generator. Investigation revealed that the insulation blanket material for the diesel generator's muffler was on fire. Unburned diesel fuel had accumulated in the insulation blanket of the diesel generator exhaust and was ignited by the exhaust muffler.

Date:	26-JUN-1995	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corp.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00787	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Other / Welding Operations
Block:	49	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	98'

Remarks: A welder was measuring pipe, which he was planning to cut later with a torch, when he heard a small explosion and turned to see the bottom of an acetylene bottle burning. He notified the platform production personnel of the situation and assisted in fighting the fire.

Date:	29-JUN-1995	Operator:	Zikha Energy Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10638	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	328	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	243'

Remarks: A lightning strike caused a malfunction in the system 3 alarm panel and No. 1 generator resulting in a small fire, which was extinguished by the platform operator.

Date:	04-JUL-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01196	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	61	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Noble John Sandifer	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: A smoldering fire occurred between the generator control panel and the No.2 generator located on the drilling rig. Wires leading to the No.2 generator panel became overheated due to loose connections. Overheating of the wires melted the insulation and caused smoke to accumulate on the SCR and engine room. The fire alarm sounded and the fire team responded. The generator was shut down, eliminating the overheating source, and the fire team confirmed that there were no additional ignition sources.

Date:	16-JUL-1995	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02412	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A317	Cause:	Unknown
Rig/Platform:	A Ensco 98	Water Depth:	217'

Remarks: Smoke was observed coming out of the end of the diesel powered generator. The unit was not running at the time. Water was applied to the unit to cool off the diesel tank. The side covers on the unit were removed to allow access to the interior of the unit for better cooling and extinguishing of the fire. CO₂ and dry chemical extinguishers were utilized in putting the fire out. There was no damage to the rig, but the platform was shut in at the time of the fire.

Date:	19-JUL-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02076	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other - Sandblasting / Painting
Block:	214	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	127'

Remarks: A fire occurred inside the exhaust chamber of the No.1 turbine generator. A worker observed the fire coming out of the exhaust chamber of the No.1 turbine generator when he entered the compressor-generator building to check the compressor temperature. He called for assistance and a 30# extinguisher. Personnel were alerted and the platform was shut in with the ESD system. The fire was fought for 50 minutes before it was extinguished. The fire was being fueled by a leaking rear bearing lube oil supply line.

Date:	25-AUG-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02050	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Other - Preparing to sandblast platform
Block:	281	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	175'

Remarks: A small smoldering fire occurred on the generator exhaust system located on the platform. A service company was preparing to sandblast the platform, and canvas tarps had been hung to protect production equipment and generators from the sand. A storm front passed through the area, and sections of the canvas tarps were blown onto the generator exhaust system. The exhaust system and heat caused the tarps to ignite. The platform was shut in by the ESD system and the fire was extinguished.

Date:	05-SEP-1995	Operator:	Forest Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03393	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	102	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: Personnel were attempting to light the reboiler vessel. Due to consistent west wind conditions, personnel could not light the rag that was to be used to ignite the burner. Personnel then proceeded to the east side of the platform and lit the rag; and, as they were walking past the production panel toward the reboiler, bleeding gas from the panel ignited. Personnel unlatched the panel door and a 30# dry chemical fire extinguisher was used to extinguish the fire.

Date:	07-SEP-1995	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04704	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Other - welding
Block:	696	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	77'

Remarks: A welder had just completed a weld on an out of service deluge system pipe support when his welding rod holder touched the $\frac{3}{8}$ " SS line, arc'd, and caused a flash fire. The fire went out on its own.

Date:	08-SEP-1995	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01523	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	207	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: A worker responded to an alarm on the compressor platform. Upon arrival, the worker heard a blowing sound. The gas detector had tripped. Upon investigation, he found gas blowing from the No. 6 cylinder on the TVS compressor. The gas ignited giving the worker first degree burns on his hands, ears, and face. The emergency shut-down device was tripped to shut down all operations. The fire alarm was activated. The main fire was extinguished within 5 minutes with dry chemical, CO₂, and water. Smaller fires were extinguished and the area secured within 45 minutes.

Date:	12-Sep-1995	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09500	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Completion
Block:	200	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	110'

Remarks: A small fire occurred at the manifold and exhaust piping for the compressor located on the platform. The engine crankcase oil entered the intake manifold, went through the engine cylinders, and out the cylinder exhaust. Oil escaped at a loose joint in the exhaust piping elbow and expansion joint and was ignited. The flames were not more than an inch high and were extinguished with a 30# hand held dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	20-OCT-1995	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exp. & Prod. SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01366	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Other - welding
Block:	92	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: A small fire occurred when slag from a welder's torch fell onto a 1/2" stainless steel line. The slag burned a hole in the 1/2" line which ignited the gas in the line. The fire was immediately extinguished using a 30# hand held dry chemical extinguisher. The supply to this line was closed, therefore, the only damage was to the line itself. There were no injuries.

Date:	05-NOV-1995	Operator:	Midcon Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02885	Event(s):	Fire / Injury(1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Other - Welding
Block:	141	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	247'

Remarks: A flash fire occurred on the test separator while rusted bolts were being removed on the condensate/oil discharge line. A welder's cutting torch was being used to remove the bolts when trapped condensate was released causing a flash fire. The cutting operator suffered 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns. All operations were immediately shut down, and first aid was administered to the injured operator.

Date:	09-NOV-1995	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02951	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	151	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	174'

Remarks: The night production operator noticed a pipeline pump engulfed in flames, which were spreading into the wellbay. The TSE located above the pump burned out and activated the ESD system. The general alarm was sounded to alert all personnel. The firefighting deluge system was activated by the ESD. After about 5 minutes the fire was extinguished using the fire pump water and a 30# extinguisher.

Date:	12-NOV-1995	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02278	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other - Welding
Block:	386	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	324'

Remarks: A small fire occurred while modifications were being made to the sump tank. The work area was inspected and sniffed for gas leaks before work was started. The top of the sump tank and the pump suction pipe were removed and laid over piping directly above the flowline 1/2" bleed line open end. Hot slag fell near this opened end and ignited a small gas leak. The firewatch extinguished the small fire with a 30# extinguisher. There were no injuries, damage, or pollution.

Date:	22-NOV-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development / Production
Lease:	G01146	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Other - Welding
Block:	245	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	124'

Remarks: Piping removal was being done with torches at a location upwind and adjacent to acetylene bottles. During a break, the torches were placed on the deck in the burning area and on top of the acetylene bottles. After the break, the construction crew observed fire coming from the top of one of the bottles, and then they began exploding. The fire was repeatedly extinguished with dry chemicals but reignited. The fire was extinguished by lowering the bottle rack into the Gulf with a crane.

Date:	27-NOV-1995	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00129	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	41	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	90'

Remarks: A fire occurred as a construction worker was installing a high-pressure separator, and welder's slag ignited a leaking flange. This was quickly extinguished using a 30# dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	01-DEC-1995	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01294	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	62	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A(Row)	Water Depth:	340'

Remarks: A fire occurred when crude oil contaminated fuel gas ignited in the exhaust muffler. This was quickly extinguished using a 30# dry chemical extinguisher. There was no property damage.

Date:	02-DEC-1995	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00128	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	40	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	F	Water Depth:	86'

Remarks: A fire occurred when the main control feed valve failed spraying gas near hot exhaust from the compressor engine. The fire was quickly extinguished using a 30# dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	13-DEC-1995	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01034	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	266	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	180'

Remarks: A fire occurred on the platform when a hole developed in the prover loop, spraying oil onto the pipeline shipping pump, which ignited. The platform shutdown system activated immediately and the fire was extinguished with dry chemical and firewater. Some production equipment was damaged.

Date:	17-DEC-1995	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02388	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A563	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	305'

Remarks: A fire occurred when a pin hole developed in a collar of the LSH on the glycol reboiler. The glycol unit was shut down and the fire was extinguished with water. The glycol unit remained out of service pending an inspection by a service technician. There were no injuries or pollution, and damage was restricted to a small amount of insulation.

Date:	20-DEC-1995	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01146	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	245	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	124'

Remarks: Gas escaped from a cracked PSV on the high-pressure discharge cylinder upstream of the cooler and ignited. The fire was extinguished using chemical extinguishers and potable water.

Date:	25-DEC-1995	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02937	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	109	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	184'

Remarks: A fire occurred when a day tank overfilled causing diesel to spill over onto the VRU compressor. The fire was quickly extinguished using water and dry chemical.

Date:	30-DEC-1995	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02719	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A582	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	327'

Remarks: A fire occurred on the shell of the glycol reboiler. The reboiler had just been placed back into service following repair of a hole at the base of the still column. It is believed that distillate from the hole was present and soaked into the insulation. When the temperature of the reboiler was elevated, the condensate ignited. Insulation was replaced and the unit put back in service. No injuries or pollution occurred, and damage was restricted to a small amount of insulation.

Fires - 1996

Date:	02-JAN-96	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07486	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (2.0 bbls)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	388	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Weather
Rig/Platform:	Enserch Cooper / A (Cooper)	Water Depth:	2097'

Remarks: While tripping the drill string out of the hole, the block motion compensator fluid fill hose snagged on the traveling block guide rail and parted the fluid fill hose, two air hoses, and the control line for the Olmsted valves on the motion compensator. Approximately two barrels of fluid were released from the hose. The wind sprayed fluid onto the flash gas compressor exhaust system and manifold piping in two uninsulated surfaces resulting in ignition and a flash fire. The drill floor was secured, and production was shut in by manual activation of the ESD system. The fire was extinguished within minutes, and no injuries resulted from this incident.

Date:	03-JAN-1996	Operator:	Entre Energy Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05740	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Chandeleur	Operation:	Production
Block:	29	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: A fire occurred when glycol from the glycol reboiler leaked onto the insulation. The fire was extinguished using a 30# dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	05-JAN-1996	Operator:	DelMar Operating, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00437	Event(s):	Fire / Injury(1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	199	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A-QRTS	Water Depth:	101'

Remarks: The platform operator was warming up (idling) the gas compressor engine when the final discharge piping exploded causing a small flash fire. The flash fire extinguished itself immediately. One operator was passing near the compressor piping when the explosion occurred, resulting in minor injuries to his eyes and face and ringing in the ears.

Date:	11-JAN-1996	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00175	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	43	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	AA-QRTS AQ#1	Water Depth:	110'

Remarks: A fire occurred when glycol soaked insulation began to smolder. The insulation became soaked due to a leaking flange on the glycol reboiler. The small flame was extinguished using a 30# dry chemical extinguisher.

Date:	18-JAN-1996	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04268	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	648	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	395'

Remarks: The oil line on a diesel generator broke, and motor oil blew onto the exhaust pipe. The fire was extinguished with a handheld extinguisher. There was no damage.

Date:	24-JAN-1996	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02327	Event(s):	Fire / Blowout
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Completion
Block:	380	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner 15A	Water Depth:	338'

Remarks: Oryx was in the process of completing the upper sand. The perforating guns were pulled from the well and a packer plug retrieving tool was made up to the bottom of the workstring/tubing. The packer plug was then pulled. A gravel pack assembly and gravel pack screen were then run in the well. Completion fluid started to flow out the top of the workstring/tubing as it was being worked in the well. The crew was not able to connect the top drive unit to the workstring/tubing. The blind rams were closed but the flow out the workstring/tubing did not change. Additional rams and the annular preventer were closed. Gas flowing out the workstring/tubing ignited. Forty-five personnel were evacuated from the rig by two vessels without incident. Within 2 hours after the fire ignited, the top drive fell to the rig floor. Shortly afterwards, the derrick toppled. The fire extinguished itself about midnight on January 28, 1996, and the well was killed on February 7, 1996.

Date:	27-JAN-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01146	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	245	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	124'

Remarks: An operations specialist observed a small flame on No. 1 generator exhaust and manually activated the ESD system to shut in the platform. The fire was extinguished using carbon dioxide extinguishers. No injuries or pollution resulted from this incident. The activated ESD system operated properly and shut in the platform. Cracks in the exhaust piping and flanges resulted in an exhaust residue build-up between the generator exhaust piping and the generator insulation blanket.

Date:	04-FEB-1996	Operator:	Phillips Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02372	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (.7 bbls)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	489	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: Upset in the flare scrubber resulted in oil being spilled onto a compressor and starting a fire. The fire was put out quickly.

Date:	02-MAR-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02388	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A563	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	305'

Remarks: An investigation team was inspecting a compressor, which they shut down and closed the suction and discharge manual block valves. There was a slight amount of gas escaping through the valves, which ignited causing a flash fire. The ESD was initiated and a 125# dry chemical unit was used to extinguish the fire.

Date:	04-MAR-1996	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03091	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	632	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 90 / A	Water Depth:	69'

Remarks: The #1 generator was being put back in service when the generator panel shorted out, resulting in a fire. The fire was quickly extinguished using a 20# CO₂ extinguisher. Fire damages include replacement of the generator and associated wiring.

Date:	08-MAR-1996	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03289	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	57	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	JB	Water Depth:	52'

Remarks: A pipeline riser rupture and flash fire occurred on the 6-in departing bulk gas pipeline. Analysis of the pipe determined that the failure was due to tensile overload consistent with creep failure. Failure was due to gradual thinning of the pipe wall from corrosion due to breaches in the pipe coating. Fire damage was limited to a charred floatation life ring and a charred section of the CLX electrical cable. The PSL sensor actuated and isolated the JB-3 well and shut off flow.

Date:	11-MAR-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04131	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (.3 bbls)
Area:	GC	Operation:	Production
Block:	19	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: The Glycol contactor, which dumps to the glycol still column, received oil from the gas outlet of the high-pressure separator. The oil in the still column went out the vent, which is located above No. 1 and No. 2 generator exhaust, the probable ignition sources. The fire tripped the platform fusible plug system, shutting in all production and closing all pipeline shut-down valves. The fusible plug system shut-in the generator, therefore, the electrically powered firewater system would not work. The fire was extinguished using dry chemical.

Date:	09-APR-1996	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00128	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Other - Production
Block:	70	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	130'

Remarks: The operator was removing the orifice plate when gas from the meter migrated into the insulation of the compressor engine exhaust. The gas ignited blistering paint on the piping and engine.

Date:	11-APR-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02384	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A555	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	260'

Remarks: Flames 3-4' high were discovered coming from the glycol regenerator filler cap area. After closing the fuel valve to the firetube burner, the fire was fully extinguished after a few reflashes. The platform was shut in, and the insulation around the filler cap area was cooled with water. There was no significant damage.

Date:	11-APR-1996	Operator:	Phillips Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02421	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	330	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	265'

Remarks: During a platform check, a 2-ft flame emitting from the Glycol reboiler was observed. The reboiler and the platform were shut in and the alarm was sounded. A hand-held 30# fire extinguisher was used to extinguish the flames, and fire water was utilized to cool down the unit. The reboiler had previously been shut down for repairs and repiping. The unit was then placed back into operation. An investigation revealed that the insulation was saturated with condensate, apparently when the release valve activated.

Date:	13-APR-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02388	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A 563	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Fort Worth / B	Water Depth:	305'

Remarks: The fire was a result of oil-based mud spurting out of the stand pipe and falling on the compressor exhaust pipe and momentarily igniting. It seems the hole caved in and when the rig crew removed the swivel from the stand pipe, the oil-based mud spurting out. The fire was a momentary flash, which extinguished itself. The swivel was immediately put back on the stand pipe. There was no pollution, no injuries, and no damage as a result of the incident.

Date:	23-APR-1996	Operator:	OXY USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02888	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh	Operation:	Production
Block:	174	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	317'

Remarks: During lube oil fill operations of the low-pressure gas compressor day tank, the platform mechanic became involved in other activities and left the fill pump running unattended. The tank overflowed allowing lube oil spray to come in contact with the compressor exhaust system, resulting in a fire. The fire was immediately extinguished with an insulated blanket leaving little damage.

Date:	30-APR-1996	Operator:	NCX Company, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02724	Event(s):	Fire / Fatality (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Other - Welding
Block:	A 270	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	164'

Remarks: Slag and sparks were falling as a result of welders cutting and replacing the grating on the sump deck. The gas powered wash-down pump was turned on to wet the tarps over the sump tank. The wash-down pump stroked several times fast, venting gas, which was ignited from the slag and sparks. Trying to get a better view of the fire, the welding supervisor stepped through the open hole in the grating, fell 30-ft, hit the handrail, and fell into the Gulf waters. The structure was shut-in by activating the ESD Station. The fire was quickly extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher. The welding supervisor suffered fatal internal injuries.

Date:	21-SEP-1996	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	G08151	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion / Injury (3)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Investigation Pending
Block:	207	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	207	Water Depth:	53'

Remarks: INVESTIGATION PENDING.

Date:	30-SEP-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00974	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	278	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	177'

Remarks: The platform operator switched from the No. 2 generator to the No. 1 generator. A loud knock began in the No. 1 generator engine about 2 minutes after the switch. Before the engine could be shut down, the connecting rod on the No. 4 cylinder broke through the engine resulting in the loss of crankcase oil and then ignition. The fire was immediately extinguished with one 30# chemical unit. There were no injuries or pollution reported or observed.

Date:	30-SEP-1996	Operator:	SONAT Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02038	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Workover / Cutting Tank
Block:	231	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: The wireline operator was in the process of swabbing fluid (water and condensate) into a swab tank through a 2-in flexible rubber/plastic hose that was placed in the open hatch and secured with rope. The platform operator was monitoring fluid returns; and, as he opened the swab tank hatch, a flash fire occurred. The operator's shirt caught fire, and he ran from the swab tank, which remained on fire. Another platform operator extinguished the swab tank fire using two 20# chemical extinguishers. The injured operator sustained serious burns to his face, head, neck, and hands. He was treated onsite with burn packs and brought to the hospital.

Date:	02-OCT-1996	Operator:	Conoco Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00839	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	94	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	G	Water Depth:	153'

Remarks: When the compressor was started, the gas- operated prelub pump flashed. The length of the fire was 10 seconds.

Date:	03-OCT-1996	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00392	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (trace)
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	37	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	R	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: Crude oil was being flushed from the glycol unit when a needle valve was left open spraying oil onto the exhaust of the compressor below. The length of the fire was 1 minute.

Date:	03-OCT-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00392	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Production
Block:	37	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Y	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: Waterflood system shut down causing the source well bypass valve to open. Water, which contained gas, was diverted overboard. The hot slag from welding ignited gas at the water's surface. This fire lasted 15 seconds.

Date:	05-OCT-1996	Operator:	Mobil Exploration & Producing NA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02947	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	73	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	141'

Remarks: A Glycol reboiler caught on fire when the glycol seeped into the holes in the tin that covers the insulation. The length of the fire was 2 minutes.

Date:	11-OCT-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02388	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 563	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	305'

Remarks: A small fire developed on the #3 compressor turbo-charger which was immediately shut in. The fire was minimal, encompassing only a small section of the insulation blanket. It's suspected the turbo gasket/seal leaked oil and saturated the insulation blanket, which ignited. The Production Specialist extinguished the fire with a 30# extinguisher. The duration was less than 5 minutes.

Date:	18-OCT-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00385	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	29	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: Compressor fire

Date:	19-OCT-1996	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05754	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mobile	Operation:	Production
Block:	917	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	52'

Remarks: While conducting operations, an ice plug was blown from the flowline. The ice plug hit an electric wire on the choke and arc'd resulting in a small flash fire.

Date:	20-OCT-1996	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02353	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	110	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: A small electrical fire occurred on the production platform generator. The preliminary investigation indicates the main leads coming off the generator vibrated against the air filter housing causing an arc and small fire. Apparently, the fire burned itself out and scorched only the area next to the main leads and the air filter housing. The heat caused the fusible plug in the generator room to actuate an ESD that shut-in the facility. The generator sustained damage while the engine did not.

Date:	29-OCT-1996	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13808	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 379	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	360'

Remarks: A short circuit was caused while attempting to connect test clips across the fuse holder. The test clip ends being large and wide opening shorted together or separately across phases.

Date:	11-NOV-1996	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02393	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 573	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	336'

Remarks: A fire occurred on the cellar deck SW corner at Generator #1 exhaust system, inside and outside the generator room. Internal fire was caused by excessive lube oil in the Generator #1 engine, resulting in lube oil overflowing onto the engine exhaust system. The seals on the exhaust expansion joints are not designed to seal for liquids, resulting in the lube oil coming in contact with the external part of the exhaust system and starting an external fire.

Date:	14-NOV-1996	Operator:	OXY USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03011	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 16	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	273'

Remarks: Smoke was noted coming from the water heater electric box (thermostat control) located inside the living quarters. Upon removal of the cover of the electric box, a small fire was noted. The fire was extinguished with a hand-held fire extinguisher, and the circuit breaker was manually tripped. Damage was estimated at less than \$500.

Date:	19-NOV-1996	Operator:	Marathon Oil Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G13084	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Ewing Bank	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	963	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	51505 Diamond Lexington	Water Depth:	1758'

Remarks: Smoke was observed coming from the motor room vent. The fire team responded to the scene of the fire. The fire team was unable to see due to dense smoke in the motor room, therefore, the rotation of the exhaust fans was reversed, and the smoke cleared. The fire was confined to #3 rig air compressor and was extinguished with a hand-held CO₂ extinguisher.

Date:	26-NOV-1996	Operator:	Texaco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02937	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	109	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	184'

Remarks: A crank case breather filter on the compressor caught fire when two compressors went down. The exertion of pressure on one of the compressors caused it to catch fire. The fire extinguished itself.

Date:	26-NOV-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00983	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	252	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	28541Diamond Ocean Crusade	Water Depth:	148'

Remarks: The rig experienced a power loss. Fire was discovered on engine #3. The fire teams were alerted, within 45 seconds, and they were on location to relieve the motorman on the scene. The fire was extinguished in approximately 2 minutes. This all occurred in a 4 minute time span. Generator 2G1 and the draw works motors had flashed over, Generator 3G1 was completely burnt.

Date:	27-NOV-1996	Operator:	Tana Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	00146	Event(s):	Fire / Explosion / Blowout / Injury (3)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Completion
Block:	58	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	90913 Marine XV	Water Depth:	48'

Remarks: Prior to going into well #4 with a wireline gauging tool, it was necessary to pressure up to 2,600 psi to open the SSSV. After the SSSV was open, the pressure was bled down into the mud pit room resulting in an explosion. The SSSV was not closed, thereby allowing the continuous feeding of the fire. The platform was evacuated and 11 personnel were treated for injuries with 3 requiring hospitalization. A fire boat extinguished the fire on 28 Nov 1996 at 1420 hours. The rig was boarded and the SSSV was closed at 1600 hours.

Date:	02-DEC-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00386	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Workover
Block:	23	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	44'

Remarks: An employee singed his hair when an unknown gas flashed because of the cutting torch he was using on a 36" flare stack piling. The employee was then taken to the hospital.

Date:	05-DEC-1996	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02947	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	73	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	141'

Remarks: The No. 2 generator fuel valve failed sending fuel through the exhaust pipe that ignited due to heat. The valve was shut off, and water was sprayed on the exhaust pipe. The only damage was to the exhaust pipe.

Date:	06-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01294	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	62	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	340'

Remarks: A stainless steel line (3/8") broke on the compressor oil pump and sprayed engine oil on the exhaust manifold. The platform was shut down, and the fire was put out with fire extinguishers. No damage.

Date:	10-DEC-1996	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04940	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	18	Cause:	Design Error
Rig/Platform:	A H&P 106	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: Fire originated on south end cellar deck. The fire pump skid consists of 500-gal diesel day storage tank located adjacent to the pump's diesel engine. The exhaust pipe from the pump engine extends over the fuel tank at a level below the top of the tank's overflow vent. Fuel tank overflowed through vent line while refueling. Diesel fuel sprayed onto the insulated engine exhaust; and, through joints in the insulation, the fuel contacted the engine exhaust (600-700 degrees Fahrenheit). The fire was extinguished within 40 minutes by personnel on the platform.

Date:	10-DEC-1996	Operator:	Callon Petroleum
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06842	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Chandeleur Area	Operation:	Production
Block:	40	Cause:	Packing Items Covered
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	108'

Remarks: Wooden blocks on the new compressor caught fire resulting in a 2" flame for 2 minutes. Fire was extinguished with water.

Date:	11-DEC-1996	Operator:	Cockrell Oil Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08756	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	187	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	155'

Remarks: Saltwater was used to put fire out.

Date:	11-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00842	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	105	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	E	Water Depth:	237'

Remarks: A contract employee was attempting to light the glycol reboiler. The electrical ignitor was faulty. Employee tied a rag onto a piece of stainless tubing and tried to light it. However, the wind kept blowing so he moved behind instrument panel and opened the doors to light rag. This sparked the gas in the panel resulting in 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face and hands. No damage to panel.

Date:	15-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G05646	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	295	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Pool 18 / A	Water Depth:	282'

Remarks: An oil line on the rig generator broke. The oil line was replaced, and the area was cleaned up. Hours later, the generator was restarted, and the test was run. The exhaust insulation at the turbo charger on the generator caught fire. The fire was extinguished, the generator shut down, the insulation removed, dried out, and reinstalled. The generator was restarted again and observed for several hours before a small flame was observed. The fire was extinguished, and the insulation was removed, and new insulation was installed. [NOTE: The first fire was detected on December 15, 1996, at 2045, followed by the second fire, which occurred on December 16, 1996, at 2215.]

Date:	16-DEC-1996	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14103	Event(s):	Fire / Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	759	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	154'

Remarks: The operator was in the process of lighting the pilot in the reboiler. There was a back flash out of the tube after supplying fuel. The workman sustained burns to the front of his head and was taken to the hospital for treatment and then released.

Date:	16-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12981	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	296	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	93151 Pool 18	Water Depth:	288'

Remarks: The platform was having generator problems so they took the exhaust strap off and cleaned it. The compressor ran for 10 hours and then began smoldering. In taking the strap off, there was a flame that lasted 1 minute. It was put out with a fire extinguisher, and there was no monetary loss. They will replace all engine exhaust insulation.

Date:	18-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02280	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	130	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	216'

Remarks: The Cold Start Air-Compressor Unit (CSACU) is a Model XHP-750-S-GM, Ingersoll-Rand two stage air compressor directly coupled to a Detroit Diesel V-71 engine prime mover. Temporary air supply was provided to platform controller devices during initial start-up situations when electrical power generation is not available to run electrical driven air compressors. Before the fire incident, the CSACU was in operation due to failure of a gas turbine powered electrical generator. The unit was in operation for approximately 30 minutes when Shell personnel discovered it was on fire. The fire was then extinguished after an estimated burn time of 4 to 5 minutes. The fire was apparently intense but localized. When the MMS investigation was performed, the CSACU unit had been disconnected from the platform piping and was awaiting transportation for repairs and further evaluation. There were no injuries or pollution.

Date:	19-DEC-1996	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05754	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Mobile	Operation:	Production
Block:	917	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	52'

Remarks: The crane mechanic on the platform intercomed upstairs saying he smelled smoke coming from the MCC room. Two workmen observed the #2 potable water pump breaker trip, then discovered a small fire when they opened the door to the MCC room. The workmen grabbed a fire extinguisher and sprayed a small amount on the fire, extinguishing it. There were no injuries reported.

Date:	19-DEC-1996	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06044	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	638	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	96'

Remarks: An ice plug blew out of a flowline hitting an electric wire on the choke, starting a small flash fire.

Date:	21-DEC-1996	Operator:	Conoco, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04518	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Production
Block:	184	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	1760'

Remarks: Operator noticed smoke coming from the turbine generator exhaust at the dock penetration level on the top deck of the TLWP. Upon investigation, it was discovered that the sight glass on a glycol bulk tank near by had been pushed over by high winds, allowing glycol to escape. The sight glass was approximately 4 feet long, and the top was not secured. Glycol was being blown onto the turbine exhaust and seeped under the insulation. Excessive smoke and a small flame were detected and extinguished. The insulation on the exhaust was rinsed with water after the unit was shut in. In order to prevent recurrence, the top of the sight glass was secured.

Date:	24-DEC-1996	Operator:	Chevron USA, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02940	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	57	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	194'

Remarks: Cigarette butts in trash can in the SCADA room. This room is not designated as a smoking area.

Date:	25-DEC-1996	Operator:	Energy Resource Technology, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01471	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	177	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	3	Water Depth:	51'

Remarks: A 1-second flash fire occurred when a gas-powered starter was engaged on an oil pipeline pump. There were no injuries or damage to equipment. The platform and well were shut in and have remained so until an approval was attained for resumption of production. The probable cause was attributed to blown seals on the gas starter due to a failed instrument gas regulator. The operator replaced and field tested a new regulator, spark plug, and wires on the pump engine.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Fatalities - 1995

Date:	19-JAN-95	Operator:	Pogo Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12088	Event(s):	Fatality (1) / Injury(1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Completion
Block:	123	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Glomar High Island II	Water Depth:	153'

Remarks: Floorhands were pulling 1-in wash pipe up to ~60' when the top piece of wash pipe caught on Top-Drive of rig. Three floorhands tried to free wash pipe. The T-bar clamp slipped off the pipe. The wash pipe fell back into the hole, striking one floorhand in the hip, and the other on the forehead on the way down. The floorhand that was hit in the hip was evacuated to the hospital for treatment, whereas the second floorhand was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

Date:	16-JUN-95	Operator:	Houston Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08640	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	82	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 51	Water Depth:	56'

Remarks: Rig personnel were in the process of removing tie ropes for mooring supply-work boats from the legs of the rig. The crane operator lowered a worker by the port crane between the leg and rig hull, down to the bottom of the leg so that he could disconnect the mooring ropes. The D-ring slipped past the safety latch and off of the crane fast line ball hook. The worker was observed falling into the Gulf waters wearing a workvest life jacket and a safety riding belt. All operations were shut down and a search was launched. The body was found still attached to the riding cable.

Date:	12-AUG-95	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01614	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	70	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	264'

Remarks: While replacing grating on the sump tank deck, the construction personnel removed a section of grating on the well bay deck level to lower the new section of grating to the sump tank deck level. A production hand carrying a small box was hurrying to answer a phone call when he fell through the hole striking a pole on the lower deck and then falling to the +12 boat dock level. The production hand was flown to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Date:	24-AUG-95	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc
Investigation:	Panel formed / Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00374	Event(s):	Fatality (2)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	41	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	51'

Remarks: Two Chevron operators attended the daily morning meeting with other Chevron operations personnel on Platform M, Main Pass Block 42. Following the meeting, one of the operators, henceforth referred to as Operator 2, departed Platform D of the L-D-M complex by boat for Platform B. The other operator, henceforth referred to as Operator 1, after further discussions and meetings regarding the blowing-down of a 16-inch pipeline from Platform B to Platform L, departed Platform M with two contractors by helicopter for Platform B. Approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes after having arrived on Platform B, Operator 1 approached one of the contractors who was working on a valve and told him to use his ear plugs because the blowing-down of the 16-inch gas pipeline would soon begin. The operator then left the contractor's work area. Very soon thereafter, the contractor heard a loud noise and went to the 16-inch pipeline pig launcher area. There he observed that both Operators 1 and 2 had been injured. Chevron operations personnel on Platform M were then notified. As a result of the notification, Chevron operations personnel and paramedics flew immediately to the scene. The paramedics communicated by phone with a physician who advised that the operators should be considered fatalities. The bodies were flown to Port Sulphur Hospital. The operators blew down the pipeline and secured the accident area for investigative purposes. A Chevron safety specialist arrived on the scene at 1400 hours. Two MMS inspectors arrived at approximately 1445 hours.

Date:	25-NOV-95	Operator:	Forcenergy Gas Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01177	Event(s):	Fatality (1)/Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	6	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	65'

Remarks: While tightening bolts on the flare line flange on the +10 level near the platform leg, an 18# piece of angle iron fell from a position above two workers (operator and roustabout), striking one. The operator, who suffered a fractured skull was knocked into the Gulf. The roustabout, who suffered a fractured right hand and cuts on his right forearm, attempted to assist his coworker until help could arrive. The operator was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

Date:	27-NOV-95	Operator:	Vastar Resources, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10152	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	806	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Marine XVI	Water Depth:	172'

Remarks: A driller was working on the rig floor when the portable top drive disengaged from the kelly swivel, falling, and hitting him in the head. The impact killed him instantly. The body was taken to the medical center by helicopter.

Date:	09-DEC-95	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05475	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	205	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	442'

Remarks: A contract employee was removing scaffolding from the subcellar deck of the platform with a cutting torch. An employee had finished removing a piece of angle iron when he asked a coworker, who was working on top side of the deck at the time. He was standing on a 2" pipe and was holding onto the handrails. He then fell approximately 46' into 10-12' seas. The body was not recovered.

Fatalities - 1996

Date:	21-FEB-96	Operator:	Coastal Oil and Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08418	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	189	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Cliff Drilling 152	Water Depth:	93'

Remarks: Three rig personnel were attaching BeBe winch cables to the BOP stack. They were working from an elevated work platform (commonly called the Texas deck), which had been positioned around the BOP stack approximately 40 feet above the A platform well deck. A 2"x12"x16' scaffold board was installed across the Texas deck. The scaffold board broke into three pieces under the combined weight and activities of the three personnel. Two men were able to hold onto existing piping and the BOP stack (one was wearing a harness). The third man fell approximately 40-ft to the platform well deck. CPR was administered to the victim, but he was unresponsive.

Date:	04-MAR-96	Operator:	Pennzoil Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Production
Lease:	G12756	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Workover
Block:	83	Cause:	Diver lost air supply
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	37'

Remarks: A diver was conducting gauging readings when he reported low air pressure over the intercom line. A leak was detected at the hose connection to his helmet. The air hose was hung up and help could not get the diver free. The diver was taken to the hospital and pronounced dead.

Date:	30-APR-96	Operator:	NCX Company, Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02724	Event(s):	Fatality (1) / Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A270	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	164'

Remarks: Slag and sparks were falling from welder's cutting and replacing grating on sump deck. The gas powered wash-down pump was turned on to wet the tarps over the sump tank. The wash-down pump stroked several times fast, venting gas, which was ignited from the slag and sparks. Trying to get a better view of the fire, the welding supervisor stepped through the open hole in the grating, fell 30 ft, hit the handrail, and fell into the Gulf waters. The structure was shut-in by activating the ESD Station. The fire was quickly extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher. The welding supervisor suffered internal injuries, which were fatal.

Date:	04-JUN-96	Operator:	Samedan Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09478	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	332	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pride 951	Water Depth:	250'

Remarks: During reaming operations, the driller was in the process of breaking out the top drive at the rig floor. After having set the speed and rotation controls, the driller began to increase torque. As torque was increased, the elevator links, which were tilted out as a result of the position of the top drive unit, began to rotate counterclockwise. The driller, in attempting to stop the rotation of the elevator links, overcompensated by turning the rotation control knob past the neutral setting to the clockwise position. As a result, the elevator links and attached elevator reversed direction, struck the driller, and fatally pinned the driller as well as the drilling console against the draw works.

Date:	24-SEP-96	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	00033	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Grand Isle	Operation:	Investigation Pending
Block:	19	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	55'

Remarks: INVESTIGATION PENDING.

Date:	28-NOV-96	Operator:	Energy Development Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06178	Event(s):	Fatality (3)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Helicopter
Block:	20	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	56'

Remarks: At 1533, an Eurocopter AS350B2 helicopter, N6100U, owned and operated by PHI was destroyed during an emergency landing at the HI A20 platform. The pilot and the two passengers were fatally injured. The flight originated from HI 446 platform at 1504 and was enroute to the HI 105 platform.

Date:	07-DEC-96	Operator:	W&T Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04228	Event(s):	Fatality (1) / Injury (1) / Explosion
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	P&A
Block:	133	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Gulf Island IV/#4(removed)	Water Depth:	37'

Remarks: A welder was cutting bolts on a flowline flange with his blow torch when fire flashed and caught the welders clothes on fire. At this point, the welder was engulfed in flames. He ran to the lifeboat and was extinguished with a 5# dry chemical fire extinguisher. Later, one of the individuals that aided in the care of the injured developed chest pains so he was evacuated at the same time as the welder by Coast Guard helicopter at 0521 hours. The welder later died.

Date:	09-DEC-96	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	G02116	Event(s):	Fatality (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Investigation Pending
Block:	331	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	241'

Remarks: Three personnel were replacing grating at the + 12' level. Two of them noticed that the third was missing. An initial search could not locate the missing worker. A search was initiated to see if he could be located in the Gulf water around the platform. They spoke with a Petty Officer with the Morgan City Coast Guard Office on December 13, 1996, at 14:10 hours and he stated that the search for the missing man was ended on December 10, 1996, at 16:00 hours. On December 27, 1996, a diver found the body of the missing welder under the platform. USCG approval was obtained to remove the body. An autopsy has been performed, but the results are not known at this Investigation.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Injuries - 1995

Date:	19-JAN-95	Operator:	Pogo Producing Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12088	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fatality (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Completion
Block:	123	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Glomar High Island II	Water Depth:	153'

Remarks: Floorhands were pulling 1" wash pipe up to ~60' when the top piece of wash pipe caught on Top-Drive of rig. Three floorhands tried to free wash pipe. The T-bar clamp slipped off the pipe. The wash pipe fell back into the hole, striking one floorhand in the hip and the other on the forehead on the way down. The floorhand that was hit in the hip was evacuated to the hospital for treatment, whereas the second floorhand was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

Date:	28-MAR-95	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05996	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	784	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B Platform	Water Depth:	170'

Remarks: A worker caught his finger between the pad-eye of the Safeguard Tank and the sling shackle of the crane line while unloading a workboat. Part of his finger was cut off. He was flown to a medical center for treatment.

Date:	05-APR-95	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G12831	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Crane operation
Block:	157	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	78'

Remarks: A worker dislocated and fractured his right ankle while assisting in the crane operation.

Date:	07-APR-95	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02316	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	SM South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	288	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	CB	Water Depth:	40'

Remarks: An employee pinched his hand between a christmas tree and an iron basket while attempting to remove a nylon sling.

Date:	11-APR-95	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02037	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	222	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	110'

Remarks: A worker was swinging onto the platform and, in the process, split his left knee open to the bone.

Date:	11-APR-95	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05996	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	784	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	190'

Remarks: A worker climbed an extension ladder that was set up against a well. He leaned out to tighten a fitting and the ladder slipped. He fell with the ladder approximately 6' striking his knee on the deck or a ladder rung.

Date:	12-APR-95	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03783	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	353	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	298'

Remarks: A worker's back started to hurt after carrying a fax machine to the bunk house.

Date:	26-MAY-95	Operator:	CNG Producing Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05391	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	299	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: An air conditioning unit fell and pinned a worker against a weight machine, injuring his upper left arm.

Date:	26-JUN-95	Operator:	Mobil Producing Texas & New Mexico Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02690	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A471	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	189'

Remarks: An employee was working on a compressor when he pulled a muscle in his shoulder.

Date:	12-AUG-95	Operator:	Conoco Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00792	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Welding
Block:	108	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	D	Water Depth:	183'

Remarks: A welder helper received minor burns between his thumb and forefinger while welding a flange.

Date:	30-AUG-95	Operator:	Amerada Hess Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03061	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A 85	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Middletown	Water Depth:	46'

Remarks: A worker was suspended in the derrick in a riding belt attached to a hoist line hammering loose a bull plug. The plug suddenly came off and struck him in the hip/groin area. Immediately it was discovered that he was bleeding from the hip/groin area. First aid was administered before he was transported to the hospital to undergo surgery for his injuries.

Date:	31-AUG-95	Operator:	Amerada Hess Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G12427	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	A 86	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Middletown	Water Depth:	46'

Remarks: A rig hand was changing the Kelly line. While hammering on a plug, the plug hit the worker's hip resulting in a fractured bone.

Date:	08-SEP-95	Operator:	Norcen Explorer, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01523	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	207	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	100'

Remarks: A worker responded to an alarm on the compressor platform. Upon arrival, the worker heard a blowing sound. The gas detector had tripped. Upon investigation, he found gas blowing from the No.6 cylinder on the TVS compressor. The gas ignited giving the worker 1st degree burns on his hands, ears, and face. The ESD device was tripped to shut down all operations. The fire alarm was also activated. The main fire was extinguished within 5 minutes with dry chemical, CO₂, and water. Smaller fires were extinguished and the area secured within 45 minutes.

Date:	18-SEP-95	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08241	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Grand Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	426	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Sonat Auger/A (AUGER)	Water Depth:	2861'

Remarks: An employee fell off the stairs and fractured his left arm.

Date:	24-SEP-95	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14833	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Galveston	Operation:	Production
Block:	300	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	62'

Remarks: While an employee was cleaning the top of the Emergency light in the galley, the chair he was standing on slid from underneath him.

Date:	02-OCT-95	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13293	Event(s):	Injury(1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	699	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Pride Colorado	Water Depth:	90'

Remarks: While laying down drill pipe out the V-door, a joint fell off of the catwalk. While picking up the pipe with an air tugger, a roustabout's fingers were severed between the pipe and the edge of the V-door.

Date:	05-OCT-95	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07215	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Brazos	Operation:	Production
Block:	376	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	56'

Remarks: An operator was climbing down a 6' ladder from the wellbay to the cellar deck. His left foot slipped off the second rung from the top, and he landed on the deck in an awkward position.

Date:	10-OCT-95	Operator:	Kerr-McGee Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05479	Event(s):	Injury (2)
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	28	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	16'

Remarks: A section of chocks from the blowdown tank was being rerouted to a high-pressure pump. The piping was in the process of being connected to the pump when the SSV on the well slowly opened. The release of pressure caused the chocks joint to whip around the deck striking a wireline operator and helper both involved in rerouting the piping. It damaged the wireline unit and jackup boat. A technician at this time heard air bleeding at the wellhead and tried to close the manual surface safety valve, which didn't respond quickly, and finally closed the manual master valve. First aid was administered and preparations were made to air lift the injured to a hospital.

Date:	05-NOV-95	Operator:	Midcon Offshore Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02885	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	141	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	247'

Remarks: A flash fire occurred on test separator while rusted bolts were being removed on the condensate / oil discharge line. A welder's cutting torch was being used to remove the bolts when trapped condensate was released causing a flash fire. The cutting operator suffered 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns. All operations were immediately shut down and first aid administered to the victim.

Date:	14-NOV-95	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08241	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	426	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	2861'

Remarks: While removing retaining pins from the production riser, the tensioner shifted, entrapping his hand.

Date:	25-NOV-95	Operator:	Forcenergy Gas Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01177	Event(s):	Fatality (1) / Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	6	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	65'

Remarks: While tightening bolts on the flare line flange on the +10 level near the platform leg, an 18# piece of angle iron fell from a position above two workers (operator and roustabout), striking one. The operator, who suffered a fractured skull was knocked into the Gulf. The roustabout, who suffered a fractured right hand and cuts on his right forearm, attempted to assist his coworker until help could arrive. The roustabout was unaware of how his hand got fractured. The operator was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

Date:	07-DEC-95	Operator:	Apache Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00780	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	33	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Glomar Adriatic 7	Water Depth:	29'

Remarks: Worker was in the process of wiping oil from the generator drip pan with a rag. His right hand sustained lacerations and a possible broken middle finger when his hand and the rag became tangled in the fan blades.

Injuries - 1996

Date:	05-JAN-96	Operator:	DelMar Operating, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00437	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Explosion / Fire
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	199	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A-QRTS	Water Depth:	101'

Remarks: The platform operator was warming up (idling) the gas compressor engine when the final discharge piping exploded and a small flash fire occurred. The flash fire extinguished itself immediately. One operator was passing near the compressor piping when the explosion occurred, resulting in minor injuries to the eyes and face and ringing in the ears.

Date:	14-JAN-96	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing NA, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00244	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	71	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	38'

Remarks: An electrician was helping repair a crane engine throttle control. He stepped from a skid beam down onto uneven grating and twisted his right ankle.

Date:	21-JAN-96	Operator:	Hardy Oil & Gas USA Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10342	Event(s):	Injury (2) / Piping rupture
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	240	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ambassador	Water Depth:	832'

Remarks: Prior to opening the well (on a $10/64$ choke with 5,458 psi), portable test equipment piping was pressure tested to 4,000 psi. The manifold choke was increased to $12/64$ with 6,125 psi and then again to $14/64$. Simultaneously, the heater choke was increased from $22/64$ to $24/64$, resulting in the decrease in heater pressure. Immediately following the above choke adjustments, an elbow in the flowline piping between the choke manifold and the heater ruptured. The supervisor and field tech. were both struck in the leg causing lacerations. The ESD activated and shut in the well at surface.

Date:	24-JAN-96	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00780	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	33	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	90'

Remarks: Pulled muscle in groin while lifting materials.

Date:	26-JAN-96	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00780	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	33	Cause:	Slip Trip Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	90'

Remarks: Lifting on fill-up line and strained back.

Date:	30-JAN-96	Operator:	Energy Development Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G12821	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	76	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Falcon 84	Water Depth:	57'

Remarks: Cable broke dropping the bell nipple 29' on deck injuring an employee.

Date:	04-FEB-96	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01146	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Workover
Block:	245	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	130'

Remarks: A SS tubing drain line was being installed. The worker started to stand, and his left knee popped.

Date:	15-FEB-96	Operator:	Total Minatome Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03135	Event(s):	Injury (1)/Explosion
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	267	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	F	Water Depth:	165'

Remarks: Platform operators were sitting in front of the operator's desk located in the southeast corner of the living quarters at approximately 0530 hours when the giatronic box exploded. It is believed that the explosion occurred due to the ignition of a possible chemical leakage and build-up of hydrogen from a 12Vdc/55AH sealed battery inside the airtight-sealed giatronic box. Following the explosion, the battery, estimated to be approximately 10 pounds in weight, fell from the shattered giatronic box onto an operators lower back. He and a coworker immediately exited the east doorway of the living quarters following the explosion. Both returned to the area of the explosion within minutes, and an investigation revealed that damage was limited to the giantronic box and no additional fire damage was evident.

Date:	06-MAR-96	Operator:	CNG Producing Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02391	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Other - Climbing
Block:	A 571	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	283'

Remarks: The captain was walking downstairs to the galley when he lost his footing around the middle rung. He fell to galley floor complaining of pain. The result was 3 broken ribs and a punctured lung.

Date:	08-MAR-96	Operator:	Mobil Exploration and ProducingNA, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02393	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 573	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	327'

Remarks: An employee was descending steps, missed a step, and fell to floor.

Date:	30-MAR-96	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05953	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	North Padre Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	969	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	JA	Water Depth:	140'

Remarks: An operator was working on the crane boom ram preparing it for the welder. He was taking out the pressure relief valve from the ram block using a 12" pipe wrench, placing his hand on the wrench by his shoulder, and pushing upward. Motion resulted in a slight tweek and pain in lower back.

Date:	03-APR-96	Operator:	Midcon Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03323	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	220	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	99'

Remarks: Platform operator 1 was cleaning sand and BS&W from the flare scrubber by removing the flange to flange piping and drain valve from the vessel. Operators 2 and 3 were simultaneously initiating production and pressuring up the production separator. The pressure relief valve relieved prematurely through the valve and piping. This pressure surge generated static electricity and ignition. Operator 1 was in the immediate vicinity of the escaping gas and fire and received burns to his face, neck, and arms. The fire scorched the flare scrubber and contact tower, melted the electrical wiring tray, and activated the fire loop system by burning through a TSE, which properly resulted in total platform shut down.

Date:	06-APR-96	Operator:	Norcen Explorer
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02600	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	281	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	30'

Remarks: The platform operator was attempting to start the platform diesel crane engine whose starter is propelled by 140 psi supply gas pressure. The operator sprayed ether into the engine air intake and walked around the side to signal another operator to open the gas start valve. When the first operator checked to see if the engine started, he heard an explosion and a brief flash fire occurred inflicting first and second degree burns on his face. The operator was transferred to a quarters facility and treated by a medic. The burns were considered minor, and the operator declined further medical evaluation at a land-based facility.

Date:	11-APR-96	Operator:	Mobile Exploration and Producing NA, Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02393	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 573	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	327'

Remarks: Employee set air hoist controller on upper cat walk and turned tripping off the lower cat walk. Air hoist was moved causing air hoist controller to fall striking an employee on the right knee. He lost his balance, stumbled against a 4" kick plate on the lower cat walk, and fell 2' to the deck.

Date:	14-APR-96	Operator:	Mobil Exploration and Producing NA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02393	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 573	Cause:	Overexertion
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	327'

Remarks: Employee was lifting compressor pistons from compressor skid to wash area and then back to the compressor skid. This resulted in an inguinal hernia.

Date:	24-APR-96	Operator:	Shell Offshore Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G08241	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	426	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	2861'

Remarks: Crew was tripping pipe in the hole and drill pipe struck roughneck in the face.

Date:	14-MAY-96	Operator:	Union Oil Company of California
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00297	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Workover
Block:	26	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	Sundowner Dolphin 110	Water Depth:	21'

Remarks: Two roustabouts were spotting a Francis torque unit when one of them stepped backward and fell through a 4' x 4' open hatch in the top deck. He suffered numerous fractures, contusions, and lacerations. He received immediate first aid and was evacuated for emergency medical aid.

Date:	18-MAY-96	Operator:	Mobil E&P North America Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02752	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 382	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	F	Water Depth:	345'

Remarks: In locating the steam cleaner on the well bay with crane, it hung up on edge of platform. When the unit was freed, it was lowered onto the employee's foot causing his foot and ankle to twist.

Date:	21-MAY-96	Operator:	PANACO, Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	Louisiana State Lease 979	Event(s):	Injury (3) / Explosion / Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	54	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	STATE FACILITY	Water Depth:	9'

Remarks: [NOTE: The accident occurred on State Lease 979, West Delta, Block 54. This facility is located in State waters; however, OCS oil is processed into Tank No.1 giving MMS authority to investigate.] Workers were preparing to clean storage tanks on platform. Two workers in a tank were handed a, supposedly, secured steam cleaning sprayer nozzle. The explosion occurred when the cleaning unit was started. The safety representative grabbed an extinguisher, but the unit failed to discharge chemical into the tank. All personnel were evacuated. Only one fire monitor was activated due to the fire pump malfunctioning. The fire was extinguished using the fire monitor and water spray from the life boat. There were three minor injuries as a result of the accident.

Date:	12-JUN-96	Operator:	Seneca Resources Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13865	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	149	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Ensco 98/A	Water Depth:	83'

Remarks: The A-3 well was drilled and completed as a dual gas well and was in the process of being flow tested. The platform operator was unloading sand from the test separator vessel by periodically opening a 1 1/2" manual ball valve located on the bottom of the vessel, while maintaining about 1000# back pressure on the vessel. A mixture of gas and sand continued to cut out the valve and high pressure gas was released to the atmosphere. The natural gas and fluid release came in contact with a fired component and was ignited. The platform safety system operated properly and shut in the wells 1 and 2. Well A-3 was shut in by manually activating the ESD remote located on the test separator.

Date:	15-JUN-96	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02754	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	376	Cause:	Slip Trip Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	328'

Remarks: The injured party was stepping down from piping by "A" compressor over to the grating when he lost footing and fell. His injuries consisted of torn ligaments in the right knee, and the left shin was cut to the bone requiring stitches.

Date:	29-JUL-96	Operator:	Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01526	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Crane
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover
Block:	223	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	POOL 3/B	Water Depth:	144'

Remarks: The crane operator was using the fast line with a nylon strap to relocate valves to the opposite side of the blowout preventer stack. After hooking up to the valve assembly, they motioned to the crane operator to pick it up slightly, but not completely off the deck. Two personnel applied leverage to turn the valve assembly over. There was slack in the nylon strap causing travel in the fast line ball. The ball struck the wind wall causing a section to fall from the rig floor, and injuring a derrickhand. He received a compound fracture to his leg and a laceration on his shoulder.

Date:	29-JUL-96	Operator:	Stone Energy Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01238	Event(s):	Injury (2) / Fire
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	23	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Noble Max Smith	Water Depth:	60'

Remarks: Problem with breaker for rig ventilation system. The electrician and motormen began installing copus blowers to keep air compressors cool while rig crew finished pulling out of the hole with bottom hole assembly. Electrician began isolating the panel board. While tightening last bolt, an arc explosion occurred. There were 2 injuries resulting in burns over 20-25 percent of the men's bodies.

Date:	08-AUG-96	Operator:	Mobil Exploration & Producing NA, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02757	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 382	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	F	Water Depth:	345'

Remarks: At some point in time, during the day, the employee incorrectly pushed, pulled, lifted, twisted, bent, or turned. No single event during the day is tied to the injury.

Date:	02-SEP-96	Operator:	Forcenergy Gas Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03776	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	106	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	185'

Remarks: An employee was hit by the Kelly hose after a down hole pressure surge.

Date:	08-SEP-96	Operator:	Conoco Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01498	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	96	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	R	Water Depth:	148'

Remarks: They were dismantling a section of pipeline riser. The pipeline had been flushed three times with water and had been pigged twice. All the pressure above the shutdown valve had been bled to 0. The riser was disconnected enough at the top to determine that there was no gas in the riser. A rigger was using a torch to cut the remaining studs and bolts off that were partially attaching the shutdown valve to the riser. Hot metal from the cutting torch fell into the open riser below the shutdown valve. Residual hydrocarbons inside the riser ignited and created a flash fire, which burned a portion of the rigger's arm that was exposed to the open top area of the pipeline riser.

Date:	17-SEP-96	Operator:	Texaco Exploration and Production Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G00974	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	278	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Pride 30/C	Water Depth:	177'

Remarks: A drilling rig was being de-mobbed onto a supply workboat. The first lift with the use of the auxiliary (fast line) ball was the grocery box. The grocery box was lowered down to the back deck of the workboat. The roustabout unhooked the D-ring of the grocery box slings from the auxiliary ball. The roustabout heard a noise as he unhooked the D-ring and looked up. The counter-balance assembly traveled the path of the cable and struck the roustabout in the face and chest. He was air lifted to the hospital.

Date:	18-SEP-96	Operator:	Energy Resource Technology, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01471	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	177	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A (removed)	Water Depth:	51'

Remarks: A pilot received burns to his arms and to a lesser degree his legs and face due to a flash fire (<1 second) near an oil pump that was being started. Gas used to turn the starter came in contact with a failed shielded ignition device between spark plug and wire. This shielded device was either corroded or had vibrated loose. A cover or cowling obstructed this loose connection from view, therefore, it was not noticed during start-up.

Date:	21-SEP-96	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	Pending	Activity:	Investigation Pending
Lease:	G08151	Event(s):	Injury (3) / Explosion / Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Investigation
Block:	207	Cause:	Investigation Pending
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	53'

Remarks: INVESTIGATION PENDING.

Date:	30-SEP-96	Operator:	SONAT Exploration Company
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development Production
Lease:	G02038	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Workover
Block:	231	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: The wireline operator was in the process of swabbing fluid (water and condensate) into a swab tank through a 2-in flexible rubber/plastic hose that was placed in the open hatch and secured with rope. The platform operator was monitoring fluid returns; and, as he opened the swab tank hatch, a flash fire occurred. The operator's shirt caught fire, and he ran from the swab tank, which remained on fire. Another platform operator extinguished the swab tank fire using two 20# chemical extinguishers. The injured operator sustained serious burns to his face, head, neck, and hands. He was treated onsite with burn packs and brought to the hospital.

Date:	17-OCT-95	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04996	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	587	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	87'

Remarks: The worker was crossing over a winch boom and stepped on an angle iron, slipped, and fell forward, hitting his right hand on the swing motor of the crane.

Date:	24-OCT-96	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03280	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	405	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall / Weather
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	90'

Remarks: Personnel were being off-loaded in the personnel basket in bad weather conditions. The basket caught onto an air conditioning unit causing one worker to fall out of the basket, head first. He hit the back of his neck on the air conditioning unit and fell hard onto the deck of the boat. He was flown to the hospital for medical attention.

Date:	29-OCT-96	Operator:	ORYX Energy Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13808	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	A 379	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	B Platform	Water Depth:	360'

Remarks: It appears that a short circuit was caused while attempting to connect test clips across the fuse holder. The test clip ends being large and wide shorted together or separately across phases.

Date:	03-NOV-96	Operator:	BHP Petroleum (GOM) Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09384	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	61	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ocean Spur	Water Depth:	36'

Remarks: The roustabout was in the process of lubricating the top drive unit for the drilling rig. The worker was hoisted in a boatswains chair to perform this daily task. The third man necessary to provide a communication link between the person performing the work and the air hoist operator was not used. When the air hoist operator lost visual and audible communications, the accident occurred. The roustabout suffered a fractured vertebrae in his upper back along with severe bruising of the shoulder and chest area. He was immediately transported to a hospital for medical attention.

Date:	20-NOV-96	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09425	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	491	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A Platform	Water Depth:	143'

Remarks: While attempting to get off the crane after offloading equipment from the boat, the radiator cap failed, blowing hot coolant on the worker. He jumped off the crane onto the platform deck, injuring the heels of both feet.

Date:	21-NOV-96	Operator:	Mesa Operating Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04110	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	155	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	S	Water Depth:	254'

Remarks: Injured while disconnecting lubricator and pressure suddenly released. Lubricator lifted one foot causing him to lose balance and fall to deck. Injuries to head, left arm, and right knee.

Date:	22-NOV-96	Operator:	Mesa Operating Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04110	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	South Marsh Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	155	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	S	Water Depth:	254'

Remarks: Contractor employee fell when he leaned against a handrail and it gave way. He fell to the walkway below hitting the handrail and continued to fall to the next deck.

Date:	24-NOV-96	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02193	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Completion
Block:	140	Cause:	Human Error / Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	165'

Remarks: Operating tubing tongs, forgot to latch bottom. Put in gear and fell from 4' scaffold. Taken to ospital. Bruised knee and strained neck. Was sent home.

Date:	27-NOV-96	Operator:	Tana Oil and Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	00146	Event(s):	Injury (3)/Blowout/Explosion/Fire
Area:	58	Operation:	Completion
Block:	West Delta	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Marine XV	Water Depth:	39'

Remarks: Prior to going into well #4 with a wireline gauging tool, it was necessary to pressure up to 2,600 psi to open the SSSV. After the SSSV was open, the pressure was bled down into the mud pit room, and an explosion immediately occurred. The SSSV was not closed thereby allowing the continuous feeding of the fire. The platform was evacuated, and 11 personnel were treated for injuries with 3 requiring hospitalization. Fire boat extinguished the fire on 28 Nov 1996 at 1420 hours. The rig was boarded, and the SSSV was closed at 1600 hours.

Date:	02-DEC-96	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00386	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	South Timbalier	Operation:	Workover
Block:	23	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	46'

Remarks: An employee singed his hair when an unknown gas flashed because of his cutting torch he was using on a 36" flare stack piling. The employee was then taken to the hospital.

Date:	06-DEC-96	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Injury (2)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	633	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	TEMP. CAIS. B	Water Depth:	72'

Remarks: While making a deck lift, the slings were not tight enough, and the deck lifted at 45 degrees on the cargo barge. Five men were on the cellar deck and slid down to the barge. Two men were transported to receive medical attention.

Date:	07-DEC-96	Operator:	W&T Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04228	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fatality (1) / Explosion
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	P&A
Block:	133	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Gulf Island IV/#4(removed)	Water Depth:	37'

Remarks: A welder was cutting bolts on a flowline flange with his blow torch when fire flashed and caught the welders clothes on fire. At this point, the welder was engulfed in flames. He ran to the lifeboat and was extinguished with a fire a 5# dry chemical fire extinguisher. Later, one of the individuals that aided in the care of the injured developed chest pains, so he was also evacuated (at the same time) by Coast Guard helicopter at 0521 hours. The welder died.

Date:	09-DEC-96	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03543	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	24	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	28'

Remarks: An employee was descending the stairway from the bunkhouse, lost his balance, and pulled a ligament in his right knee

Date:	10-DEC-96	Operator:	Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing SE, Inc
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04940	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	Green Canyon	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	18	Cause:	Design Error
Rig/Platform:	H&P 106/A	Water Depth:	750'

Remarks: Fire originated on south end cellar deck. The fire pump skid consists of 500 gal. diesel day storage tank located adjacent to the pump's diesel engine. The exhaust pipe from the pump engine extends over the fuel tank at a level below the top of the tank's overflow vent. Fuel tank overflowed through vent line while refueling. Diesel fuel sprayed onto the insulated engine exhaust, and, through joints in the insulation, the fuel contacted the engine exhaust (600-700 degrees Fahrenheit). The fire was extinguished within 40 minutes by personnel on the platform.

Date:	11-DEC-96	Operator:	Cockrell Oil Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G08756	Event(s):	Injury (1) / Fire
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	187	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	155'

Remarks: An employee was attempting to light glycol reboiler with faulty electrical ignitor. Employee tied a rag onto a piece of stainless tubing and tried to light it. However, the wind kept blowing, so he moved behind the instrument panel and opened the doors to light the rag. The lighter sparked gas within the panel resulting in 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face and hands. No damage to panel.

Date:	15-DEC-96	Operator:	Amoco Production Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G05000	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	622	Cause:	Human Error/Weather
Rig/Platform:	D Platform	Water Depth:	89'

Remarks: While working on Well No. D-2, an employee from the mud logging company bent over to pick up a wire. At that point, another employee opened the door to the mud logging unit. The wind caught the door and it hit the bent-over employee in the head. The employee received treatment at Port LaVacca Hospital.

Date:	16-DEC-96	Operator:	Enron Oil and Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14103	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Mustang Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	759	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A Platform	Water Depth:	154'

Remarks: The operator was in the process of lighting the pilot in the reboiler. There was a back flash out of the tube after supplying fuel. The workman sustained burns to the front of his head and was taken to the hospital for treatment and then released.

Date:	18-DEC-96	Operator:	Enron Oil & Gas Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06042	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	633	Cause:	Slip, Trip, Fall
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	77'

Remarks: The operator was tightening a bolt when the accident occurred. While pulling on a wrench, his feet slipped. He fell down, twisting his foot and hitting a piece of angle iron. The injured was transported to a medical center for treatment and then released.

Date:	30-DEC-96	Operator:	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G04421	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	78	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Spartan	Water Depth:	38'

Remarks: An employee stepped in front of a hammer being used to free the stuck bushing in the rotary when it struck his left foot.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Significant Pollution Incidents - 1995

(≥ 50 barrels)

Date:	25-JAN-1995	Operator:	Mesa Operating Co.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G06140	Amount(bbl):	600 - Condensate
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Drilling
Block:	55	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	50'

Remarks: A workboat struck the platform causing two condensate storage tanks on the platform to rupture.

Date:	06-JUL-1995	Operator:	Coastal Oil & Gas Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07652	Amount(bbl):	75 - Condensate
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	219	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	120'

Remarks: The condensate surge vessel pump malfunctioned, which caused the surge vessel to fill and backup to the production separator when the surge vessel LSH failed. The production separator carried over condensate to the water skimmer. The LSH on the skimmer tripped but failed to initiate a platform shut in. The skimmer carried over sufficient condensate to the sump tank to disrupt the condensate/water interface and displace the water level with condensate. The sump tank LSH tripped but also failed to shut in the platform. Condensate then carried over the sump tank through the sump tank water leg and into the Gulf.

Date:	03-OCT-1995	Operator:	Meridian Oil Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G14200	Amount(bbl):	89 - Diesel / Collision
Area:	High Island	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	A 371	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Gorilla IV	Water Depth:	430'

Remarks: A weather change caused the motor vessel to drift into the port leg of the rig puncturing the boat's fuel saddle tank spilling 89 barrels (3,722 gal) of diesel fuel into the Gulf. Due to rough weather and sea conditions, no attempt was made by the boat company to recover the spilled fuel. There was no damage to the drilling rig or the port leg, and the boat returned safely to shore.

Date:	15-DEC-1995	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03265	Amount(bbl):	435 - Condensate
Area:	West Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	198	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	56'

Remarks: A liquid hydrocarbon spill occurred offshore the State of Louisiana. A high-pressure separator was cleaned in an effort to reopen the separator's clogged water leg. Upon returning to the platform, the next day, the platform operator observed a spill and reported it to the MMS and the NRC. It was observed that liquid hydrocarbons were spilling from the platform's sump tank and that a ball valve on the drain line from the separator to the sump tank was not holding. The valve, which had been opened and closed during the previous day's cleaning of the separator, was removed, and the line was blind flanged. Meter readings and well tests were reviewed.

Significant Pollution Incidents - 1996

(≥ 50 barrels)

Date:	29-SEP-1996	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G07486	Amount(bbl):	104.76 - Diesel
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Motor Vessel
Block:	388	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Enserch Cooper/A	Water Depth:	2097'

Remarks: A motor vessel lost power and thruster operation while tied up to the facility. Came in contact with the floating drilling rig/production platform 3 times before he could get the M/V released from rig lines. A fuel tank was ruptured resulting in a spill and loss of all power

Date:	12-OCT-1996	Operator:	Samedan Offshore Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10687	Amount(bbl):	68 - Zinc Bromide
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	362	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	B	Water Depth:	276'

Remarks: The gate valve on the mixing line failed, resulting in a 68-barrel spill of Zinc Bromide.

Date:	31-DEC-1996	Operator:	Shell Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Exploration
Lease:	G11455	Amount(bbl):	61.9 - Hydraulic
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Construction
Block:	128	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	705'

Remarks: A burst hydraulic hose released hydraulic oil while driving pilings 400-ft below water during construction. Generated by SSCV Balder, owner Heerma Offshore Services, Inc.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Pipeline Incidents - 1995

Date:	23-MAR-95	Operator:	Forest Oil Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09627	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (3.0 bbls oil)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	277	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	51'

Remarks: The 6-in oil pipeline that departs the platform and ties into a sub-sea tie-in developed a leak. The leak was the result of a 2-in hot tap valve being ripped off from the pipeline. The sandbags that were placed during the valve installation were found scattered and the valve removed. The cause of this pollution incident is unknown but is assumed to be the result of a fishing net catching on the bags/valve. A skimmer arrived on location and remained on location until repairs were completed.

Date:	08-OCT-95	Operator:	Huffco Petroleum Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01335	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (2.0 bbls oil)
Area:	South Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	37	Cause:	Hurricane damage
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	130'

Remarks: While conducting a pipeline hydrostatic test, 2 barrels of oil leaked into the Gulf. The damage to the pipeline was caused by Hurricane Opal.

Date:	22-OCT-95	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01073	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (12.5 bbls oil)
Area:	West Delta	Operation:	Production
Block:	41	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	83'

Remarks: Pipeline leaks were responsible for 12.5 barrels of oil spilling into the Gulf.

Date:	30-DEC-95	Operator:	Shell Oil Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09743	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (4.0 bbls oil)
Area:	Viosca Knoll	Operation:	Production
Block:	817	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	673'

Remarks: None

Pipeline Incidents - 1996

Date:	01-FEB-96	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01228	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (2.0 bbls oil)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Production
Block:	208	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:		Water Depth:	101'

Remarks: The pollution incident occurred when the 4" oil and gas pipeline developed a hole in the riser.

Date:	11-FEB-96	Operator:	Energy Resource Technology, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G02865	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (.8 bbls condensate)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	22	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	JB	Water Depth:	38'

Remarks: Pollution occurred due to a possible leak in Pipeline Segment. However, subsequent pressure testing revealed no leaks or damage to either. The flow through the JC pipeline was initiated but the JB remains out of service.

Date:	08-MAR-96	Operator:	Conoco Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G03289	Event(s):	Pipeline / Fire
Area:	East Cameron	Operation:	Production
Block:	57	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	JB	Water Depth:	52'

Remarks: A pipeline riser rupture and flash fire occurred on the 6" departing bulk gas pipeline. Analysis of the pipe determined that the failure was due to tensile overload consistent with creep failure. Failure due to gradual thinning of pipe wall from corrosion from breaches in pipe coating which ultimately caused the pipe to fail due to overload of the remaining wall thickness. Fire damage was limited to a charred floatation life ring and a charred section of the electrical cable. The pipeline pressure safety low (PSL) sensor actuated and isolated the well and shut off flow.

Date:	02-APR-96	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00297	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (.14 bbls oil)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	26	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	25'

Remarks: An underwater pipeline developed a leak in which bubbles and a sheen was detected.

Date:	27-JUN-96	Operator:	Tenneco Offshore Gathering Company
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	None	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (unknown)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	206	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	Rowan Gilbert Rowe	Water Depth:	Undetermined

Remarks: Leak at the tie-in of a 12" pipeline and a 36" pipeline. The leak was determined to be a result of damage to a 2" bypass valve. The valve was apparently pulled off by a shrimp net

Date:	10-JUL-96	Operator:	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01633	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (4.7 bbls oil)
Area:	Main Pass	Operation:	Production
Block:	133	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	175'

Remarks: The operator noticed pollution near platform and called it in as a sighting. The pipeline pump began shipping oil through a departing pipeline. Operator then noticed an increase in the slick size and stopped the pipeline pump immediately. Pipeline was bled to zero, the pollution stopped, and the riser was repaired. The leak was too small for pressure safety low to detect.

Date:	13-AUG-96	Operator:	Unocal Exploration Corporation
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00297	Event(s):	Pipeline / Pollution (.03 bbls)
Area:	Vermillion	Operation:	Production
Block:	26	Cause:	Leak
Rig/Platform:	A	Water Depth:	25'

Remarks: There was a 6-in underwater pipeline that was found to be leaking due to an unknown cause.

Gulf of Mexico Region

Other Incidents - 1996 (There were no 'Other' incidents in 1995)

Date:	21-JAN-96	Operator:	Hardy Oil & Gas USA Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G10342	Event(s):	Piping rupture / Injury (2)
Area:	Garden Banks	Operation:	Production
Block:	240	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Diamond Ambassador	Water Depth:	832'

Remarks: Prior to opening the Well (on a $10/64$ choke with 5,458 psi), portable test equipment piping was pressure tested to 4,000 psi. The manifold choke was increased to $12/64$ with 6,125 psi and then again to $14/64$. Simultaneously, the heater choke was increased from $22/64$ to $24/64$ resulting in the decrease in heater pressure. Immediately following the above choke adjustments, an elbow in the flowline piping between the choke manifold and the heater ruptured. The supervisor and field tech. were both struck in the leg causing lacerations. The ESD activated and shut in the well at surface.

Date:	19-JUL-96	Operator:	Meridian Oil Offshore, Inc.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G13821	Event(s):	Crane failure
Area:	Eugene Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	196	Cause:	Equipment failure
Rig/Platform:	C	Water Depth:	96'

Remarks: The crane operator was attempting to move the boom down into position to assist the skidding of the rig over the well. While booming down, the turntable bearing case broke. This caused the crane to fall forward and the boom to strike the rig mast. The hoist cable whipped and struck the hoist operator causing him to fall against the rig beam but leaving him uninjured. Two chains and binders were attached to the crane to prevent further movement.

Date:	29-JUL-96	Operator:	Murphy Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G01526	Event(s):	Crane accident / Injury (1)
Area:	Ship Shoal	Operation:	Workover
Block:	223	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	POOL 3/B	Water Depth:	144'

Remarks: The crane operator was using the fast line with a nylon strap to relocate valves to the opposite side of the blowout preventer stack. After hooking up to the valve assembly, they motioned to the crane operator to pick it up slightly, but not completely off the deck. Two personnel applied leverage to turn the valve assembly over. There was slack in the nylon strap causing travel in the fast line ball. The ball struck the wind wall causing a section to fall from the rig floor, injuring a derrickhand. He received a compound fracture to his leg and a laceration on his shoulder.

Date:	16-NOV-96	Operator:	Murphy Exploration and Production Co.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	00072	Event(s):	Equipment Overboard
Area:	South Pelto	Operation:	Production
Block:	12	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	No. 29	Water Depth:	32'

Remarks: Seas pushed paraffin unit overboard during night. Seas 8-12', winds 30-45 kts. Unit recovered.

Date:	08-DEC-96	Operator:	Enserch Exploration, Inc.
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	G09001	Event(s):	Dislodged boat landing
Area:	Matagorda Island	Operation:	Production
Block:	705	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	A Platform	Water Depth:	140'

Remarks: None

Pacific Region

Fires - 1995

Date:	14-Aug-1995	Operator:	Torch
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0441	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pt. Pedernales	Cause:	Weather
Rig/Platform:	Irene	Water Depth:	242'

Remarks: Normal operations with weather cord plugged into electrical outlet. Moisture from fog entered outlet and shorted out creating an arc and smoke. Breaker tripped and arcing stopped.

Fires - 1996

Date:	25-Mar-1996	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0217	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Santa Barbara Channel	Operation:	Production
Field:	Santa Clara	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Grace	Water Depth:	318'

Remarks: Smoke was noticed coming from a gas turbine exhaust stack. Valves on the WHRU and on the heat exchange system were found to be in the correct closed position. Flames started coming out of the exhaust, and the fire hoses were used to cool the unit. Gas and diesel fuel supplies were isolated, and the process systems were shut in. There continued to be hot spots on the exterior of the WHRU. A water wash was done. This dropped the temperature of the WHRU after three cycles. Heat exchanger fluid leaking into exhaust insulation was the cause.

Date:	01-MAY-1996	Operator:	Exxon
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0182	Event(s):	Fire / Pollution (150 bbls crude)
Area:	Santa Barabara Channel	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pescado	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Heritage	Water Depth:	1075'

Remarks: At some time prior to May 1, 1996, the four drain valves on the pig launcher were left in the open position. This may have happened during the last pigging operation which occurred March 16, 1996. On May 1, 1996, Platform Harmony had a shutdown due to a faulty circuit board on the fire and gas system, which in turn shutdown Platform Heritage. Heritage personnel decided to test shutdown valves and pressure operated valves on the pipeline and other valves that require a complete platform shutdown in order to perform these tests. One of the valves that was function tested was pressure operated valve 791-3. The operator noticed an air leak on the stem of the valve. He closed the valve and turned the air off. It appears that air leaked past the controller and reopened the valve (this valve is not a fail-safe close valve).

Date:	05-JUL-1996	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0316	Event(s):	Fire
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pt. Arguello	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Hermosa	Water Depth:	603'

Remarks: Caused by a thrust-bearing failure, which allowed the shaft of the electric motor to rub against the seal assembly causing friction and heat.

Pacific Region

Injuries - 1995

Date:	10-Feb-1995	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0316	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pt. Arguello	Cause:	Slip/Trip/Fall
Rig/Platform:	Hermosa	Water Depth:	603'

Remarks: Employee descending west stairway slipped on final step

Date:	17-Feb-1995	Operator:	Torch
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0441	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Drilling
Field:	Pt. Pedernales	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Irene	Water Depth:	242'

Remarks: While tripping out of hole, the drill crew was using a longer tong snubline on the breakout tongs to breakout drill pipe connections during the trip. The drill crew had placed their tongs on the drill pipe connection in preparation for breaking out the stand of heavy weight drill pipe. The driller mistakenly engaged the rotary table rather than the cathead operating the breakout tongs. The rotary table spun tightening the snubline on the breakout tongs, slapping an employee in the back. He sustained three broken ribs, a partially punctured lung, and a laceration of the right forearm.

Date:	25-Feb-1995	Operator:	Torch
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0441	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Drilling
Field:	Pt. Pedernales	Cause:	Falling Object
Rig/Platform:	Irene	Water Depth:	242'

Remarks: Pulling up shipping pump motor to service. While lowering the pump onto a motor pallet on the drill deck, a roustabout was giving hand signals to crane operator. An employee was trying to stab the mounting bolts into the motor as it was being lowered. The mounting bolts did not match up with the holes in the motor allowing the motor to force the bolts downward. This caused one of the bolts to pinch his hand between the bolt head and the drill deck.

Date:	02-Mar-1995	Operator:	Chevron
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0316	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pt. Arguello	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	Hermosa	Water Depth:	603'

Remarks: While attempting to push a steel plate back into place, he twisted his left knee.

Date:	22-Nov-1995	Operator:	Texaco
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0315	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Workover
Field:	Pt. Arguello	Cause:	Slip/Trip/Fall
Rig/Platform:	Harvest	Water Depth:	675'

Remarks: Employee was standing pipe with another employee attempting to remove a snatch block from a padeye on the ceiling. While reaching overhead, his feet slipped from the pipe. The employee fell 4-5' until the safety lanyard stopped the fall. The jerk of the lanyard attached to his belt caused injury to his lower back.

Date:	15-Dec-1995	Operator:	UNOCAL
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0216	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Barbara Channel	Operation:	Workover
Field:	Santa Clara	Cause:	Equipment Failure / Falling Object
Rig/Platform:	Gilda	Water Depth:	205'

Remarks: During tubing hanger dressing operations, a 1/2" rope snapped allowing two 40' cables to fall to rig floor, striking employee on neck and shoulder.

Injuries - 1996

Date:	02-Jan-1996	Operator:	Texaco
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0315	Event(s):	Injury (1)
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Crane Operation
Field:	Pt. Arguello	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Harvest	Water Depth:	675'

Remarks: Person was being transferred from vessel to platform in personnel basket when the crane line slipped and the personnel basket was jerked, resulting in a fractured leg.

Pacific Region

Significant Pollution Incidents - 1996

(There were no "Significant Pollution Events" in 1995)

(≥ 50 bbls)

Date:	01-MAY-96	Operator:	Exxon Corporation
Investigation:	Complete	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P00182	Event(s):	Pollution (150 bbls crude) / Fire
Area:	Santa Barbara Channel	Operation:	Production
Field:	Pescado	Cause:	Human Error / Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Heritage	Water Depth:	1,075'

Remarks: At some time prior to May 1, 1996, the four drain valves on the pig launcher were left in the open position. This may have happened during the last pigging operation, which occurred March 16, 1996. On May 1, 1996, Platform Harmony had a shutdown due to a faulty circuit board on the fire and gas system, which in turn shutdown Platform Heritage. Heritage personnel decided to test shutdown valves and pressure operated valves on the pipeline and other valves that require a complete platform shutdown in order to perform these tests. One of the valves that was function tested was pressure operated valve 791-3. The operator noticed an air leak on the stem of the valve. He closed the valve and turned the air off. It appears that air leaked past the controller and reopened the valve (this valve is not a fail-safe close valve).

Pacific Region

Other Incidents - 1995

Date:	28-Jan-1995	Operator:	Torch
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0441	Event(s):	Crane Incident
Area:	Santa Maria Basin	Operation:	Crane Operation
Field:	Pt. Pedernales	Cause:	Equipment Failure
Rig/Platform:	Irene	Water Depth:	242'

Remarks: Lifting slings slipped off load being moved by crane.

Other Incidents - 1996

Date:	06-Aug-1996	Operator:	Torch
Investigation:	None	Activity:	Development
Lease:	P0241	Event(s):	Crane Incident
Area:	Santa Barbara Channel	Operation:	Drilling
Field:	Dos Cuadras	Cause:	Human Error
Rig/Platform:	"C"	Water Depth:	192'

Remarks: Operator came to platform from another platform and began operating crane. Picked up mud logging lab and he was lowering it to the drill deck. While lowering it, he did not engage the fast break line before disengaging fast line clutch. This resulted in the lab free falling ~13" to deck.

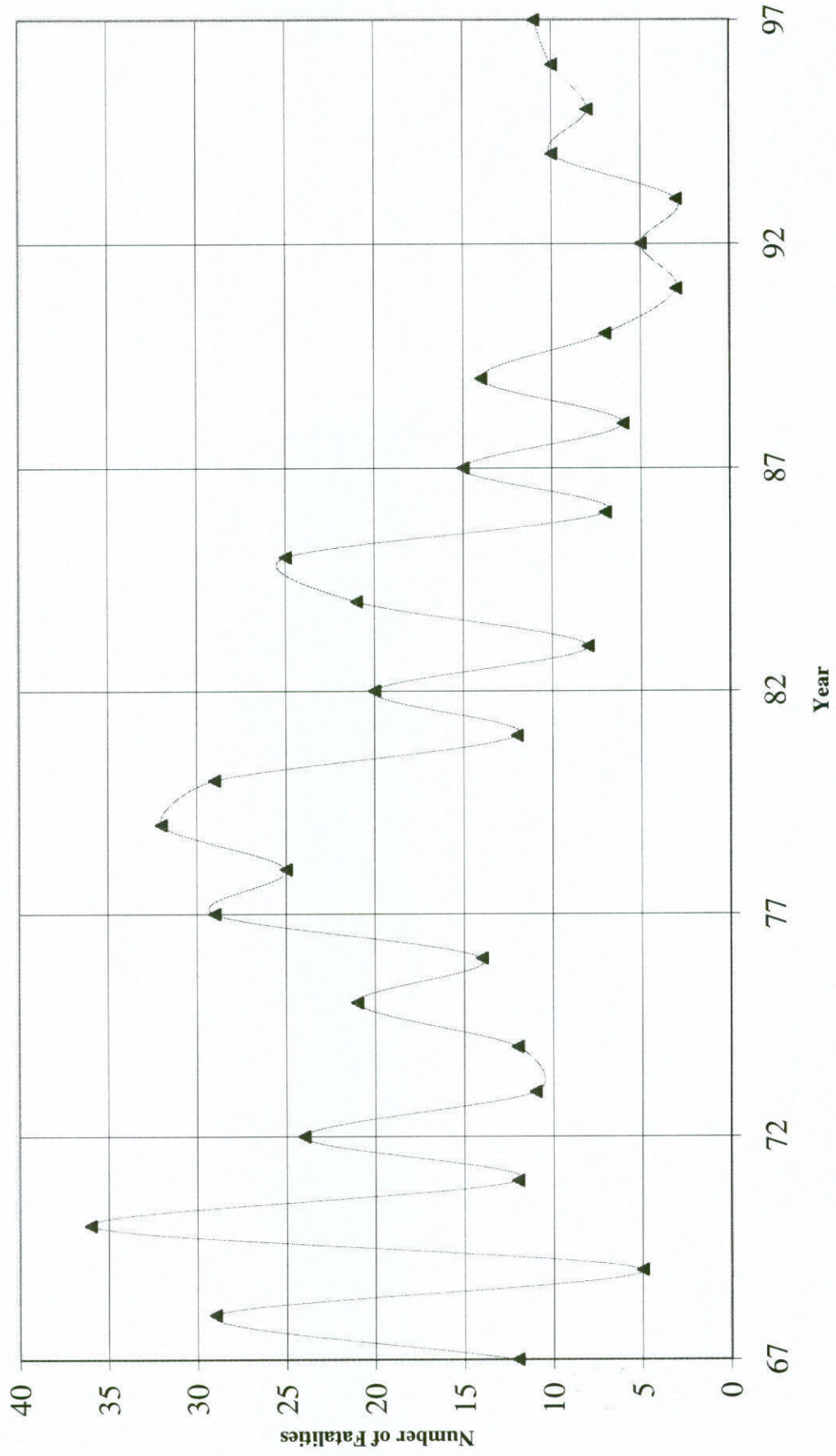
Pacific Region

During 1995 - 1996, there were no blowouts, collisions, explosions, fatalities, or pipeline incidents reported to MMS in the Pacific Region.

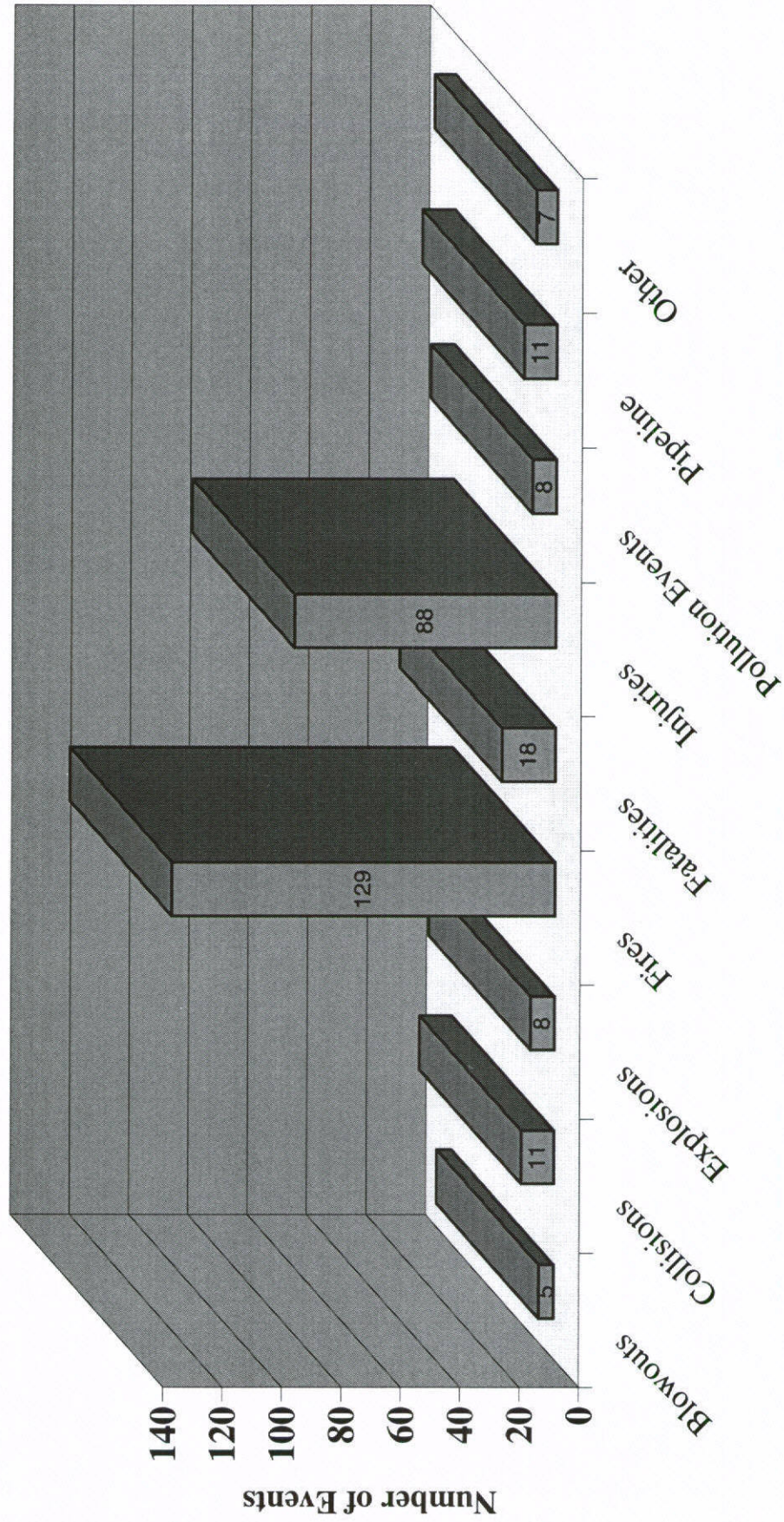
Appendix

Graphical Summary
of
OCS Incident Data
1995-1996

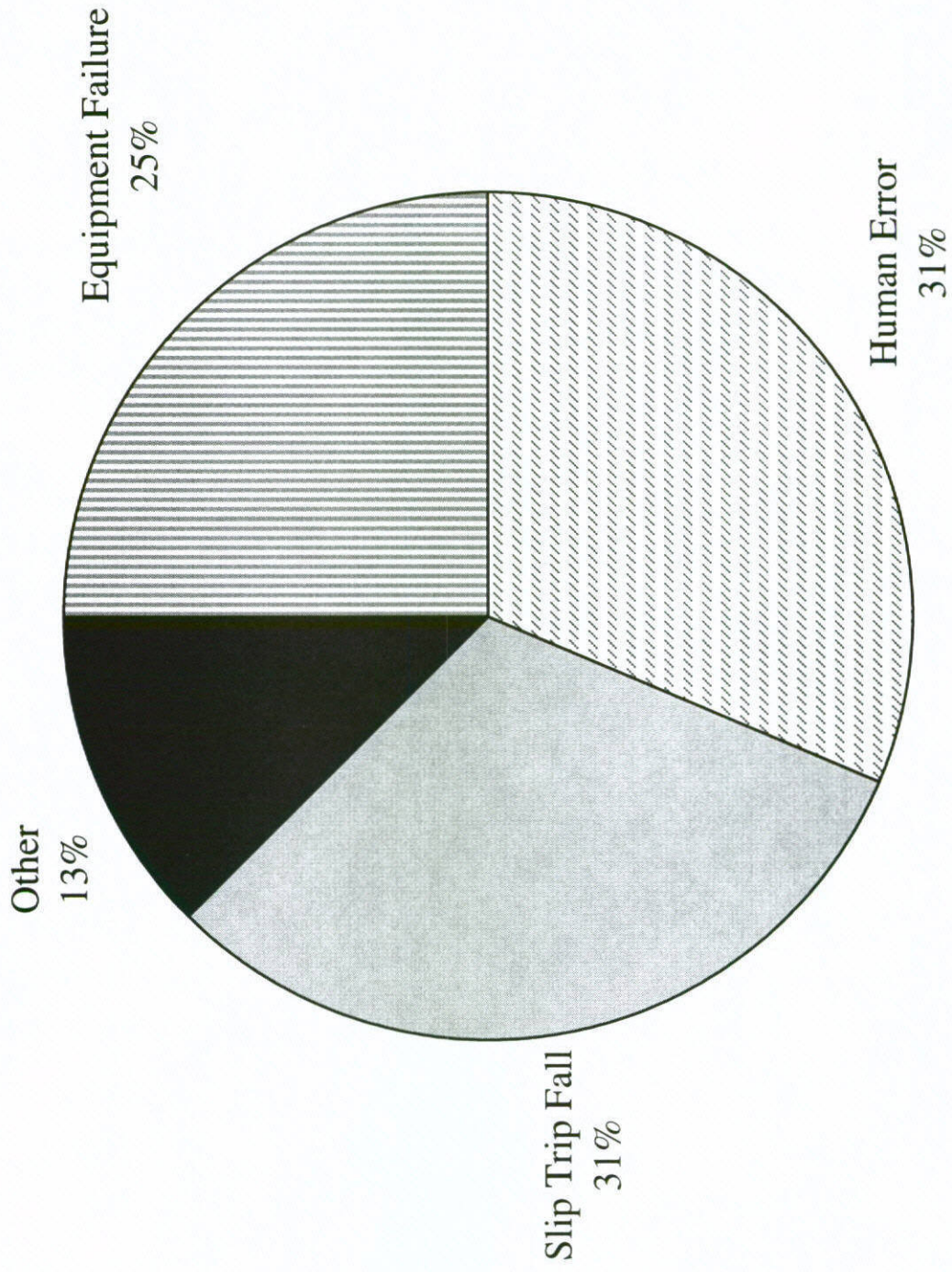
OCS Fatalities Reported to MMS 1967-1997



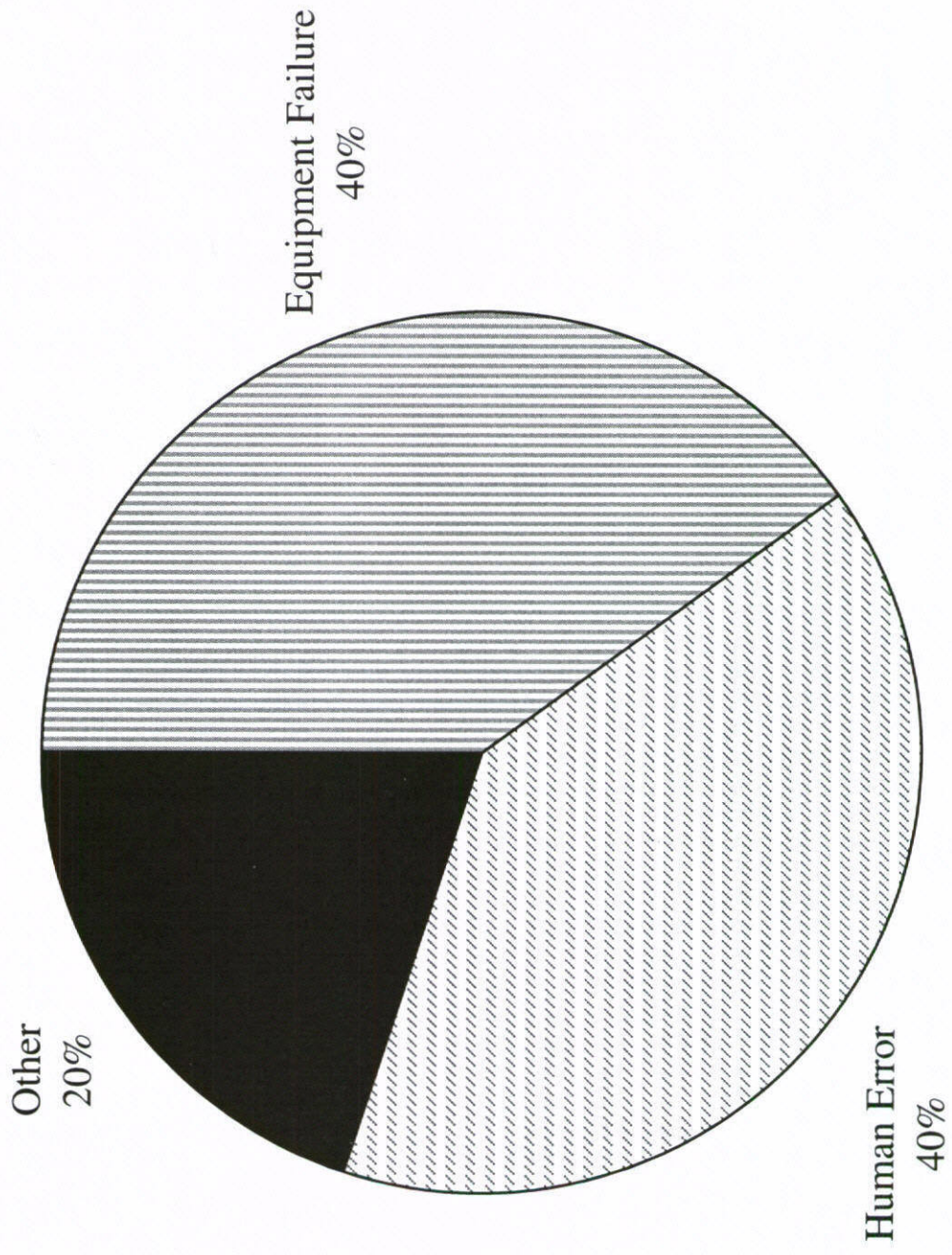
OCS Incidents Reported to MMS 1995-1996



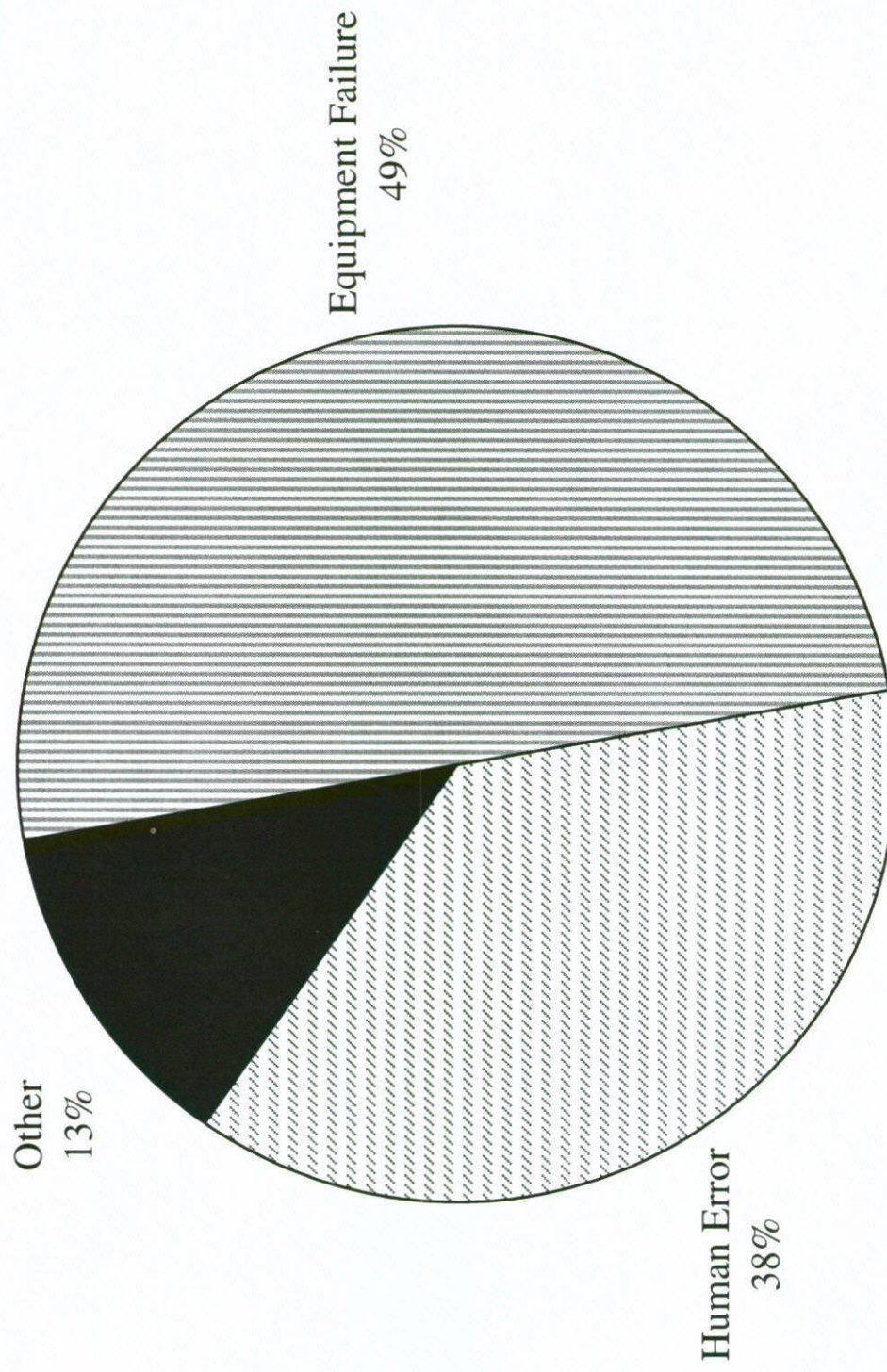
Causes of OCS Fatalities 1995-1996



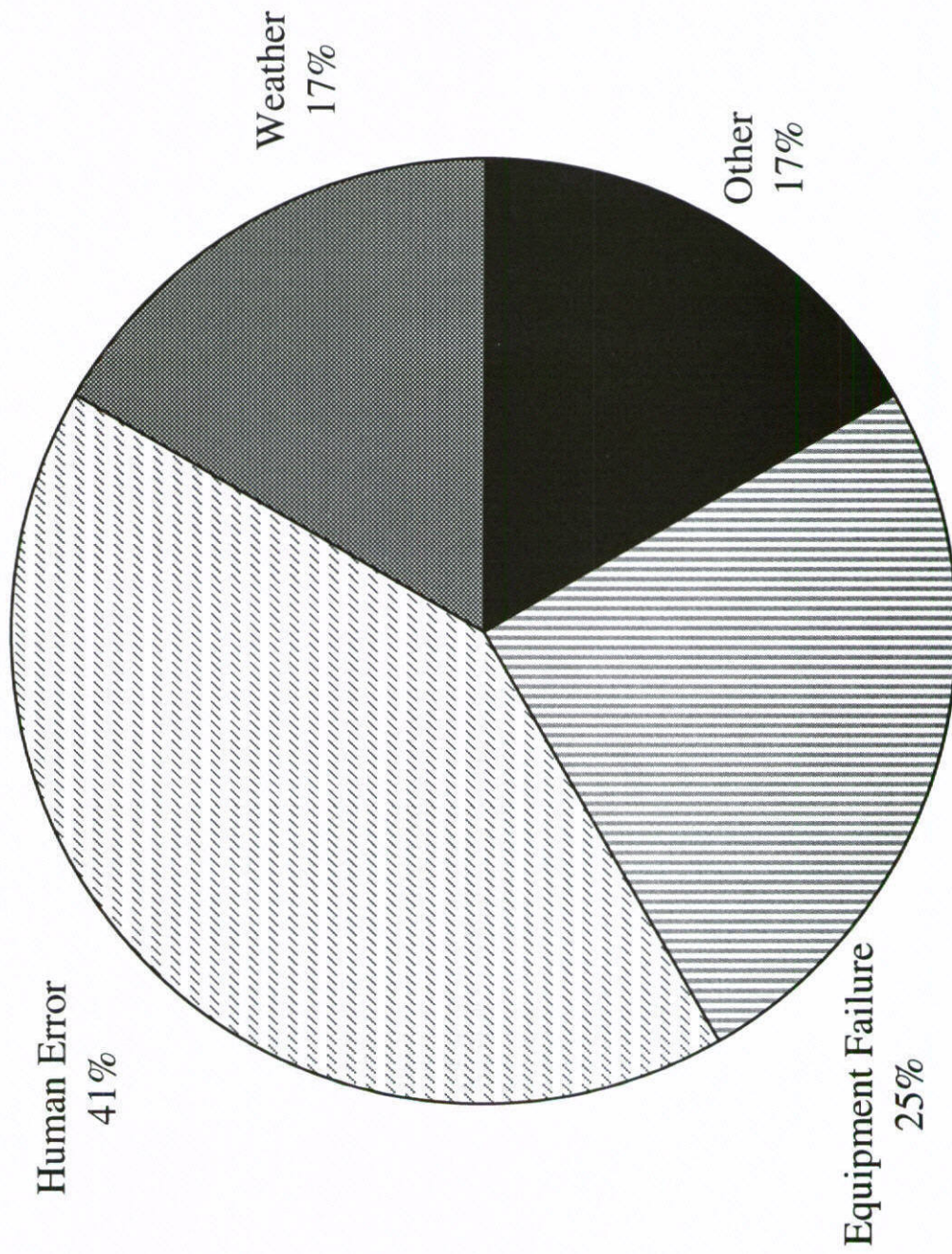
Causes of OCS Blowouts 1995-1996



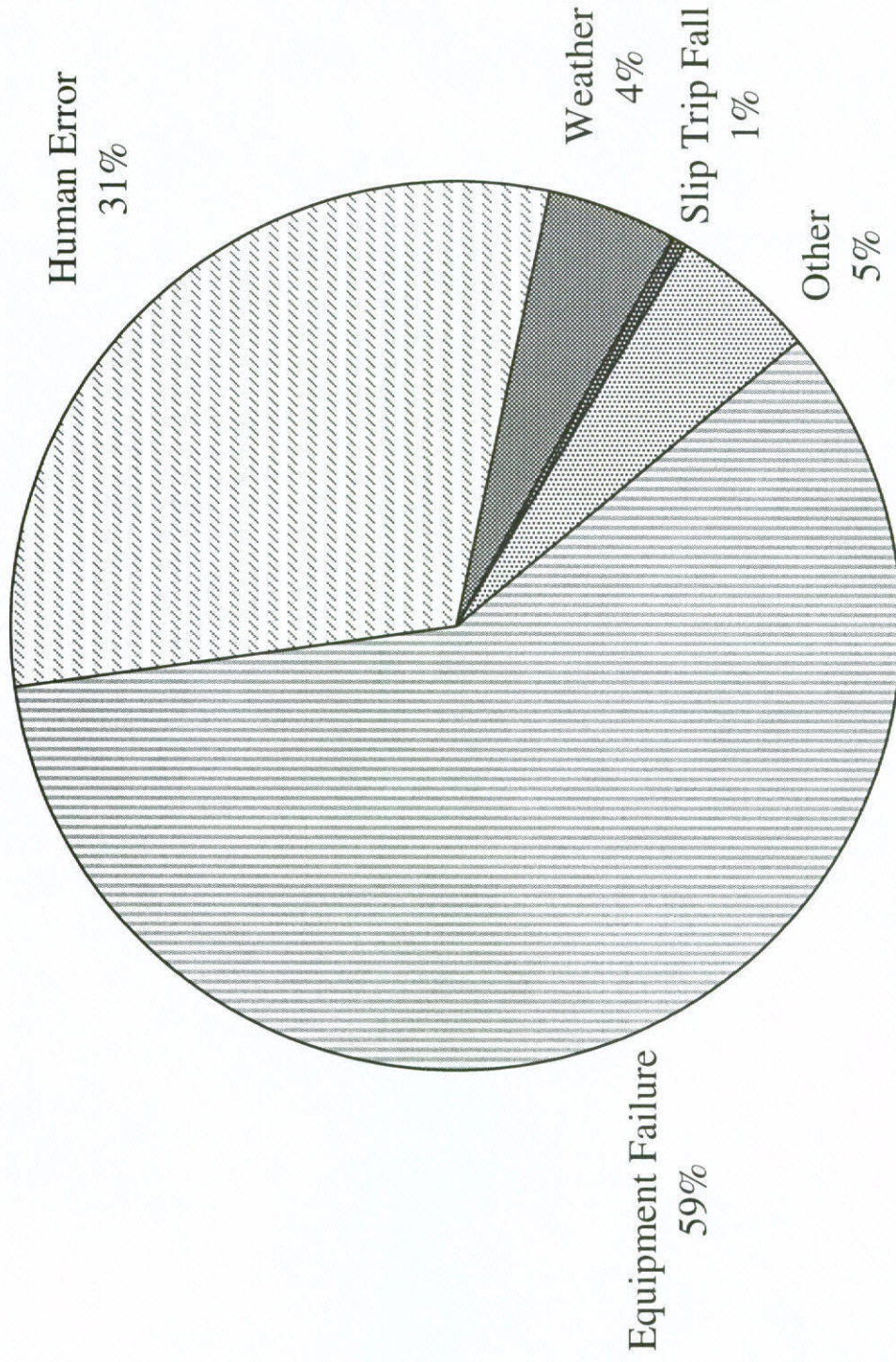
Causes of OCS Explosions 1995-1996



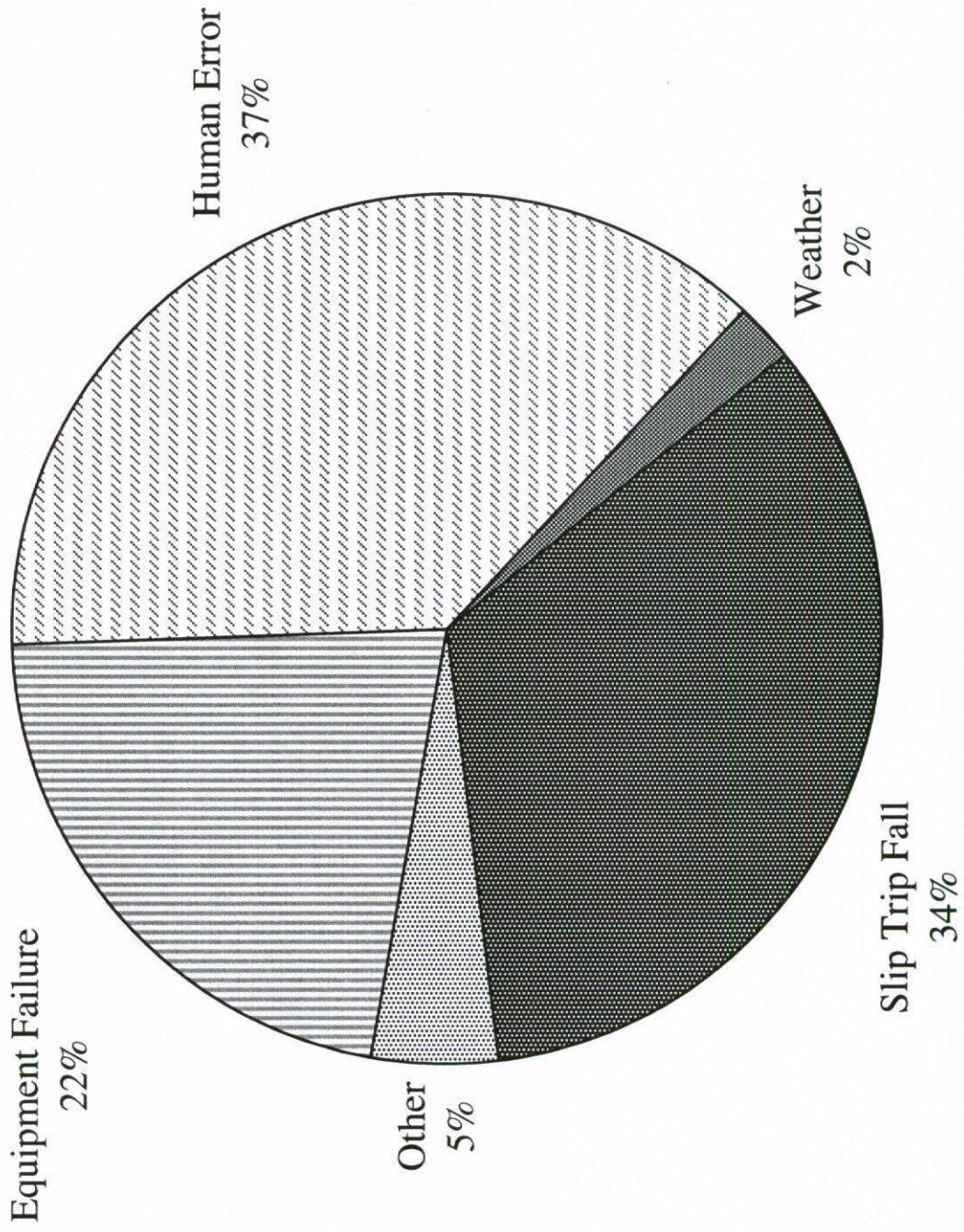
Causes of Collisions with an OCS Facility 1995-1996



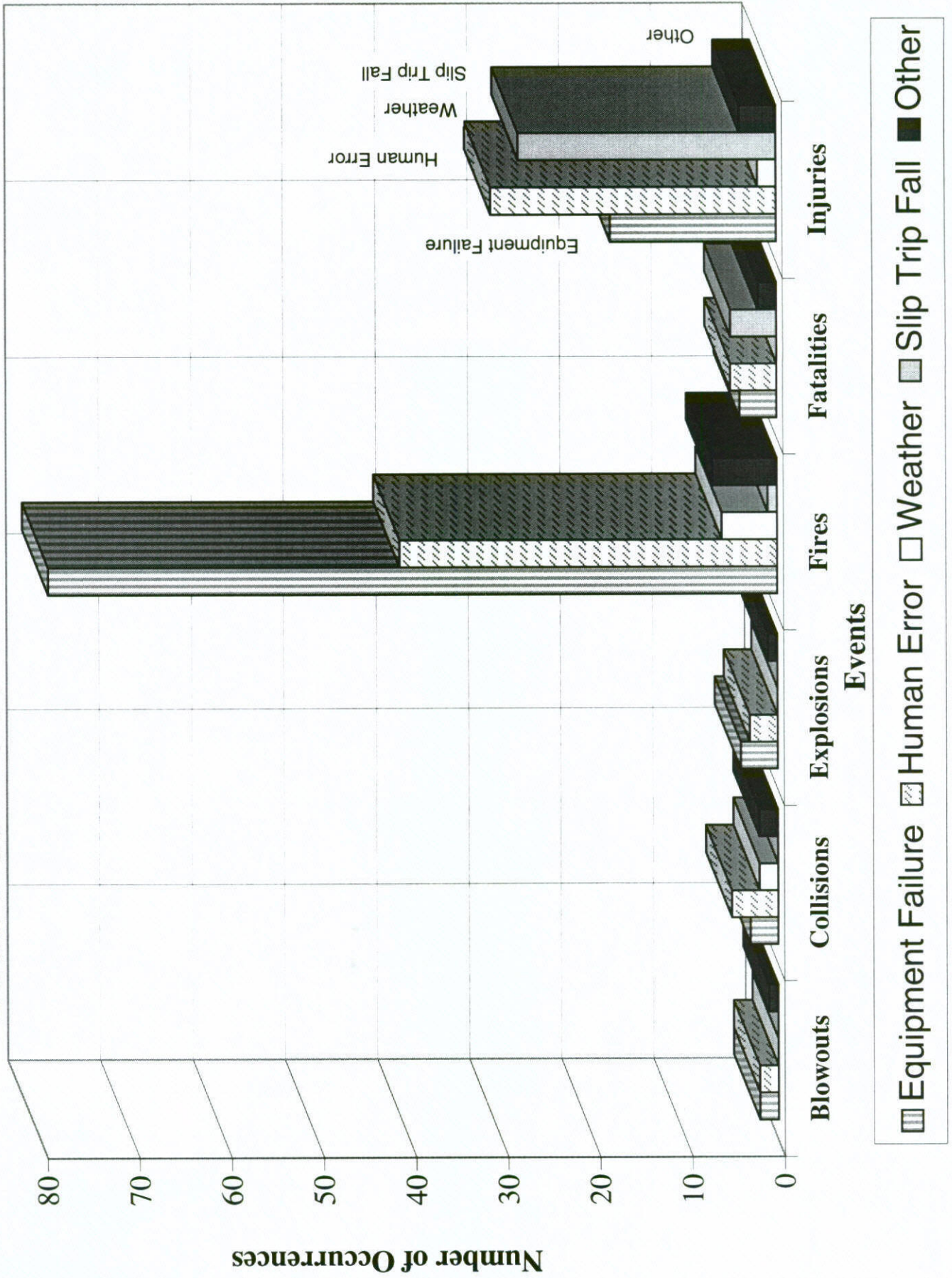
Causes of OCS Fires 1995-1996



Causes of OCS Injuries 1995-1996



Total OCS Incidents/Causes 1995-1996



Summary of OCS Incident Causes 1995-1996

