



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region**

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December 5, 1979

Safety Alert

Hose Ruptures -- Fatality

A man was fatally injured when a mud pump discharge hose ruptured on an offshore platform drilling rig.

The driller started up a mud pump with a closed standpipe valve blocking the discharge of the pump. The build-up of pressure ruptured the vibrator hose and since there were no witnesses to the accident, it is surmised that man was near the pump and was struck by the hose and/or mud stream which threw him either into a handrail or into another mud pump, inflicting fatal injuries.

To prevent a recurrence of this type accident, the operator has instructed the drilling contractor to verify that the correct valves are open and insure that positive communication is established between the driller and floorhand before engaging the mud pump.

[signed] D.W. Solanas

Oil and Gas Supervisor

Operations Support

Gulf of Mexico Area