



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

Notice No. 097

June 22, 1980

OCS Operations Safety Alert

Welding -- Fire

A fire recently occurred on an offshore production platform during welding operations. Hot slag from a piece of pipe fell through a small opening two feet from the welding operation into the top of an open skimmer tank igniting oil in the tank.

The fire was extinguished quickly. There was no injury to personnel and only slight damage to the platform.

To prevent a recurrence of this type of accident, the operator is taking the following action:

All deck openings in the vicinity of the welding or cutting operations will be temporarily sealed until operations have been completed.

[signed] D.W. Solanas

Deputy Conservation Manager

Offshore Operations Support

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region