# BEFORE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

#### IN THE MATTER OF:

Offshore Rental, Ltd. d/b/a Tiger Tanks Offshore Rental

(Respondent).

PHMSA CASE NUMBER
12-0173-TRR-SW

#### **COMPROMISE ORDER**

By this Order I find that Offshore Rental Ltd. d/b/a Tiger Tanks Offshore Rental (Respondent) committed one (1) violation of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR), 49 C.F.R. Parts 171-180. Accordingly, I assess Respondent a \$4,480 civil penalty for this violation.

#### I. Summary

Respondent: Offshore Rental, Ltd. d/b/a Tiger Tanks Offshore Rental

P.O. Box 790

Beaumont, TX 77701

ATTN: Mr. Casey Crenshaw, Vice President

No. of Violations:

Total Payment Due: \$4,480

#### II. Finding

This matter comes before me after Respondent and the Pipeline and Hazardous

Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) agreed to a disposition of this civil enforcement
action. I have reviewed the Compromise Agreement (Agreement) and I find that the terms as
outlined therein are in the best interest of justice. I find Respondent committed the violation

as described in the Agreement, which is attached as Addendum A to this Order, and I impose a civil penalty of \$4,480. Respondent must pay the civil penalty in accordance with the instructions contained in Addendum B to this Order.

The Agreement, in its entirety, is incorporated in and attached to this Order. All of the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall be given the full force and effect of an Order issued pursuant to the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. § 5101, et seq., or the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 C.F.R. Parts 171 – 180.

Dated: 02/26/2013

So Ordered,

Vanessa L. Allen Sutherland

Chief Counsel

Pipeline and Hazardous

Materials Safety Administration

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

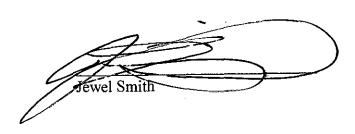
This is to certify that on the <u>36</u> day of <u>February</u>, 2013, the undersigned served in the following manner the designated copies of this Order with attached Addendums to each party listed below:

Original Order with Copy of Agreement Certified Mail Return Receipt

John Seth Bullard Orgain Bell & Tucker, LLP 470 Orleans Street P.O. Box 1751 Beaumont, Texas 77704 One Original First Class Mail - Return Receipt

Enforcement Officer Office of Hazardous Materials Safety Field Operations 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 02590-0001 One Copy (without enclosures) Electronic Mail

Mr. Billy Hines, Region Director Office of Hazardous Materials Safety Field Operations Southwest Region, PHH-45 8701 S. Gessner Road, Suite 900 Houston, Texas 77074 One Copy (without enclosures) Electronic mail



### **ADDENDUM A**

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## BEFORE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

#### IN THE MATTER OF:

Offshore Rental, Ltd. d/b/a Tiger Tanks Offshore Rental (Respondent)

PHMSA CASE Number: 12-0173-TRR-SW

#### COMPROMISE AGREEMENT

#### I. Parties

The Parties to this Compromise Agreement (Agreement) are:

Offshore Rental, Ltd. d/b/a Tiger Tanks Offshore Rental ("Respondent"), a provider of specification and non-specification portable tanks to the offshore oil and gas industry, located in Beaumont, Texas

and

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration ("PHMSA"), a modal Administration of the United States Department of Transportation.

#### II. Authority/Jurisdiction

- A. The Parties enter into this Agreement under authority of 49 U.S.C. § 5123(e) and 49 C.F.R. § 107.327(a)(1).
  - B. For the Purposes of this Agreement, Respondent acknowledges:
- (1) As a provider of specification and non-specification portable tanks to the offshore oil and gas industry, it is a regulated entity subject to the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) and to the jurisdiction of (a) the Secretary of Transportation, (b) the PHMSA's Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, and (c) PHMSA's Office of the Chief Counsel (49 U.S.C. § 5103(b) and 49 C.F.R. § 107.301); and
  - (2) That it received proper notice of PHMSA's action in this proceeding.

#### III. Background

- A. On July 18-19, 2012, an Inspector from PHMSA's Office of Hazardous Materials Safety Field Operations (OHMSFO) conducted a routine compliance inspection at Respondent's business pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5121 and 49 C.F.R. § 107.305. PHMSA's Inspector reported one alleged violation of the HMR. At the conclusion of the compliance inspection, PHMSA's Inspector conducted an "exit briefing" during which the Inspector discussed the alleged violation and the required corrective actions with Respondent's representative.
- B. Upon completion of the compliance inspection, the Inspector submitted a report to the director of OHMSFO's Southwest Region, who reviewed the report for accuracy and sufficiency of evidence. Based on that review, the region director referred the matter to PHMSA's Office of Chief Counsel thereby recommending the initiation of a civil penalty action against Respondent pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 107.311.
- C. Based on a preliminary assessment of the apparent nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the probable violation, as set forth in the Inspector's report, on November 21, 2012, an attorney from PHMSA's Office of Chief Counsel issued a Notice of Probable Violation (Notice) alleging one violation of the HMR and proposing a \$5,600 civil penalty.

#### IV. Basis of Agreement

- A. <u>Reply to Notice</u>. On December 17, 2012, Respondent submitted a timely reply to the Notice and requested an informal conference.
- B. <u>Corrective Action</u>. In correspondence dated August 28, 2012, September 10, 2012, and December 17, 2012, Respondent submitted evidence of corrective actions it had taken in response to the exit briefing. The following is a summary of all of Respondent's corrective actions.

Violation Number	Respondent's Corrective action	
1	Respondent indicated that an authorized inspection service was performing the required testing on the subject tanks. Respondent provided a listing of the tanks that had already been tested, or were scheduled to be tested, and it included sample copies of a recent tank container periodic inspection report and a portable tank modification report. Respondent also provided, as further proof of its corrective action for this violation, copies of recent inspection reports showing that the subject tanks had been re-inspected and certified.	

C. <u>Small Business Size</u>. Evidence in the record also substantiates that Respondent is a small business.

#### V. Violations and Civil Penalty

In a subsequent Order, the Chief Counsel will find that Respondent committed the following violations and will assess the following civil penalty:

Viol. No.	HMR Violation	NOPV Penalty Amount	Compromise Penalty Amount
1	Performing hydrostatic test, repairs, and modifications on IM 101 specification portable tanks without the approval of a Designated Approval Agency, in violation of 49 CFR §§ 171.2(c) and 180.605(h)(3) & (j).	\$5,600	\$4,480
TOTAL		\$5,600	\$4,480

#### VI. Factors Considered in Determining the Civil Penalty

In determining the amount of a civil penalty, PHMSA considered the following statutory criteria (49 U.S.C. § 5123(c)):

- (1) The nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations;
- (2) The degree of culpability and history of prior violations;
- (3) Respondent's size;
- (4) Respondent's ability to pay the penalty and its ability to continue to do business; and
- (5) Other matters as justice may require.

Documentation of Respondent's corrective actions for this violation and the fact that Respondent is a small business, justify assessing a civil penalty of \$4,480.

#### VII. Terms and Conditions

- A. Respondent agrees to pay the sum of \$4,480, as full satisfaction of the civil penalty proposed in the Notice. Respondent is to make the payment within 30 days from the date the Chief Counsel issues the Final Order, which will issue after Respondent signs and returns this Agreement.
  - B. By entering into this Agreement, Respondent waives:
- (1) Any right to present further written or oral explanations, information, and arguments in this matter;
  - (2) Any right to Administrative appeal; and
- (3) Any right to seek judicial review or otherwise contest or challenge the validity of this Agreement or the Notice associated with this case.

- C. This Agreement resolves only the violation noted in PHMSA Ref. No. 12-0173-TRR-SW, and as referenced in Section V of this Agreement. In the event Respondent commits any future violations of the Federal hazardous material transportation law, 49 U.S.C. § 5101 et seq., the HMR, or any exemption, or order issued thereunder this violation shall constitute a prior violation under 49 U.S.C. § 5123.
- D. No portion of this Agreement shall be deemed an admission of the alleged violation noted in PHMSA Ref. No. 12-0173-TRR-SW, and as referenced in Section V of this Agreement. This Agreement is a compromise of disputed claims entered into to avoid the expense and uncertainty of future litigation. This Agreement shall not be offered, used or admitted in evidence in any proceeding or litigation, whether civil or criminal other than proceedings brought by the United States Government. Respondent is entering into this Agreement without any prejudice to its rights to raise any defense or argument in any future or pending cases before PHMSA. Respondent retains the right to assert in any subsequent action or proceeding that any future or existing conditions identical or similar to those alleged herein this proceeding do not violate any law. By entering into this Agreement, Respondent does not admit the truth of any alleged facts, any characterizations of the Respondent's alleged conduct or any conclusions set forth in the Notice or the Compromise Order.
- E. After Respondent returns this signed Agreement, PHMSA's representative will present the Agreement to the Chief Counsel requesting that the Chief Counsel adopt the terms of this Agreement by issuing a Compromise Order (49 C.F.R. § 107.327(a)(1)). The terms of this Agreement constitute an offer of compromise until accepted by the Chief Counsel.
- F. After issuance of the Compromise Order, Respondent must pay the civil penalty in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. Upon receipt of Respondent's final payment, the Chief Counsel will close this case with prejudice to the Respondent (49 C.F.R. § 107.327(a)(1)(ii)).

#### VIII. Miscellaneous Provisions

- A. By signing this Agreement, Respondent or its representative warrants to have read the Agreement and understood its terms and conditions.
- B. The individuals signing on behalf of the Respondent and PHMSA represent that they are authorized to sign and have authority to enter into this Agreement.
- C. Respondent's failure to sign and return this Agreement within thirty (30) days from its receipt will result in the withdrawal of this Agreement and the Chief Counsel will issue an Order pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 107.317(d), for the full amount of the penalty proposed in the Notice.

D. Respondent must return the signed Agreement to:

Vincent Lopez United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., PHC-10, Room E26-328 Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Respondent

Federal Tax ID#: 76 - 055 9 450

Pipeline and Hazardous **Materials Safety Administration** 

Date: 2.26./3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Taxpayer Identifying Number is required by 31 U.S.C. § 7701(c)(3). PHMSA will use this number for purposes of collecting and reporting on any delinquent amounts arising out of this agreement.

## ADDENDUM B

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#### Payment Information

Respondent must pay a total civil penalty of \$4,480 in accordance with the following:

#### Due date

Respondent must pay the civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.

#### Payment Method

Respondent must pay the civil penalty by one of the following: (1) wire transfer,

(2) certified check or money order, or (3) credit card via the Internet.

#### (1) Wire Transfer.

Detailed instructions for sending a wire transfer through the Federal Reserve Communications System (Fedwire) to the account of the U.S. Treasury are contained in the enclosure to this Order. Please direct questions concerning wire transfers to:

Financial Operations Division Attn: Ryan Incaudo Federal Aviation Administration Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center AMZ-341 P.O. Box 269039 Oklahoma City, OK 73125 Telephone (405) 954-2685.

#### (2) Check or Money Order.

Make check or money order payable to "U.S. Department of Transportation" (include the Ref. No. of this case on the check or money order) and send to:

Chief, Financial Operations Division Attn: Ryan Incaudo Federal Aviation Administration Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center AMZ-341 P.O. Box 269039 Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

#### (3) <u>Credit Card.</u>

To pay electronically using a credit card, visit the following website address and follow the instructions:

https://www.pay.gov/paygov/

#### Interest and Administrative Charges

If Respondent pays the civil penalty by the due date, no interest will be charged. If Respondent does not pay by that date, the FAA's Financial Operations Division will start collection activities and may assess interest, a late-payment penalty, and administrative charges under 31 U.S.C. § 3717, 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, and 49 C.F.R. § 89.23.

The rate of interest is determined under the above authorities. Interest accrues from the date of this Order. A late-payment penalty of six percent (6%) per year applies to any portion of the debt that is more than 90 days past due. The late-payment penalty is calculated from the date Respondent receives the Order.

#### Treasury Department Collection

FAA's Financial Operations Division may also refer this debt and associated charges to the U.S. Department of Treasury for collection. The Department of the Treasury may offset these amounts against any payment due Respondent (31 C.F.R. § 901.3).

Under the Debt Collection Act (see 31 U.S.C. § 3716(a)), a debtor has certain procedural rights prior to an offset. You, as the debtor, have the right to be notified of: (1) the nature and amount of the debt; (2) the agency's intention to collect the debt by offset; (3) the right to inspect and copy the agency records pertaining to the debt; (4) the right to request a review within the agency of the indebtedness and (5) the right to enter into a written agreement with the agency to repay the debt. This Order constitutes written notification of these procedural rights.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER TO PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1. RECEIVER'S ABA NO.	2. <u>TYPE SUBTYPE</u>		
021030004	(provided by sending bank)		
3. SENDING BANK ARB NO.	4. SENDING BANK REF NO.		
(provided by sending bank)	(provided by sending bank)		
5. AMOUNT	6. SENDING BANK NAME		
	(provided by sending bank)		
7. RECEIVER NAME:	8. PRODUCT CODE (Normally CTR, or		
TREAS NYC	sending bank)		
9. BENEFICIAL (BNF)- AGENCY	10. REASONS FOR PAYMENT		
LOCATION CODE	Example: PHMSA Payment for Case		
BNF=/AC-69140001	#/Ticket		

<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>: You, as sender of the wire transfer, must provide the sending bank with the information for Block (1), (5), (7), (9), and (10). The information provided in blocks (1), (7), and (9) are constant and remain the same for all wire transfers to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation

<u>Block #1</u> - RECEIVER ABA NO. - "021030004". Ensure the sending bank enters this nine digit identification number; it represents the routing symbol for the U.S. Treasury at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

<u>Block #5</u> - AMOUNT - You as the sender provide the amount of the transfer. Please be sure the transfer amount is punctuated with commas and a decimal point. <u>EXAMPLE:</u> \$10,000.00

<u>Block #7</u> - RECEIVER NAME- "TREAS NYC." Ensure the sending bank enters this abbreviation, which must be used for all wire transfer to the Treasury Department.

Block #9 - BENEFICIAL - AGENCY LOCATION CODE - "BNF=/AC-69140001" Ensure the sending bank enters this information. This is the Agency Location Code for Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation

<u>Block #10</u> - REASON FOR PAYMENT – "AC-Payment for PHMSA Case#" To ensure your wire transfer is credited properly, enter the case number/ticket number or Pipeline Assessment number."

Note: - A wire transfer must comply with the format and instructions or the Department cannot accept the wire transfer. You, as the sender, can assist this process by notifying, at the time you send the wire transfer, the General Accounting Division at (405) 954-8893.