

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
GULF OF MEXICO REGION
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **22-MAR-2006** TIME: **0850** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Kerr-McGee Corporation**

REPRESENTATIVE: **Eric Hebert**

TELEPHONE: **(281) 673-7195**

3. LEASE: **G16865**

AREA: **AT** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **140** LONGITUDE:

4. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME **DIAMOND OCEAN STAR**

5. ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION (POE)

DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION
(DOCD/POD)

6. TYPE: FIRE

EXPLOSION

BLOWOUT

COLLISION

INJURY NO. _____

FATALITY NO. _____

POLLUTION

OTHER _____

7. OPERATION: PRODUCTION

DRILLING

WORKOVER

COMPLETION

MOTOR VESSEL

PIPELINE SEGMENT NO. _____

OTHER _____

8. CAUSE: EQUIPMENT FAILURE

HUMAN ERROR

EXTERNAL DAMAGE

SLIP/TRIP/FALL

WEATHER RELATED

LEAK

UPSET H2O TREATING

OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID

OTHER _____

9. WATER DEPTH: **3739** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **86** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: **NNE**

SPEED: **29** M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: **NNE**

SPEED: **2** M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: **9** FT.

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

Eric Hebert

CITY: **Iota** STATE: **LA**

TELEPHONE: **(337) 779-2539**

CONTRACTOR: **Diamond Offshore Drilling,
Inc.**

CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/
SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

Gary Case

CITY: **Brookhaven** STATE: **MS**

TELEPHONE: **(601) 833-6266**

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

The incident occurred while running 13 5/8" casing. The well was on trip tank and the trip tank volume started dropping. While the driller took action to line-up and fill the trip tank, the driller noticed the light was on indicating the diverter overboard valve was open. The diverter valve was closed immediately upon discovery. Approximately 19 barrels of SBM was discharged from the trip tank and through the diverter valve. No visible sheen was observed on the water surface. The percentage of oil in the synthetic based mud, was 52% which is approximately 9 bbls.

Investigation findings:

Rig Electrician & Sub-Sea Engineer checked for electrical problems at the accumulator panel. Electrical system checked normal.

When the air operated diverter valve was inspected, they noticed that the packing seal was leaking; this allowed the valve to open and release SOB mud over board.

The diverter valve is also used for well control operations and is tested weekly.

There is no preventative maintenance schedule for the diverter valve.

There is no alert system installed to monitor the valve when not in use.

The valve was repaired, and the valve on the other side of the diverter overboard line was also replaced as preventative maintenance.

The MMS was not notified of the pollution event.

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

The cause of the incident was due to leaking packing seal on the air operated valve which caused the valve to open.

There was no preventive maintenance schedule on the diverter valve.

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

There was no alert system to monitor the valve when not in use.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

Synthetic Oil Base Mud

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

Lost Overboard

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

\$3,800

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

No recommendations to MMS

The New Orleans District concurs with operator's recommendation to prevent recurrence.

1) The rig will be evaluating the availability to install an alert system to monitor the valve when not in use.

2) The valve is also used for well control if needed and is tested weekly.

3) Replacement of the valves for every three years was added to the preventative maintenance schedule.

4) Environmental incident reporting procedures were also modified to ensure that MMS is notified of all SBM spills.

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

30-MAR-2006

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Perry Jennings /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

FPausina for TTrosclair

APPROVED

DATE: **18-MAY-2006**

POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME: GAL 9 BBL
YARDS LONG X YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE: **BARELY VISIBLE**

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: OIL
 DIESEL
 CONDENSATE
 HYDRAULIC
 NATURAL GAS
 OTHER Synthetic Oil Base Mud

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: **Trip tank**

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN? **NO**

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED? **NO**

IF SO, TYPE: SKIMMER
 CONTAINMENT BOOM
 ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT
 DISPERSANTS
 OTHER _____

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY: 0 GAL BBL

7. RESPONSE TIME: HOURS

8. IS THE POLLUTION IN THE PROXIMITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (CLASS I)? **NO**

9. HAS REGION OIL SPILL TASK FORCE BEEN NOTIFIED? **NO**

10. CONTACTED SHORE: **NO** IF YES, WHERE:

11. WERE ANY LIVE ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR: **NO**

12. WERE ANY OILED OR DEAD ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR SPILL: **NO**