

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **22-APR-2008** TIME: **1430** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Maritech Resources, Inc.**

REPRESENTATIVE: **Steiner, Russell**

TELEPHONE: **(337) 981-2332**

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: **G08753**

AREA: **MP** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **175** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM: **A**

RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION(POE)
 DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION
 (DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:

- HISTORIC INJURY
 - REQUIRED EVACUATION
 - LTA (1-3 days)
 - LTA (>3 days)
 - RW/JT (1-3 days)
 - RW/JT (>3 days)
 - Other Injury

- FATALITY
- POLLUTION
- FIRE
- EXPLOSION

- LWC HISTORIC BLOWOUT
- UNDERGROUND
 - SURFACE
 - DEVERTER
 - SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION HISTORIC >\$25K <=\$25K

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
- DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
- INCIDENT >\$25K
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER **Glycol Reboiler**

6. OPERATION:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- 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: **137** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **65** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION:
 SPEED: M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:
 SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

On April 22, 2008, at 1430 hours, on Maritech Resources, Inc's Lease OCS-G 08753, Main Pass (MP) Block 175, Platform A, a small fire occurred on the Glycol Reboiler unit. Internal heat from the fire tube burned the paint on the outside of the Glycol Reboiler and ignited the insulation covering the unit. The flames were immediately extinguished using a 30 lb Type BC fire extinguisher. Upon inspection of the unit, it was determined that a main fuel line union, located inside the burner behind the eclipse burner tip, was not properly tightened. This allowed the gas to escape and ignite, thus creating the excessive heat inside the fire chamber. There were no injuries as a result of this incident.

Sequence of Events:

- (a) The operators started the glycol reboiler after repairs were made to the fire tube.
- (b) The flame in the fire tube was excessive and heated up the outside chamber of the unit.
- (c) The outside of the ignition chamber was painted when repairs were made to the fire tube.
- (d) The excessive heat to the unit started to burn the paint and ignited the insulation covering the unit.
- (e) The fire was immediately extinguished using a 30 lb BC fire extinguisher.

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

Human Error:

- (a) A main fuel line union, located inside the burner behind the eclipse burner tip, was not properly tightened. This allowed the gas to escape and ignite, thus creating excessive heat inside the fire chamber.
- (b) Internal heat from the fire tube burned the low-temperature paint on the outside of the Glycol Reboiler that ignited the unit's insulation covering the unit.

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

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: NATURE OF DAMAGE:
Insulation covering Glycol Reboiler. **Fire**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:
The New Orleans District concurs with the Operator's recommendation to prevent recurrence by:

- (a) Ensuring start-up procedures are followed;**
- (b) Inspecting all work performed before placing equipment back in service;**
- (c) Only using high-temperature paint on fired vessels.**

The New Orleans District makes no recommendation to MMS.

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:
No onsite investigation /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION
 PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Troy Trosclair

APPROVED

DATE: **15-JUL-2008**