

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **11-SEP-2011** TIME: **1700** HOURS

2. OPERATOR:

Pisces Energy LLC
REPRESENTATIVE: **Groth, Christine**
TELEPHONE: **(281) 492-3247**
CONTRACTOR:
REPRESENTATIVE:
TELEPHONE:

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

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

6. OPERATION:

4. LEASE:

G12951
AREA: **SS** LATITUDE:
BLOCK: **227** LONGITUDE:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- MOTOR VESSEL
- PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
- OTHER

5. PLATFORM:

A
RIG NAME: **HERCULES 204**

6. ACTIVITY:

- EXPLORATION (POE)
- DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION (DOCD/POD)

8. CAUSE:

- EQUIPMENT FAILURE
- HUMAN ERROR
- EXTERNAL DAMAGE
- SLIP/TRIP/FALL
- WEATHER RELATED
- LEAK
- UPSET H2O TREATING
- OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
- OTHER _____

7. TYPE:

- HISTORIC INJURY
 - REQUIRED EVACUATION 2
 - LTA (1-3 days)
 - LTA (>3 days) 2
 - 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

9. WATER DEPTH: **128** FT.
10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **62** MI.
11. WIND DIRECTION: **N**
SPEED: **1** M.P.H.
12. CURRENT DIRECTION: **N**
SPEED: **1** M.P.H.
13. SEA STATE: **1** FT.

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

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

An incident occurred on the Hercules 204 drilling rig at 1700 hours on September 11, 2011. Two Omni-Pre Heat Services personnel were assigned to clean a mud tank. They were pumping out the subject tank with a double diaphragm pump. During the pumping operation, the diaphragm pump appeared to be plugged with debris. The personnel involved shut off the air supply to the pump and began to disassemble the pump to clear any blockage; however, the injured persons did not fully bleed the discharge pressure from the pump causing the discharge manifold to be blown from the pump. Oil based mud and debris were blown from the pump and struck the two employees in their eyes and upper extremities. One of the personnel was struck in the forehead and temporarily rendered unconscious. Both personnel were immediately examined by the rig's medic for first aid treatment. They were flown by medivac to Terrebonne General Medical Center for medical treatment. One of the employees received seven stitches to the forehead and the other was treated for abrasions to the eye. Both men were released at 2300 hours.

The investigation determined that a Job Safety Analysis (JSA) was not completed prior to performing the work; therefore, all hazards were not indentified prior to performing the work. Lock-Out Tag-Out (LOTO) practices were not used before disassembly of the pump, there were no operating procedures for disassembly of the pump, and there was no bleed valve installed on the discharge line to allow for depressurization of the line and pump.

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

The injured persons did not fully bleed the pump's discharge pressure resulting in the discharge manifold being blown from the pump, resulting in the oil based mud and debris striking the two employees in their eyes and upper extremities.

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

- * A JSA was not completed prior to performing the work; therefore, all hazards were not identified;
- * LOTO practices were not used before disassembly of the pump;
- * There were no operating procedures for disassembly of the pump; and
- * There was no bleed valve installed on the discharge line to allow for depressurization of the line and pump.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

As a result of this incident, Pisces has implemented a new Safe Work Practice through SEMS concerning the proper use of temporary pumps.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

N/A

N/A

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

The Houma District has no recommendations for the Agency.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **YES**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

G-110, Unsafe and Unworkmanlike practices.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Paul Nelson /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Bryan A. Domangue

APPROVED

DATE: **08-DEC-2011**

