

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **17-MAR-2005** TIME: **0400** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Apache Corporation**

REPRESENTATIVE: **David Broussard**

TELEPHONE: **(337) 232-2415**

3. LEASE: **G01294**

AREA: **SP** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **62** LONGITUDE:

4. PLATFORM: **B**

RIG NAME

5. ACTIVITY:  EXPLORATION(POE)

DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION  
(DOCD/POD)

6. TYPE:  FIRE

EXPLOSION

BLOWOUT

COLLISION

INJURY NO. 0

FATALITY NO. 0

POLLUTION

OTHER **Fast line on crane broke.**

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: **322** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **17** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION:

SPEED: M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:

SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: **0** FT.

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

**Mr. Erik Siebert**

CITY: STATE: **LA**

TELEPHONE: **(337) 761-4734**

CONTRACTOR: **Fluid Crane and Construction**

CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/  
SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

**Mr. Link Campbell**

CITY: **New Iberia** STATE: **LA**

TELEPHONE: **(337) 364-6191**

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

The crane operator was in the process of relocating two joint of drain lines, PVC pipes measuring 20' x 8", from the top deck to a lower deck on the platform. The crane operator was paying close attention to the load itself preventing it from striking the exhaust on the compressor and other equipment on the platform. He failed to watch the ball position relation to the boom tip. In the process of lowering the boom, the crane operator, focusing on the load, failed to see the ball approaching the tip of the boom. The anti-two block system failed to stop the crane allowing the ball to hit the tip of the boom. The impact broke the fast line dropping the load and the ball which hit the tool house and fell into the Gulf waters. The recoil of the fast line caused the line to come into the cab of the crane striking the operator on the wrist. The crane operator did not require any medical attention and the platform did not sustain any damage.

The flagman was in the process of repositioning himself and was not watching the operation.

The bull frog crane was successfully load tested to 50,000 lbs. on January 29, 2005. The annual pre-load and post-load test was successfully inspected on January 29, 2005. The daily crane use inspection was performed on the date of the incident March 17, 2005 and the anti-two block tested ok.

Note: On the daily crane use inspection forms the bull frog crane from February 21 through March 6, 2005 the following discrepancy was detected:

The crane operator marked on the form that the anti-two block failed but did not indicate which anti-two block failed the fast line or the load line. Also under remarks it was not clearly documented as to what failed on the anti-two block and which one failed.

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

- 1) The crane operator failed to track the position of the ball on the fast line.
- 2) The anti-two block system failed to function properly.

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

The flagman was in the process of repositioning himself and was not watching the operation.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

65 Ton Rental Crane

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

Broken fast line and ball and pipe lost overboard.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

\$2,932

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

N.O.District has no Recommendations to MMS.

Apache did not have any recommendations to prevent recurrence.

The New Orleans District concurs with Apache's corrective actions as stated below:

Removed and replaced fast line cable. Replaced the two-block valve. Installed a new dead man and fast line ball. Conducted a test run on the two-block system and it is functioning properly. Tested the main line, fast line and boom kick out. All are functioning properly. Performed pull test on the fast line and it functioned properly.

Apache has strongly conveyed MMS concerns and dissatisfaction with the poor record keeping on these rental cranes in a meeting with the personnel and management within Fluid Crane on 4-25-2005. Fluid Crane has strongly reiterated the importance of good record keeping to their employees and that Apache and Fluid Crane will not tolerate anything less.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: NO

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

24-MAR-2005

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Randy Josey / Perry Jennings / Jack Leezy /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Troy Trosclair

APPROVED

DATE: 17-MAY-2005