

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 12-FEB-2013 TIME: 1600 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Walter Oil & Gas Corporation**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: **G33109**

AREA: **ST** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **127** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: **HERCULES 251**

6. ACTIVITY:

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

7. TYPE:

HISTORIC INJURY

REQUIRED EVACUATION

LTA (1-3 days)

LTA (>3 days) 1

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

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: 83 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 25 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: N
SPEED: 1 M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: N
SPEED: 1 M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: 1 FT.

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:-

On February 12th, 2013, a Floorman working on the Hercules 251 drilling rig was struck by a falling object while in the process of rigging down equipment in preparation of moving the rig to a new location.

On the day of the accident, the Hercules 251 drilling rig was working for Walter Oil & Gas Corporation; the rig was located at South Timbalier 127. Prior to commencing operations to rig down equipment, a Job Safety Analysis (JSA) was conducted and signed by all parties but the JSA failed to specifically mention the risk of dropped objects. The injured person (IP), an experienced Floorman, was working on the Texas deck, which is located below the drill floor. The accident occurred when the crew was pulling the mousehole up through the drill floor. While the mousehole was being lifted, a three inch ball valve located at the bottom of the mousehole broke off at the cam lock connection. How the ball valve broke off is undetermined but, it is believed to have been caused by the mousehole not being completely vertical during the lift. The ball valve glanced off the Blow out Preventers and fell 27 feet, striking the IP on the head. The IP's hard hat was dented and IP suffered a 3 inch laceration on the top right side of his head.

The IP was evacuated to shore and given medical attention, he received stitches and was then discharged after it had been determined he did not need additional treatment.

Immediately following the accident the drill crew shut down the operation and held a JSA before resuming operations. The valve assembly has since been replaced with solid pipe and, a guard has been placed over the valve to prevent similar accidents in the future.

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

The probable cause of the accident is that the mousehole did not remain vertical while being lifted resulting in the ball valve making contact with something and breaking it off.

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

A contributing cause was the danger of falling objects went unrecognized resulting in the IP to be unaware of the hazards associated with working where he was when the accident occurred.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The valve assembly has since been replaced with solid pipe and, a guard has been placed over the valve to prevent similar accidents in the future.-

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

The Houma District has no recommendations at this time.

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:

/ **James Benetatos / James Richard**
/

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Bryan A. Domangue

APPROVED

DATE: **04-NOV-2013**

INJURY/FATALITY/WITNESS ATTACHMENT

OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE

INJURY

CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE

FATALITY

OTHER _____

WITNESS

NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

WORK PHONE:

TOTAL OFFSHORE EXPERIENCE:

YEARS

EMPLOYED BY:

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

INJURY/FATALITY/WITNESS ATTACHMENT

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP CODE: