

FATAL FACTS



No. 8775-038

Accident Type:	Burned
Number of Fatalities	1
Weather Conditions:	Dry, Calm, Warm
Type of Operation:	Pulling pipe
Size of Work Crew:	6
Competent Safety Monitor on Site:	No
Safety and Health Program in Effect:	Yes
Was the Worksite Inspected Regularly:	No
Training and Education Provided:	Yes
Employees Job Titles:	Floor Hand
Age & Gender:	Male, 26
Experience at this Type of Work:	Years
Time on Project:	Unknown



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

A crew was pulling pipe from an existing well when oil began seeping out of the well at low pressure. The floor hand tried to stem the flow with a plastic bucket whereupon an explosion and fire occurred. Two workers were burned in the incident and hospitalized. One of the men died nine days later.

INSPECTION RESULTS

Three serious citations were issued, two were directly related to the incident.

The General Duty Clause was used for using a plastic container in proximity to combustible liquids, which is recognized as a hazard by the American Petroleum Institute Recommended Practice.

29 CFR 1910.132(a) was cited for not providing protective equipment whenever hazards capable of causing injury and impairment were encountered.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations were made for not using plastic buckets where they could be a potential ignition source and for providing flame retardant clothing when working in an area with a potential for developing a flammable atmosphere.