

Step Change Safety Alert Template



Alert Title

Release of hydrocarbons from the HP vent stack

What leaked and where from? E.g.: "Lube oil leak from compressor system open vent"

Incident Date

19th April 2013

The date on which the incident occurred, not when this form was completed

Location Type

Fixed Production Platform

E.g. Floating/Fixed Production, Drill Rig, Vessel, etc.

Specific Equipment Involved

HP Vent Stack

Give as much detail as possible about the equipment involved

Description of What Happened

During a routine venting operation of the A3 well there was a hydrocarbon liquid release resulting in a loss of containment.

The venting of well A3 was being carried out by well services during a routine maintenance programme in preparation for the isolation of the platform. The release of liquid hydrocarbons occurred at 07:50 on the 19th April through the HP vent stack, the vent stack is located on the upper deck of the Jacket. This dripping caused a sheen.

Be as detailed as possible. Give equipment history and approximate time(s) of actions/occurrences related to the incident

Cause of Incident

HP Vent Sump High High Level LAHH-51733 was present at time of venting from well A3. The venting operation displaced the liquids out from the stack as it is thought the liquid level was above the gas entry position.

Build from OIR/12 checklist

Incident Consequences

Loss of containment which resulted in hydrocarbon liquid going to grade and into the sea.

Include the release itself and any subsequent emergency actions/dangerous occurrences

Lessons Learned

- The procedure didn't require the correct operator checks to be completed.
- There was a standing alarm that indicated there was not an issue but this was not picked up by operations team as it was one of many.
- The vent allows liquids to be collected in the pipe work.
- Deficiencies were identified in the shift handover documents.

Include a few bullet points clarifying what was learned from the incident

Recommendations/Actions

- As well as specific actions put in place to address the causes of the incident (as detailed in the lessons learnt section), there will also be further work conducted on a Vent and Blow down philosophy.

Include a few bullet points stating any recommendations/actions that will be made/taken as a result of the lessons learned

Contact Details (Optional)

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If you would like your submission to be anonymous, leave this section blank