

Lessons Learned – High Potential Incident (HIPO)

Title: Pipeline Strike While Installing Flow Line

Date of Incident: April 20, 2004

Business or Performance Unit: Onshore US Business Unit/Central US PU

Location of Incident: JS Price Facility, Shelby County, Texas

Function: Production

Type of Incident: Pipeline Strike;
No injury or release of product

Region/Country: North America/USA

Business Stream: Upstream

Tr@ction Incident Identification:
2004-IR-878175

Contact: Richard Watkins, 903.297.4001

Actual Severity Level: Level – 3 – Property Damage

Potential Severity Level: Level – 2 – Safety

Potential Severity Probability: Low

Lesson Origin: High Potential Incident (HiPo)

Brief Account of Incident: While excavating prior to the installation of a flow line, a contractor working for BP struck a buried 3rd party pipeline. There was no release or injuries.

Actual or Potential Outcome: No one was injured in this incident however; the potential for serious injury or death was possible.

What Went Wrong: Possible Immediate Causes:

- 1-11: Ground disturbance procedures were not followed due to complacency
- 4-1: Judgment. Permit was written / signed without adequate consideration for accuracy.
- 4-2: Work-site supervisor distracted due to simultaneous operations, multiple work teams and overhead power-line hazard.



View of the excavation to the point of the line strike

Possible System Causes:

- 3-1: Failure to administer Policy Standards and Procedures by signing the permit without performing due diligence to locate lines.
- 8-2: Inadequate knowledge of conditions (underground hazard).
- 8-7: JSA tailgate meeting did not identify buried hazards.
- 11-1: Third party pipeline could have been avoided by planning an alternate route.
- 14-4: Third-party pipeline was not marked prior to excavation. Lack of enforcement of Policies, Standards and Procedures.
- 15-2: Inadequate communication concerning line location between crew foreman and supervisor led to assumption that no other line was in the area.
- **Golden Rules:** *Ground Disturbance:* A hazard assessment is completed by the competent person. *Permit to Work:* Identifies hazards and assesses risks.

What Went Well:

- Stand down of all excavations in Asset.
- Immediate notification and response.
- Protective bar installed on the track hoe shovel protected against piercing the pipeline.
- Open communication during investigation and review process.

Resultant Actions:

- Review the importance of following Policies, Standards and Procedures, and possible consequences of violation with BP and Contract personnel.
- Form audit team to assess implementation of Ground Dist. PSP.
- Conduct G. Dist. Competent Person training to re-emphasize PSP and permit.
- Determine adequate work-site supervisory level, considering work criticality and simultaneous operations.

Key Message: *Hazard recognition and mitigation must be an integral part of jobs from planning to completion. The importance of personal accountability must be understood by all involved*



View of 3rd party riser in foreground, pipeline marker in background