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Working to Make our Industry Safer

Dropped objects continue to plague the oil and gas industry throughout the supply chain and operational environment. Although much has been done in terms of prevention, these incidents continue to endanger the safety of offshore personnel.

At ChevronTexaco Upstream Europe (CTUE), recent incidents have ranged from falling shackle pins, loose tools, and fabric to the extremes of dropped BOP assemblies or failed secondary safety systems that resulted in equipment falling from height. Of nine dangerous occurrences reported by CTUE during 2002, eight were classified as dropped objects, with potential for associated injuries.

The escalating trend of dropped objects incidents has prompted an industry-wide gathering to gauge support for a targeted campaign to eliminate dropped objects. Thirty-three companies, including CTUE, were represented. A strong consensus was reached for the development of an agenda of

collaborative exchange, as well as an agreement to engage in a concerted campaign focusing on the danger of dropped objects incidents across the industry.

The European Dropped Objects Forum was formally convened. CTUE continues to maintain an active involvement within this forum. Key members of the work team include Ray Stawaisz (BOL Senior Drilling Superintendent) and Bob Thompson (CTUE Drilling HES Advisor).

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DROPS campaign package