



SAFETY FOR THE USE OF EXPLOSIVES IN PETROLEUM PROSPECTION

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Abstract

During the exploratory phase of the petroleum industry, explosives are being largely employed. Up until some years ago, SAFETY in their use had very little consideration, in Brasil as well as abroad. As a result, there were a number of accidents involving inhabitants of the regions where there had been oil prospection, causing deaths and mutilation.

In Brasil, investigation of a tragedy caused by the finding of a charge left over from seismic work, showed that the explosive with its electric cap, had been left buried in a swampy area for various years, and had maintained all of its physical/chemical properties. When inadvertently handled, it exploded, causing death and destruction.

Our company is specialized in seismic prospection and have instituted strict safety procedures, in order to eliminate all possibilities of similar accidents happening.

However, we should call attention to the fact that many years still constitute potential risks, which are being aggravated by the increase of demographic density. Special attention by the authorities is recommended, so that accidents can be avoided. Areas under risk should be cheched over by specialized personnel, to eliminate abandonned charges, which certainly constitute a major risk in many regions where explorations was intense.
