

# Shellegram

93:6

DEER PARK MANUFACTURING COMPLEX

*Alky/MTBE performs largest lift*

## Coker project celebrates site clearance

**M**ajor Projects began construction on a Delayed Coker Unit and Gas/Oil hydrotreater May 4, part of DPMC's billion dollar refinery upgrade.

Construction began after obtaining air permits from the Texas Air Control Board and clearing the site, both of which happened in a timely fashion. According to Major Projects personnel, "We're right on schedule."

The coker is being added to Deer Park to further upgrade products and to produce more value-added products such as jet and diesel fuels and gasolines.

"This effort was a result of a true team effort of Major Projects in permitting and site-clearance, along with many other departments in Deer Park. It would also not have been possible without significant Environmental Conservation and Logistics support," says BOB WALSH, technical manager, Major Projects.

"In order to take advantage of the timely approval of the environmental permits, 17.5 acres were cleared as part of the clear-sites project," says JUAN JONES, project engineer, Major Projects.

Before the coker on-site activities could begin, the following clear site activities were required:

- Installing three miles of new piping;
- Demolishing five miles of existing piping;
- Cleaning and demolishing five storage tanks;



- Relocating two storage tanks;
- Installing 1,800 feet of 48-inch diameter storm sewer;
- Installing four miles of new electrical cable and demolishing 3.5 miles of existing cable.

The on-site construction contractor for the Delayed Coker Unit and the Gas Oil Hydrotreater is Brown & Root Braun.

Other upgrade facilities taking place at the Complex are the Alkylation/MTBE units and new CCU Wet Gas Compressor, whose construction is well underway; and sulfur recovery facilities, whose construction will commence later this year on the east side of the refinery near SR-5. Also coming up is test trenching at DU2 and DU3 area for site clearance and preparation for work at DU2; and test trenching at Sulfur 3 & 4 units on the south side of the Complex for a new SCOT unit.

Finally, this summer will see the relocation of the MPO offices and the demolition of the Control Systems building to clear the site for a new 150 megawatt cogenerator unit which will be located south of CPS.

"All of the construction activity over the next few years will cause inconvenience and more work at Deer park, but the benefits are worth it," says DAN BURT, superintendent, Major Projects. "We want to thank everyone at DPMC for their patience and help!"



(Top) COKER SITE CLEARING—A group from Major Projects gathers on the road by the cleared Delayed Coker Unit construction site. The coker is the part of Shell Deer Park's major upgrade that will create value-added products such as jet and diesel fuel.

(Bottom) The Alky/MTBE complex conducts its largest lift May 4. The deisobutanizer column measures 11 feet 6 inches in diameter and is about 220 feet high. It will separate isobutane and normal butane from alkylate. Alkylate is a key gasoline blending component for reformulated gasoline.

KEEP IT  
**SAFE**  
KEEP IT  
**CLEAN**  
KEEP IT  
**RUNNING**



Observers say drill went well

## New emergency procedures simplify response

**T**he most important lesson the Emergency Response SWAT Team learned last month after conducting a Complex-wide drill was that proper communication is critical to success.

The drill was the culmination of an intensive short-term assignment coordinated by the special team which was chartered to improve emergency response in the Complex.

Six individuals gathered in an office and worked intensely to simplify emergency response orders and ultimately reduce the confusion among the general population within the Complex. They then proceeded to train everyone in the new simplified procedures, and as a finale, execute a drill.

"We reviewed all documentation about emergency response, simplified the plan, summarized procedures in little orange booklets, conducted about 45 training sessions and then organized the drill," says SUSAN WALKER, Refinery Engineering/Maintenance, a member of the team. "When the horn blew on April 27, everybody in the plant did the right thing."

A major accomplishment of the team, according to Walker, was to change the alarms so that a single 15-second blast sounds now for all emergencies. Another was to update emergency response booklets and distribute them to everyone throughout the Complex.

Feedback from 71 percent of approximately 100 volunteer drill observers who evaluated the population's response indicated that the drill went fairly well or very



well. They assigned an overall grade of B minus.

"The area for improvement was communications from the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) to personnel," says Walker. "We learned that messages were confusing. People were interpreting the grid coordinates in more than one way."

Other feedback indicated confusion about the term "affected zones", difficulty

in distinguishing between the letters P and B in the release announcement, difficulty in hearing the alarms in noisy areas, and overcrowding in some of the safe shelters.

The team worked on correcting some of the problems and intends to have the

### Alarms now single blast

others straightened out by the next drill which should take place later on this year.

"We had excellent participation and cooperation by everyone," adds Walker.

Members of the Emergency Response SWAT Team include: TOM BUMGARNER, Security; DAVE COUGHLIN, BPA-3; MYRON MATULA, Olefins; RAY HERNANDEZ, Chemical Maintenance/Solvents; DARREN MARTIN, Health & Safety; and SUSAN WALKER, Refinery Engineering/Maintenance. ■

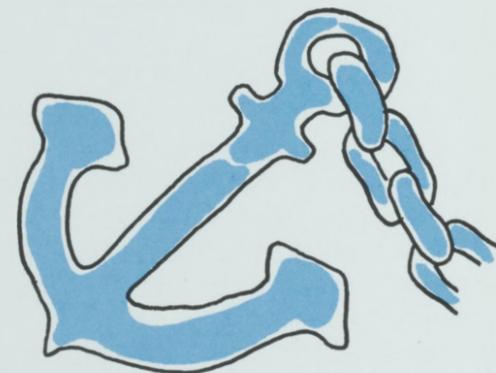
## Avoid wedging skill saw

by Rick Lehman, Brown & Root, Scaffold Yard

This news report came over the radio. A young father, being a weekend carpenter, decided to trim the top of his backyard fence to make it uniform and level. One of his friends had shown him how to keep his skill saw from catching on the wood by keeping the blade safety guard locked in the up position with a wooden wedge (a little trick I had learned in my home-building days and still use around the house). The story went on. As the father was moving along with his work cutting the fence, which was about six feet high, his arm started to tire from the weight of the saw. He kept cutting anyway, until he couldn't

hold the saw up any longer. As he let it down, with the blade still spinning and the guard wedged up, he failed to notice one very important thing: his two-year-old son standing directly behind him. As a carpenter and father, my eyes swelled with tears as Paul Harvey reported the son died in his father's arms. Never disregard the safety guards on power tools. From that day on I never wedged my saw guard again.

*Editor's Note: This story was selected from the Family S.A.F.E. Team Safety Storybook files listed on RMDS. Consult RMDS to read or input your own story.* ■



## Marine Operations spill-free in '92

Marine Operations, which shipped and received over 93 million barrels of product last year, was the only Shell dock to work spill-free in 1992. Although the department did experience six small spills, they were the fault of the vessel, according to ANDREA HODGE, Marine Operations. ■

## Solvents/Treating has exceptional year

**S**olvents and Treating had an excellent year in 1992. The Department completed 23 safe years without a Lost Time Injury, 16 months without an OSHA recordable, a third consecutive year without an environmental exceedance, and 14 months without an environmental incident of any kind.

Operators have gone through consolidation modes which have raised their safety awareness," according to RENE SOLIZ, operator. Operators stay involved and proactive through an awareness tag program where they personally tag an area in the unit that is a potential safety problem, involvement in safety training, unit project feedback, and a family atmosphere where everyone looks out for one another.

"Operators perform their duties in a self-supervised sub-department that gives



them accountability for making their own decisions," says JOHN GRIFFITHS, manager, Refining West.

Highlights on the production side include:

- Off-spec production of hydrocarbon solvents dropped to 2.7 percent, a 42 percent improvement compared to 1991 figures.
- Pentanes plant achieved a 100 percent stream factor
- Customer-reported non-conformance for hydrocarbon solvents was reduced by 40 percent compared to 1991 figures (with the help of Dispatching)
- Record production of Shell SOL 140, Shell SOL 340, cyclosol 63 and TOLW were achieved.

Soliz says SPC and analyzer efforts in S&T improved product consistency and that communication, feedback, and SPC and analyzer control played a key role in achieving these new avenues of production excellence. ■



COMBO PICNIC—East and West Fuels and Lubes Engineering and Maintenance met at Buckhorn Ranch and Lake for a little R&R May 8. The Family Safe Day Picnic get-together was a hit, offering games, rides, races and barbecue and even TV sports. Intent on watching a game are: (clockwise) CHICKEN WILLIAMS, CHAD SNIPES, LINDA SNIPES, ROBERT BOWERMAN, LLOYD WRIGHT AND KEN SNIPES.

## SCORANOTES

### Anglers tourney

Anglers get set for a Saltwater Fishing Tournament throughout the month of June. There's a \$200 cash prize for the largest red fish, largest flounder, and largest speckled trout caught during the month. For SCORA members only; no guests. Entry fee \$10 so watch those bulletin boards for fish weighing locations and call BILLIE DANIEL for more details.

### Crawfish lovers

Attention crawfish lovers: Be at the Rotary Pavillion, 14350 Wallisville Rd, North Shore (a new location this time) on July 17 for a mouthwatering crawfish boil extravaganza. \$6 members, \$10 non-members, \$3 for children 10 yrs. and under. No drinks served—bring your own. Deadline for tickets is July 14. No tickets will be sold at door. Go to SCORA ticket window at North Admin Room 158. Retirees contact BILLIE DANIEL at 246-6684 for tickets.

### Camping

A Wolf Creek Camping trip is set for Aug. 6. Deposit \$18 to reserve a spot.

### SCORA picnic

The annual SCORA Family Picnic will be at the Rotary Pavilion Aug. 28. It's All-you-can-eat BBQ. Members free. Adult guests \$8; guest children 3-12 \$5. Under 3 years old free.

### Golfing results

Bay Forest Golf Tournament May 8 Best Ball Format results are as follows: 1st Place Team—DALE HARGRAVES, WAYNE WESTBROOK, BEN McCOWAN, and JOE SPILLER; 2nd Place Team—KEN NOLEN, TERRY THOMAS, JAMES HOLDER, and JOHN BOWERS; Longest Putt (67-1/2 feet)—JOE WHITE; Closest to Pin—BOBBY ROY and DAVID BLACK, secretary.

Watch bulletin boards for upcoming tournaments scheduled for June 26 at Glenbrook, and Aug. 28 at Clear Lake. ■

## Shell new presence in PET

**W**ith the purchase of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company polyester resin business last December, Shell Chemical Company now has a new presence in a fast-growing segment of the polymers industry.

Food packaging is the present—and future—of the polyester resin business. Supermarkets are packed with products packaged with Shell's polyester resin: two-liter soft drink bottles, dishwashing liquids, peanut butter, salad dressing, to name a few.

"Polyester is ideal for food packaging because it offers superior clarity and durability," says TERRY PERSINGER, a former Goodyear executive who now heads Shell's Polyester Resins Business Center. "It's shatter-resistant, lightweight and doesn't affect the taste or purity of the product it contains."

The basic components of polyester resins are ethylene glycol and terephthalic acid. You can identify packages made with polyester resin by looking for the letters "PETE" on the bottom. That means the package was made with polyethylene terephthalate, the largest-selling resin in at Shell's Point Pleasant plant in West Virginia.

Employees of the plant, along with those in research and development, and sales and marketing offices in Akron, Ohio, are now part of Shell's polyester resins business.

Goodyear, a player in the polyester resin business since 1958, was the second largest manufacturer worldwide, with a substantial share of the bottle, tray and sheeting, and specialty markets.

About 75 percent of the polyester produced at Point Pleasant is used to make

soft-drink bottles. But PET's properties also make it ideal for high-temperature uses. For example, it's used to make trays for frozen dinners that can be cooked in either the microwave or a conventional oven. Amorphous PET (APET) is ideal for thermoform containers such as clear drinking cups used on airlines, and packages to show off products like bakery goods.

Still other companies used the specialty polyester resin to manufacture adhesives and coatings for things like computer circuit boards and telephone cords.

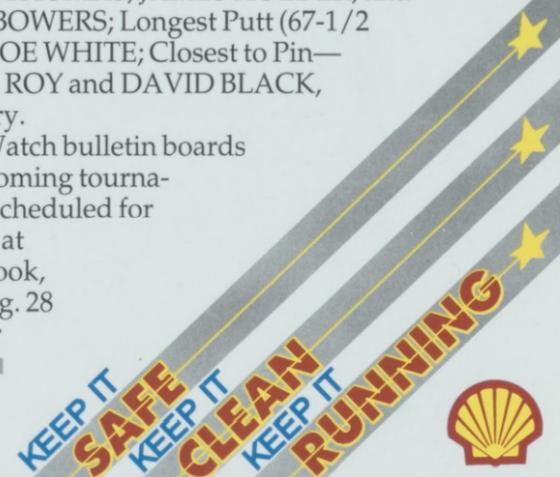
Polyester resin is ideal for solid waste reduction because it can be recycled and used to make food-grade packaging materials. In fact, the Point Pleasant plant also produces REPETE™ resin, which contains 25 percent post-consumer recycled PET.

"Soft-drink bottles drove the growth of the polyester resin business during the 1980s," Persinger says, "but the increasing use of custom containers for things like condiments and household products has resulted in an annual growth rate of 10 to 15 percent."

To keep up with that growth, Shell is investing \$75 million to expand resin production capacity at the Point Pleasant plant by more than 35 percent. The new unit is scheduled to start production in April, 1994.

DICK OBLATH, manager of the Polyester Technical Center in Akron, says Shell now has "a significant lead in technology for making food-grade polyester resins."

Adds Persinger, "We want to stay close to the marketplace, be the first to introduce new products and have low-cost processes." ■



## MILESTONES

### Service Anniversaries

#### 45 YEARS

A.R. GANDY  
Maint. Plng.

#### 40 YEARS

J.T. FLYNT  
Major Projects

#### 25 YEARS

C.H. BARRON  
Process Engrg.

J.E. DOUGLAS  
Lube Logistics

J.A. HUMMEL  
Engrg. Maint.

D.L. KIMPTON  
Major Projects

G.W. MALTSBERGER, JR.  
Product Analysis

J.W. TALLEY  
Business Svcs.

#### 20 YEARS

W.S. DAVIS  
Engrg. Maint.

C.S. ELDREDGE  
Business Svcs.

B.P. MITSCHKE  
Control Systems

N.K. PETTER  
Solv./Dist./CU

#### 15 YEARS

S.R. BOLGER  
PE/CS/QA

K.L. CLAY  
Lube Logistics

W.J. DANIELS  
Econ. & Sched.

S.C. HENDRICKSEN  
Environ. Compl.

B.L. MACKEBON  
West Lubes

#### DPMC WELCOMES

R.C. ALBERSTADT  
Human Resources

T.A. NGU  
PE/CS/QA

S.C. PARK  
PE/CS/QA Resins

#### RETIREMENTS

W.D. DYESS

BPA

### MEMORIAM

DELBERT WOMACK, retiree,  
died April 28 in Pasadena, TX.

## Retirees Club offers friendship, fun

**R**etirees have been turning out in great numbers to monthly meetings of the newest Shell DPMC Retirees Club, but club officers are getting indications some retirees may not know about the club and when and where meetings are held.

The club meets the first Thursday each month at the Deer Park Activity Center, 500 Thirteenth St. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and members are free to arrive anytime thereafter for lunch followed by entertainment or a guest speaker, and a brief business meeting.

Members can also keep current on club activities through a monthly newsletter which is mailed to their homes. Yearly membership dues are a modest \$5 per person.

Besides meetings, Shell DPMC Retirees Club members are always going places—bus trips, cruises, overseas travel, golf tournaments, volunteer work through Shell's SERVE program and the Lions' Club.

"Most of all, the camaraderie among the group is what is special to all of us," says "CB" Falk, first vice president. "Many new friendships have been made and others renewed."

For more information about the club or to request a membership form, contact any of these club officers:

- BILLY JOE STEAKLEY, president, 479-7873
- C.B. FALK, first vice president, 649-4923
- Art Morgan, second vice president, 485-3656
- Dottie Patterson, treasurer, 930-0770
- Oma Cerrone, secretary, 944-1171

*Editor's Note: In coming months the Shellegram would like to list meeting dates, times and locations of other DPMC retiree clubs. Club leaders can contact the Shellegram at 246-6372.*

## CLASSIFIEDS

LOST: Small crystal with gold hasp, on April 26. Probably lost on 4 p.m.-12 shift at Alky plant. Contact T. BYRD at 549-4560 (beeper).

MISSING: Historical book, Great Galveston Flood (Early 1900s Hurricane). Borrowed at the Complex. Please call BOB

JOHNSTON at 644-4212 or send by plant mail to Shell Historical Society.

FOR SALE: Three cemetery lots, Forest Park East, 21410 Gulf Freeway, \$5,000 for the three lots. Call B.C. FERGUSON at 475-1603.

### Birds in a box

MARTIN REIM, Major Resins, was sure surprised when he went to pull out a Scot Air Pack from a box at the Epon V compressor station one day in May.

Inside the box was a nest occupied by a mother bird and her eggs. Upon being disturbed, the bird flew out, but according to Reim, returned later.

Reim said he was amazed at the time it must have taken the mama bird to accumulate the hay she had used to build her big ball of a nest and bring it back inside the box, which she entered through a hole.

### Letters to the Editor

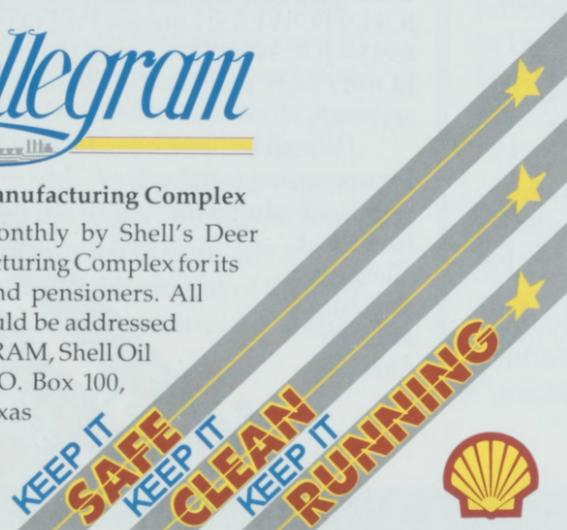
Many thanks to my friends at DPMC for the great farewell party and fine gifts. I enjoyed working with each and every one of you during my years there and do miss you. However, it is amazing how quickly I've adjusted to retirement. Thanks again.

JOHN McCRAY



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