



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE INCIDENT INVOLVING L/B SUPERIOR CHALLENGE; SINKING

ON 06/30/2003



MISLE ACTIVITY NUMBER: 1840641
ORIGINATING UNIT: MSO MORGAN CITY
MISLE ACTIVITY OWNER: COMMANDANT (G-MRI)
MISLE ACTIVITY CONTROLLER: COMMANDANT (G-MRI)
MISLE CASE NUMBER: 0

I. INCIDENT BRIEF

32/113/03

46 CFR 4.40-5 (d)(2) - major marine casualty, loss of vessel >100GT

On June 30, 2003, the liftboat SUPERIOR CHALLENGE was on location at Eugene Island 193-A, and was later secured for heavy weather and evacuated due to the approaching Tropical Storm Bill. The tropical storm caused the liftboat to capsize and sink. The owner of the liftboat, Superior Energy Services, have contracted Bisso Marine to salvage the SUPERIOR CHALLENGE. Duty investigator does not deem it necessary to enforce drug and alcohol testing on crewmembers; liftboat was evacuated prior to storm. Unknown damage amount. No pollution reported in area.

LTJG [REDACTED]
MSO Morgan City Investigations
(985) 380-5341

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Incident Summary

32/113/03

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Incident Involved: Marine Casualty, Reportable

Level of Investigation: Data Collection
IMO Classification: Routine
USCG Classification: Major Marine Casualty
Was this a Serious Marine Incident? Yes
Was a Marine Board Convened by Commandant? No

Personnel Casualty Summary

Total Missing (Active Search) = 0
Total Missing (Presumed Lost) = 0
Total Dead = 0
Total Injured = 0
Total Uninjured = 0
Total People at Risk = 0
Other Personnel (Not at Risk) = 0

Vessel(s) Status Summary

Actual Total Loss(es) = 0
Total Constructive Loss, Salvaged = 0
Total Constructive Loss, Unsalvaged = 1
Damaged = 0
Undamaged = 0

Property Damage Summary/Total Damage

Report of Investigation

Vessel(s) = \$

Cargo = \$

Facility(s) = \$

Other = \$

* Includes estimates

Waterway Mobility Summary

Vessel Delays (including speed restrictions): None

III. ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THIS REPORT

Actions on Recommendations

Safety Alerts

IV. FINDINGS OF FACT

Subjects of the Investigation

Vessels. The following vessels were subjects of this investigation. Particulars for each vessel follow.

Vessel Name:	SUPERIOR CHALLENGE
Flag:	UNITED STATES
Vessel Identification Number:	1052908
Call Sign:	WDA5218
Status:	Total Constructive Loss: Unsalvaged
Role:	Involved in a Marine Casualty
Vessel Class, Type, Sub-Type:	
Gross Tonnage(GRT):	
Net Tonnage(NRT):	
Deadweight Tons:	
Length:	117
Home/Hailing Port:	
Keel Laid Date:	12/15/1996
Delivery Date:	06/12/1997
Place of Construction:	LOCKPORT, LA., , UNITED STATES
Builder Name:	BOLLINGER SHIPYARDS, INC.
Propulsion:	Diesel Reduction
Horsepower:	1710
Master:	
Classification Society:	
Owner:	CARDINAL SERVICES INC 3703 SOUTH LEWIS STREET PO DRAWER 9350 NEW IBERIA, LA, 70562 SUPERIOR ENERGY SERVICES LLC 5509 curtis lane
Operator:	New Iberia, LA, 70560 US CARDINAL SERVICES INC 3703 SOUTH LEWIS STREET PO DRAWER 9350 NEW IBERIA, LA, 70562
Inspection Subchapter:	I
Most Recent Vessel Inspection Activity:	1634045, 06/19/2002 2:37:00 PM
Current Certificate of Inspection:	Issued on 06/30/2000, by MSO MORGAN CITY

Facilities. The following facilities were subjects of this investigation. Particulars for each facility follow.

Parties and Organizations. The following people and organizations were subjects of this investigation.

SUPERIOR ENERGY SERVICES INC

Status:	Not at Risk
Role:	Reporting Party
Email Address:	
Phone Number(NVDC Phone Number):	337-364-9704
Address(Primary Place of Business):	5509 Curtis Lane
	New Iberia, LA 70560
	US

Comments:

Drug and Alcohol Testing. The following people have been determined by the Coast Guard, Law Enforcement Personnel, and/or the Marine Employer to have been directly involved in a Serious Marine Incident as defined in 46 CFR 4.03-2:

Response Resources. The following incident response resources were subjects of this investigation.

Other Subjects. The following were subjects of this investigation.

Waterway Segment(s). The following waterway segment(s) were subjects of this investigation.

EUGENE ISLAND

Role: Location
Local Name: GULF OF MEXICO - EUGENE ISLAND
Description:

Incident Information

Location(s).

<u>Description</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
EUGENE ISLAND; Block 193-A	28 42.0 N	091 30.0 W

Sequence of Events.

Report of Investigation

06/30/2003 17:00 to 06/30/2003 17:00 (Estimated):

Event Type: Capsize
Event Class: Overwhelmed by Sea and/or Wind
Event Subclass:
Location: Known; US Waters
Description: EUGENE ISLAND; Block 193-A
Latitude: 28 42.0 N Longitude: 091 30.0 W

Subject(s) and Details:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Role</u>
SUPERIOR	Vessel	Total Constructive	Involved in a Marine
CHALLENGE		Loss: Unsalvaged	Casualty

Details Filed: Detail Description
Refer to summary.

06/30/2003 17:45 to 06/30/2003 17:45 (Estimated):

Event Type: Sinking
Event Class: Damage Control Efforts Not Possible
Event Subclass:
Location: Known; US Waters
Description: EUGENE ISLAND; Block 193-A
Latitude: 28 42.0 N Longitude: 091 30.0 W

Subject(s) and Details:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Role</u>
SUPERIOR	Vessel	Total Constructive	Involved in a Marine
CHALLENGE		Loss: Unsalvaged	Casualty

Details Filed: Detail Description
Refer to summary.

V. CAUSAL ANALYSIS

The Initiating Event of the Incident

Initiating Event:

Failures of Defense Against Subsequent Events in the Incident

VI. REFERRAL FOR ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The following referrals for enforcement action have been made as a result of this investigation and represent those instances where the Coast Guard has gathered evidence that indicates one or more alleged violations or offenses may have occurred. Any determinations as to whether or not one or more actual violations or offenses have occurred are documented in the appropriate Coast Guard enforcement activities.

APPENDIX 1 - EVIDENCE

1840641 #001/[REDACTED]: Document/CG-2692 Report of Marine Accident, Injury or Death
CG-2692 Report of Marine Accident, Injury or Death

Collection Information:

Date/Time: 07/09/2003 10:51:00 AM

Location:

Collected By: USCG Gathered; ,

Witnessed By: USCG Witness; ,

Tracking:

Attachments:

- 1.pdf; MSO MORGAN CITY; [REDACTED]; 07/09/2003;

APPENDIX 2 - CORRESPONDENCE