



Minerals Management Service

People Promoting Energy, the Environment, and the Economy

News Release

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MMS Pacific Region Recognizes Company for Safety Excellence on the Outer Continental Shelf

CAMARILLO – The Interior Department’s Minerals Management Service (MMS) announced today that Denver-based Venoco, Inc. is the recipient of the 2008 District Safety Award for Excellence (SAFE) in the Pacific Region. The award recognizes the company’s operational standards and overall safety record on its offshore oil and gas facilities, Platforms Gail and Grace, located off the Ventura County coast in California.

“Developing offshore oil and gas resources demands an unwavering commitment to safety, training, and preparedness, coupled with an ongoing motivation to continually improve upon operational standards,” said Ellen G. Aronson, MMS Pacific Region Director. “The MMS Pacific Region takes great pride in recognizing those companies who achieve excellence in safety and pollution prevention and this year’s winner, Venoco, Inc is a clear example of both this commitment and motivation.”

Through the MMS Offshore Inspection Program, offshore energy facilities and associated activities are inspected on a continuing basis, and enforcement actions are taken when MMS regulatory requirements are not met. SAFE awards are based on a company’s ability to meet and exceed regulatory criteria based on results of MMS inspections throughout a rating period of one calendar year.

MMS Pacific Regional Director Ellen Aronson will present Venoco, Inc. with the District SAFE Award at the annual American Petroleum Institute’s California Coastal Chapter Scholarship and Awards Night on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 in Oxnard, California.

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