

HEALTH & SAFETY



How could this happen?

Two drilling contractor staff have been killed in a high speed rollover after driving between Muscat and Yibal on a journey that should never have been made.

The victims:
* **WERE NOT** wearing their seat belts even

though the belts were in perfect working order

* **DROVE WITHOUT PERMISSION** on a personal journey between shifts

* **WERE SPEEDING** to get back to their rig on time

Two dead in seatbelt death folly tragedy

Faisal Qasim Al Baluchi, Roustabout and Maqbool Abdulrasool Al Zadjali, Floorman, were hurled from a Jeep Cherokee after it rolled over on the tarmac road between Nizwa and Izz. Both men died on the spot.

The men were returning

from a night out in the capital having finished their shift the day before. They were due back on duty at 1pm. The accident occurred at 11.30pm when they were 11km from Nizwa, some 200 km from their destination.

“It defies belief that people are still playing Russian roulette with their lives and all for the want of wearing a seatbelt,” said Frans Willekes, PDO’s Health, Safety & Environment Manager. “We have been hammering the message home for years in roadshows, videos, articles, posters that wearing seatbelts saves lives. But yet again, for whatever reason, this advice is ignored with fatal consequences.”

The countdown to tragedy began when the pair left their rig in Yibal at 6pm on the evening of 4th March and drove to Nizwa with another colleague. From there the

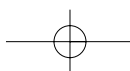
pair drove on to Muscat to celebrate Eid. At 9.30am on the 5th they started the long journey to Yibal, leaving themselves just three and a half hours to get to their rig on time.

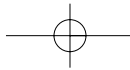
“There seems little doubt that speed was a major factor in this accident,” says Naaman Naamany, who led the investigation into how the men died. “It seems the accident was initiated by a tyre blowout when the car was travelling at an excessive speed. The men were almost certainly speeding because they were late for work. And they were making a journey that should never have been made.”

“One of the deceased, Maqbool, was married with a daughter,” said Frans. “A needless journey, reckless driving and crucially the failure to wear a seatbelt has left a wife widowed and a child fatherless. Faisal leaves behind a six grieving sisters and a widowed mother. It is such a waste.”



TRAGIC: The four wheel drive lies on its side at the scene of the accident





ROAD SAFETY

Spreading road safety throughout Oman

PDO sponsored a major drive to improve road safety when it participated in the GCC Road Safety Week earlier this month.

The company, together with other companies in Oman (BP Oman and Al Maha), and the Royal Oman Police, provided thousands of posters, stickers and booklets which were displayed and given out at petrol stations throughout Oman.

"Road accidents are killing hundreds of people every year and some thousands of people are injured," says Habib Maamiry, PDO's Corporate Road Safety Advisor. "For PDO and Contractors Safety is the Number 1 Priority, and by sharing our experience and supporting GCC Traffic Week, we aim to improve road safety through the Week's activities and initiatives."

The theme of the week was to promote an understanding of road safety through the booklets, posters and safety stickers. As well as the booklets, titled *Drive to Survive*, being distributed at petrol stations, an audio cassette in Arabic was also handed out.

"All the material carried a very strong message on road safety with the aim of changing behaviour and poor attitude towards driving," said Ghaluja. "Assets and departments organised a host of events and activities to mark the Week, which was a great success."



Musallam blazes a trail on fire safety

PDO emergency response manager Musallam Al Khaifi lit up the pages of a national magazine this month when his years of firefighting expertise were used in an extensive article on fire safety.

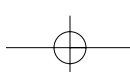
Musallam, who works in the CSM department, was heavily quoted in a major feature that appeared in the *Times of Oman's* Thursday supplement.

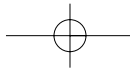
The article quoted Musallam extensively

and reported on the efforts PDO makes to maintain and improve its fire safety programme, equipment and training. It also provided 'Tips from PDO' that members of the public could use to improve their own fire safety awareness.

Musallam, who worked in fire prevention and firefighting since 1987, has spent two spells working in PDO as a fire station officer, Unit fire fighting trainer, senior fire officer and now corporate emergency response advisor. He also worked as a lecturer on fire safety and evacuation at Sultan Qaboos University. Musallam said it was important that PDO was being recognised for the effort it put into fire safety.

"Obviously we work in an industry that in a high risk category when it comes to the potential for fire related incidents, so it was good to get the opportunity to explain to readers the extensive preparations we have in place for any incident - big or small," he said. "In sharing our knowledge and experience with the people, through the article, we will hopefully make them think about their own safety in the home and in their workplaces."





HEALTH & SAFETY

Contractors go into film production to save lives

Safety Champion initiative sees safety videos produced by the contractor community

PDO's contractor community have come together to produce a series of safety videos on a range of different topics.

The videos are being distributed within PDO and to the whole of the contractor community.

The initiative to produce safety videos came out of the Safety Champions in 1999 where as a result of the Safety conference, the main PDO contractors all agreed to produce safety videos.

The safety videos cover a range of different topics but all have the same aim of improving safety within our operations.

"It was decided that the videos should be made locally showing examples of the operations in Oman rather than using readily available 'off the shelf' videos," said Julian Barlow, Well Engineering HSE Advisor, who helped co-ordinate the project. "This has the advantage of allowing the workforce to more easily relate to contents of the video. The disadvantage of using an off the shelf video of say a North Sea platform, is that it does not have the same impact as the workforce have difficulty in relating the situation to

THE ROLL CALL OF VIDEOS		
Prodcuer	Topic	Title
Socat LLC	Kitchen Safety Kitchen	Safety & Hygiene
Gulf Petroleum Services	Workshop and Equipment Safety	Coating and Painting
STS	Workshop and Equipment Safety	Workshop Safety/Unsafe Acts
BEC	Driving & Road Safety	A Guide to Safe Driving
UES	Workshop and Equipment	Safety Rotating Machinery
Sea & Land	Workshop and Equipment Safety	Crane Safety
MB Petroleum Services	Driving & Road Safety	Safe Driving Practice
MB Petroleum Services	Re-enactment of LTIs	Permit to Work
Deutag	Re-enactment of LTIs	Best Practices
Halliburton	Well Engineering Hazards	Pressure - Invisible Danger
Tawoos	Kitchen Safety	Food Safety - The Basics
Tawoos	Kitchen Safety	Storage - Where & How?
Tawoos	Kitchen Safety	Now Wash Your Hands!
Fortress ES	Well Engineering Hazards	Fingers and Hands - Hazards & Risk
OD&E	Well Engineering Hazards	Camp Safety
Schlumberger	Well Engineering Hazards	WireLine Operations
Baker	Driving & Road Safety	Pre-Journey Vehicle Checks
Midwesco	Re-enactment of LTIs	Visual Communication
PDO	Re-enactment of LTIs	LTIs 2000
XGP/1, Western, Veritas	Re-enactment of LTIs	One Day for Safety
NDSC	Well Engineering Hazards	Derrick Safety
Al-Hasan	Workshop and Equipment Safety	Safe Operation of Vacuum Tanker
Essar	Well Engineering Hazards	Hands and Fingers
PDO	Driving & Road Safety	RollOver
PDO	Driving & Road Safety	Flying Baby

their own working environment."

A total of 25 videos have so far been completed, with a further seven still in production. The videos will be compiled and distributed on composite tapes for ease of distribution.

"The videos provide a very powerful tool to communicate the safety message," says

Julian. "In order to obtain the most benefit from the videos it is important that the video topic is discussed with the audience immediately after the showing."

To help with this process a 'Summary Sheet' and 'Supervisor Discussion Prompt Sheet' has been produced for each video. The 'Summary Sheet' gives an

overview of the contents of the video and the 'Supervisor Discussion Prompt Sheet' is designed as an aid to the supervisor to facilitate discussion immediately after the videos.

The first video package that will be released will be on driving and road safety.

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all

those companies that have produced the videos," says Julian. "We have some extremely professional products that we can be proud of. Now we have to ensure that we obtain the most out of them by showing them to the workforce and hopefully we shall see the fruits of the hard work that has gone into producing them."



TCC Warriors are the football 5-a-side champs of PDO!

Sixteen teams took part with a mixture of PDO departmental teams and contractors that work closely with PDO.

The high level of interest meant that for the first time two divisions were set up: a Premier League and a First Division. So TCC become the first

Premiership Champion, with OIG as the runners-up.

Winners of 1st Division were Northern Lights (a combination of the Yibal and Fahud/Lekhwaier asset team), Runners up were Electrowatt.

Play-offs were held after the final night of league matches to decide on the final relegation place and the second promoted team from Division 1 (see final table)

On the final night, trophies and medals

TCC are top dogs at foot-

PREMIER LEAGUE					
Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
TCC Warriors	14	10	3	1	33
OIG	14	9	2	3	29
MAF2000	14	7	3	4	24
Drilling	14	6	3	5	21
Qarn Alam	14	6	2	6	20
Exploration	14	5	3	6	18
Schlumberger	14	3	1	10	10 6 *
Nimr	14	0	3	11	3 6

* relegated after play-off

