Natgas contractor employee killed during road traffic accident Significant Incident Briefing Note

Type of Incident:

Transport – Land

SPU/Operating Company:

Local Distribution Company (Natgas, NUOC: Shell share 18%) /Contractor working for LDC

Location of Incident:

On the road leading from Tala to Tanta, North Egypt

Date & Time of Incident:

15-08-04, approximately 10:30 hrs

Incident Classification:

C4P (Actual)

Incident Description

At the time of the incident the LDC contractor employees were working near the Tala-Tanta road, making an underground crossing to connect a natural gas pipeline to a nearby power plant. A third party micro-bus driving with a speed estimated to be over 100 km per hour, overtook another third party micro-bus, which was parked 100 – 150 m away, near the road crossing, to pick-up passengers. During the process of overtaking, a third micro-bus appeared in the path of the first micro-bus, in front of the vehicle he was overtaking. The driver of the first micro-bus applied the brakes. As a result the micro-bus skidded off the road and landed in the digging area, where he struck two contractor employees. Both casualties were taken to the nearby hospital. One of the contractors was pronounced dead on arrival.

Outcome:

One fatality and one contractor injured.

Immediate Causes:

Poor driving standards, resulting in speeding and reckless overtaking of an unlawfully parked micro-bus near the place of the groundwork.

Lessons Learned:

Considering the dangers of the road and the driving standards in the country, the risk assessment conducted prior to commencing the activity should have considered additional measures to prevent this incident such as:

- Ensure a one-way traffic flow near the working area.
- Ensure active supervision to prevent illegal parking along side of the road.
- Seek active engagement and cooperation with local authorities to grant approval for additional traffic control measures near the groundwork.
- Encourage approaching traffic to reduce speed by positioning flagging workers some distance from the working area

Photographs:

