

One dies in Chevron's barge accident

From Chido Okafor, Warri

ONE person has been confirmed dead in the accidental sinking of a jack-up barge, weekend, at the Chevron offshore field, close to Escravos in Delta State.

The Guardian learnt from an eyewitness the incident occurred due to the failure of the engines on one of the four stands propping up jack-up barge on the sea, which caused it to tilt in one direction resulting in an imbalance, leading to the sinking of the barge.

"After finishing work in one of Chevron jacket well offshore, they jacked down and planned moving to another well. They decided to relax and jack up to wait for the wave to calm down a bit.

"During the process of trying to jack up, one of the leg engine failed and tilted the barge to one side. That was what happened. And as I'm speaking, you can't see the barge anymore, it has sunk deep the sea," the source said.