

OVHOR FIRE CLAIMS ONE, 10 INJURED

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•Photo: Oil platform

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The Ovhor Remote manifold site of Seplat Petroleum Development Company Limited, the operator of NPDC/Seplat Joint Venture in OMLs 4, 38 & 41, was gutted by fire at the weekend.

According to a statement signed by the Seplat management and made available to *Daily Independent*, the remote Ovhor manifold site was shut down about two weeks ago following the detection of a leaking valve on a section of the Trans Forcados Trunkline managed by Shell Petroleum Development Company.

The company was taking advantage of the shut down period to carry out scheduled maintenance at the site, while awaiting Shell's resolution of the leakage.

Unfortunately, a fire incident occurred during the scheduled maintenance work at the facility. Immediately, SEPLAT's robust Integrated Incident Response Plan was activated.

The company announced that though its robust Integrated Incident Response Plan was fully activated with the workers immediately evacuated from the site, a fatality was recorded while 10 others were injured. The deceased was a member of staff of a third party contractor working on site at the time.

"The fire has been contained within our facility and has been successfully put out while the injured are receiving the best medical care available," said management.

It added: "Seplat has maintained an enviable safety record since we commenced operations prior to this unfortunate incident. Investigations are ongoing to determine the cause of the fire."