



Date: Jan. 13, 2003

Contact: Rich Tuttle
Corpus Christi, Texas
(361) 242-8572
rich.tuttle@fhr.com

Mary Beth Jarvis
Wichita, Kan.
(316) 828-3756
marybeth.jarvis@fhr.com

REFINERY ACHIEVES BEST-EVER SAFETY RECORD, NO LOST-TIME INJURIES IN 2002
Flint Hills has incident rate 80 percent below industry average, goes two years without lost-time injury

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Flint Hills Resources, LP employees at the company's refining complex here completed 2002 with their lowest-ever health and safety incident rate and zero lost-time injuries.

At 0.28, their 2002 Occupational Safety and Health Administration recordable-incident rate was the lowest in plant history. This compares to an 8.1 rate for all U.S. manufacturing facilities and a 1.4 rate for the petroleum refining industry. This means the facility achieved an incident rate 96 percent lower than the broader industry average and 80 percent lower (or five times better) than the average among U.S. refiners.

In addition, the employees surpassed two years without a significant workplace injury. They have gone more than 4 million work-hours and safely processed more than 185 million barrels (nearly 8 billion gallons) of crude oil without a lost-time incident.

These accomplishments place Flint Hills Resources among the nation's safest refining operators, according to National Petrochemical & Refiners Association statistics.

"NPRA has a long history of recognizing refiners that display a superior level of safety performance," said Bob Slaughter, NPRA president. "Two years back-to-back without a lost-time incident is an extremely significant achievement. We look forward to presenting NPRA's award for safety achievement for the second consecutive year to Flint Hills' Corpus Christi facility during the association's annual safety awards banquet in 2003."

"An injury free workplace is a top priority for us," says Joe Coco, Flint Hills Resources vice president and manager of the Corpus Christi facility. "Our employees daily demonstrate their commitment to maintaining the highest safety standards. With a facility as large and complex as we have, this achievement is outstanding, and we'll continue to exhibit the dedication and vigilance needed to keep this record going."

Employees at the 300,000 barrel-per-day refining complex in Corpus Christi had only three recordable safety incidents in 2002, and they have worked more than 4.3 million hours since the last lost-time incident, which was in December 2000.

Flint Hills' safety record reflects employees' active participation in programs to promote on-the-job safety. The refining facility has earned "Star Status" in the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program – a designation earned by only the top 11 percent of refining facilities for workplace safety.

Employees at both of Flint Hills Resources' refining facilities, in Texas and Minnesota, achieved a zero lost-time incident rate in 2001 and 2002. The company's employees in Pine Bend, Minn., exceeded two years with no lost-time incidents in November and have gone nearly 4 million work-hours without a significant injury.

OSHA recordable rates are standard industrial safety performance measures that represent health and safety incidents per 200,000 work-hours, a unit of measure chosen by the agency because it approximates the annual work of 100 employees. Lost-time incidents are those injuries or occupational illnesses that result in time away from work.

Flint Hills Resources, LP, based in Wichita, Kan., is a leading producer of fuels and other petrochemical products. The company operates refineries in Corpus Christi, Texas and Pine Bend, Minn., which process about 600,000 barrels of crude oil daily. More information is available at www.fhr.com.