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### **BP/ARCO FRANCHISEES SUE OVER PAYMENT FLAWS**

The Reuters news service reported on May 4, 2011, that more than 100 gas station franchise owners have sued BP for \$200 million, alleging breach of contract arising from a faulty payment systems the owners were required to purchase. The software from Retailix, another defendant, cost more than \$30,000 per station and regularly overcharged customers and frequently crashed.

"In its business dealings with BP franchisees, BP operates as the proverbial '800 pound gorilla,' squashing its own franchisees in the naked pursuit of its own profits," said the complaint, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Wednesday by more than 60 operators of BP and Arco filling stations. Another co-defendant in the case is privately held PayPoint Electronic Payment Systems.