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Safety Case post-Macondo

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1988, offshore Scotland

Piper Alpha production platform fire

167 dead

2010, Gulf of Mexico,

Macondo well blowout,

11 dead, massive environmental damage

Five features of a mature safety case regime

- 1 A risk- or hazard-management framework
Process Safety Mgt (PSM) Standard;
Safety and Env Mgt System (SEMS)
- 2 Workforce involvement

Towards more effective employee consultation

- Involve *unions*
- in developing safety cases
- in accident investigations

- Ensure employees have access to safety cases

- Recognise that employer and employee interests are not same

- Ensure employee voice on governance and advisory bodies

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- 4 Competent, well-resourced, engaged, independent regulator
- 5 A general duty of care imposed on the operator

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- Makes it possible to nudge standards higher
- Makes it easy to prosecute
- Forces operator to go beyond the mere compliance

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Incorporating organisational factors into Safety Cases

- Organisational design
- Incentive systems
- Reporting bad news
- On-going learning from incidents (internal and external)
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