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## Opening Remarks

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*Minerals Management Service*

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# 2nd International Workshop on Human Factors in Offshore Operations



Opening Remarks

by

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Minerals Management  
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April 8, 2002

**MMS**

# Industry Changes Since 1996

- A lot has happened since the first workshop in 1996
  - ◆ We have continued moving into deeper and deeper waters in search of resources.
  - ◆ The industry continues to develop new technology at a record pace.
  - ◆ There has been a great number of mergers in industry, resulting in fewer, but much larger companies.
  - ◆ Small, independent operators play a major role in the Gulf of Mexico, especially on the shelf.
  - ◆ Opportune to meet and discuss Human Factors

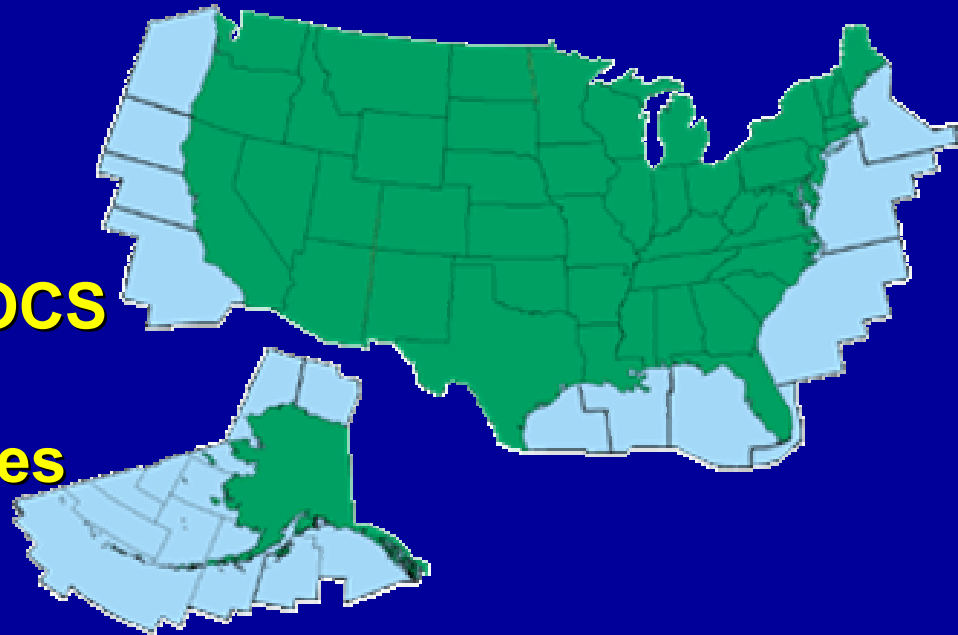
# Human Factors

“It’s not the panacea for today’s problems.”

Taf Powell UK HSE

# MMS Responsibilities

- **Administration of**
  - ✓ 1.76 billion acres on the OCS
  - ✓ Over 7,500 leases
  - ✓ 4,000 + production facilities
- **OCS production**
  - ✓ 25% of U.S. natural gas
  - ✓ 27% of U.S. crude oil
- **Revenue collection for U.S. OCS**
  - ✓ Since 1953, almost \$133 billion
  - ✓ Nearly \$10 billion in 2001

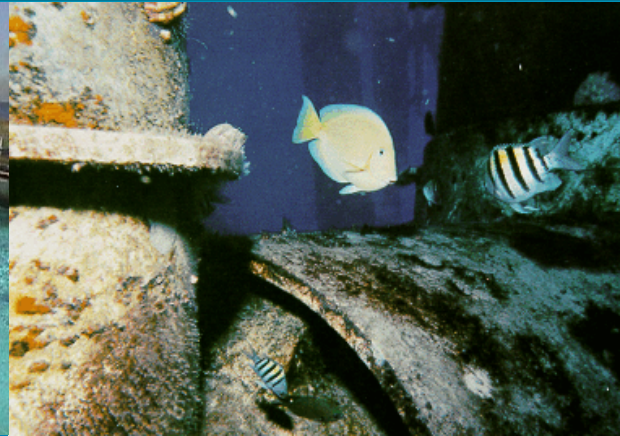


# Many Agencies Involved

- U.S. Coast Guard
  - Oil-spill response, port regulation, vessel inspection
- Office of Pipeline Safety
  - Pipeline inspections, standards
- Environmental Protection Agency
  - Air and water quality
- National Marine Fisheries Service
  - Marine mammals/endangered species
- Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Marine mammals/endangered species
- Department of Commerce
  - Coastal programs

# Safety & Environmental Protection

## Two Core Objectives



### Safe Offshore Operations

Promote incident free operations during exploration and development on Federal Offshore Lands.

### Environmental Protection

Ensure that all activities on Federal Offshore lands are conducted with appropriate environmental safeguards.

# Varied Clientele

- Program must be responsive to operators
  - Some companies are small and operate single well caissons
  - Others are large multinationals who deal with cutting edge technology
- We require the same level of performance
  - Program does recognize that small operator may not have the same support staff as a major player



# The U.S. System—Process Rich

- 5-Year Program
  - Outlines size, timing and location of potential sales
- Individual Lease Sales—competitive bidding
  - Primary term for completing exploration
  - Site specific environmental and safety requirements
  - Financial terms (minimum bid, royalties, rentals)
- Review of exploration and development plans
- Adaptations for deepwater activity

# Regulatory Strategy

- Crossroads of developing new regulatory systems
  - Focus on performance while maintaining prescriptive features
- Consensus standards development
  - Mutual benefits for government and industry
- Industry collaboration
  - Through OOC, IADC, API & ISO
- Coordination and collaboration with other regulators around the world

# Deepwater Operations Plan

- DWOP requires 3 Parts -  
conceptual, preliminary & final
  - Early dialogue - focus on “total system”
  - MMS approval prior to major financial commitment
  - List alternative compliance and departures
- Avoid unnecessary regulatory rewrites



# Guiding Principles for Program

- Operator responsibility
- Understanding human factors & mechanical systems interface
- Measure performance
- Make sure poor performance carries a price



# Accident Investigation

- An important responsibility - Industry & MMS
  - Should be integral part of operator's SEMP
  - Both should review data & conduct investigations
    - Determine root causes
    - Identify trends
    - Share information to prevent future incidents
- Use information to revise requirements and direct research
- Share results through safety alerts and workshops
- Information exchange with international colleagues

# Human Factors Roles In Accidents

- Relationship between human factors and management system failures
- Negative human interaction with the system
- Need to find the deepest underlying cause of the accident



# Management System Failures

- Failure may include the following:
  - failure to identify hazardous aspects of an operation
  - failure to provide guidelines for the safest way to accomplish a task
  - failure to effectively implement the corporate safety program
- Need to address these failure modes to prevent future accidents

# Riser Package Accident



Control Panel



# A Crane Accident



# Annual Performance Reviews

- Continuing dialogue - MMS & operators
- Safety - ensure corporate focus
- Regulatory practices - feedback for MMS
- Poor performance - identify/suggest remedies
- Correct problems before they become serious

# In Conclusion

- MMS continues to seek way to improve its regulatory program
- Human Factors aspects of safety management is an integral part of our program
- We want companies to keep HSE issues a top priority
- We all have much to gain in maintaining good safety and environmental performance