Voluntary Confidential Near-Miss Reporting System

Near Miss:
A sequence of events and/or conditions that could have resulted in loss. This loss was prevented only by a fortuitous break in the chain of events and/or conditions. The potential loss could be human injury, environmental damage or negative business impact.*

* Adapted from IMO.
Vision

Establish a voluntary confidential near-miss reporting system that will improve operational safety and environmental protection by increasing the ability of BSEE and industry to use near-miss data to reduce the risk of major incidents, loss of life, injury and negative impacts on the environment.
Initiating Event

National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Recommendations:

- Develop requirements for incident reporting and data concerning offshore incidents and near-misses
- Collect and analyze leading and lagging indicators from active parties for full risk evaluation
- Investigate all accidents and other significant events that could have potentially turned catastrophic
Near Miss Reporting Systems:

- Have been proven successful in other industry sectors and some OCS companies have initiated internal near-miss programs.
- Will provide every individual associated with the offshore oil and gas industry an opportunity to improve safety offshore for them, their friends and their coworkers.
- Will continuously add important relevant information to a growing OCS storehouse of safety-related data from many sources.
- Will help industry and BSEE to identify emerging trends and reduce potential risks in time to prevent or mitigate future incidents.
- Will help achieve the goal of every worker arriving home safely.
Sources of Offshore Safety Data

- Accident Investigations
  - Reportable Incidents
  - Non-Reportable Incidents
  - Reported and Internally Recorded Near Miss

BTS included information

- More Lagging
  - Initial Near Miss data reported to BTS
  - Additional non-reported Near Miss data to be captured

- More Leading
  - Operators
  - Contractors
  - Operators/Contractors
  - Third Party (ABS, etc.)
  - Trade Assoc.
  - USCG
  - DOT
  - EPA
  - BSEE

- International Regulators
Operations

- BSEE has asked the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) to develop the Near Miss Reporting System.

- Under BTS, it is a voluntary reporting system subject to the protections of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA).

- In accordance with CIPSEA, only BTS will have access to the raw submitted near-miss incident reports.
  - It is a Class E Felony for BTS or its agents to release identifiable data, punishable by up to $250,000 in fines and 5 years in jail.
  - Submitted incident reports are exempt from FOIA and subpoena.
  - Submitted reports CANNOT be used for any enforcement actions.

- BTS will collect the near miss data and simultaneously provide it in an aggregated form to all OCS stakeholders through a published public report. BSEE will not receive advanced copies.

- The public reports will allow all parties to work together to identify and reduce potential hazards that present significant risks and to promote a culture of continuous improvement.
BTS Responsibilities

- To collect, own, and protect the submitted confidential near-miss reports.
- To aggregate and statistically analyze submitted information, using BTS subject matter experts.
- To identify trends, emerging safety/environmental concerns, and potential causal factors of near-miss incidents.
- To develop aggregated statistical reports and make them available to the public, in accordance with applicable Statistical Policy Directives issued by OMB.
BSEE’s Role

- Work with BTS and Volpe Research Center to develop outreach tools for companies, associations and individual workers on the reporting of near misses.
- Promote the voluntary confidential near miss reporting system at all levels.
- Communicate a clear understanding of it’s purpose and how individuals and or companies can participate.