

Summary of Offshore Workforce Involvement Event

(Event Provided by Centrica Group & Centrica Storage)

**Thursday 10 March 2011,
Forest Pines Hotel, Scunthorpe**

A Summary & Reflection of Key Topics & Memorable Aspects

1. **Steve Walker's Opening Remarks:**

- **“offshore industry is head and shoulders above most in terms of workforce involvement”**
- **Encouraging to see a good cross-section of the workforce at such an event and hopefully we all get something from the day**

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2. Willie Watt (Kittiwake Safety Representative.)

- great show by Willie – not easy to stand up in front of a big group of people
- “Who wants to be a Safety Millionaire” quiz – an innovative and enjoyable twist on a safety meeting

The Kittiwake story:

- installation went from the relegation zone to European qualification in terms of safety culture and approaches
- people working together with workforce and leadership fully aligned (Willie ably supported on the day by his OIM)
- great focus on major accident hazards and SCE integrity
- ownership of issues + action = credibility

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3. Fraser Easton – SI 971 inspection Programme

- mixed bag of results
- how disappointed should we be that a well established and important regulation does not have greater compliance levels?
- we need to learn from findings and improve compliance across the patch
- adds weight to workforce involvement efforts

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4. **Alistair McGilvray – Safety Representatives Advanced Training**

- **enhancement and improvement training responding to workforce requests**
- **additional to SI 971 training**
- **training will be to an OPITO standard**
- **will not be mandated and will remain voluntary**

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5. Steve Walker – Deepwater Horizon

- opportunity to hear the story from a well-informed source
- Steve described it as a “once in a generation event”
- it could happen here but is less likely – we have many of the same hazards but risks are better managed in UK
- we have a robust regulatory regime but still face challenges
- Steve cited wider dimensions such as UK political, EU political and the reputational issues we still face
- promoted the good work done by OSPRAG
- Steve prompted audience to ask “what can we do to prevent a similar event?”

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6. Bob Dawe – Buncefield investigation

- again an informed speaker – Bob was a key member of the HSE investigation team
- simple causation involving an absent padlock and lack of awareness of significance of the padlock
- failure to react to pre-cursors such as a sticky automated tank gauge (15 reports of it sticking!)

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7. Overall assessment of day

- good range of subjects covered
- good levels of participation with lots of active audience input
- encouraging references throughout the day to major accident hazards and safety critical elements – we can't take our eye off the major hazard ball!
- more than one reference to a “failure to learn” and apart from reading Andrew Hopkins book with that title; we need to ensure that we do learn lessons to improve safety
- good to have Steve Walker at the event and that is a great access opportunity for offshore people
- there were 50+ people at the meeting but 50,000 people are recorded in Vantage as traveling offshore in 2010 so we need to carry the messages to the wider community

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7. Overall assessment of day (continued)

- in response to a specific question; Steve Walker had restated his and HSE's commitment to WIG but was honest in stating the budget constraints that prohibit funding of major events such as the Scunthorpe event**
- thanks to Les Larchet, Centrica Group and Centric Storage who hosted and funded a great day on Humberside!**