



Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

2015 BSEE Domestic and International Standards Workshop

Standards: Past, Present, and Future

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Presentation Overview

- Standards as a regulatory tool
 - Historical perspective
 - Current use of standards
- Review of past BSEE Domestic and International Workshops
 - BSEE progress on recommendations from the 2014 workshop
- Goals for the 2015 BSEE Domestic and International Standards Workshop

BSEE Regulatory Model

- Hybrid regulatory system
- Program draws from a variety of concepts
- Model contains 3 key elements
 - Prescriptive requirements
 - Performance-based initiatives
 - **Industry Standards**



Why Use Standards?

- Provides consistency
 - Benefits regulator, industry, and consumer
- Establishes baseline for **minimum safety requirements**
 - Consensus process engages experts from community
- Provides efficiencies for the regulators
 - Standards are updated on a continuous cycle
- National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act requires federal agencies to use voluntary consensus standards in regulations when possible

International Regulators

- An International Association of Oil and Gas Producers study of 12 countries found that 1100 standards are referenced by regulators
- Of the countries in the International Regulators Forum (IRF), the UK has the most standards referenced in its regulations (289), followed by the U.S. (202), and then Norway (183)
- More than 40% of all standards referenced by regulators are American Petroleum Institute (API) standards or other U.S.-based standards development organizations.
 - About 20% of the standards referenced by regulators are International Standards Organization (ISO) documents
- Many of the existing ISO standards and Norwegian standards are based on API standards
- Recent discussions in the IRF, relate to the use of international standards or “equivalent standards”

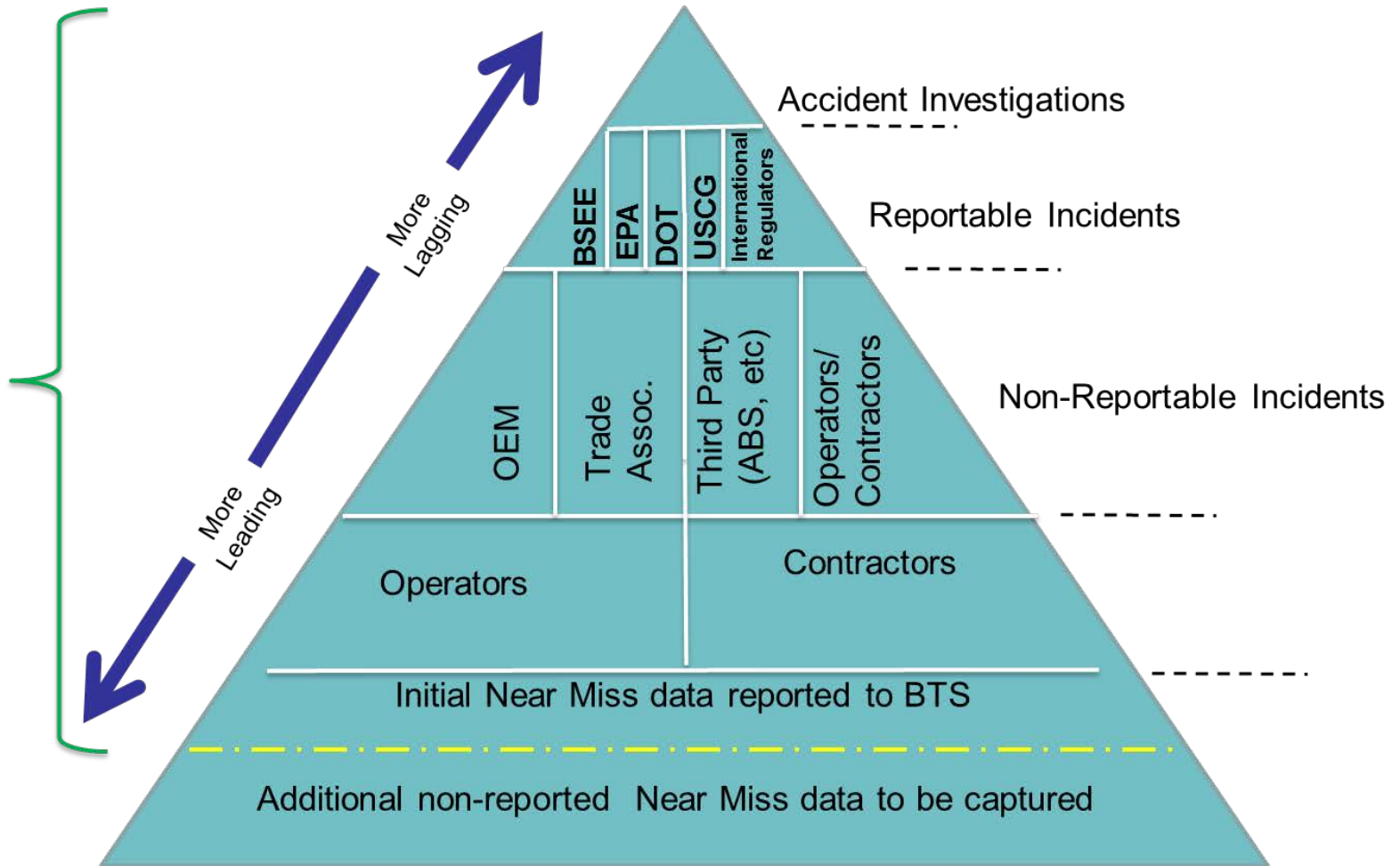
BSEE Standards Workshops

- 1st Domestic and International Standards Workshop: 2012
 - The goal of the workshop was to jumpstart a robust and productive communication process between regulators and those involved in Standards Development Organizations (SDO's), and to provide updates on standards activities.

BSEE Standards Workshops Cont.

- 2nd Domestic and International Standards Workshop: 2014
 - Focused on identifying gaps and addressing domestic and international regulatory needs
 - Other topics included High Pressure High Temperature; pipeline and production; structures; and an open international discussion
 - Recommendations:
 - Increase communication between SDOs and regulators
 - Develop and incorporate standards more efficiently
 - Increase cooperation on coordinated standards research
 - Support industry efforts to develop training and certification programs
 - Support focus on human factors issues
 - Improve data collection and dissemination
 - Encourage development of failure data-base and near miss reporting

Sources of Offshore Safety Data



BSEE Standards Workshops Cont.

- Future issues:
 - How should we assess and measure risk?
 - Is “good enough” okay for standards involving safety issues?



Goals for the 2015 Workshop

- Discuss domestic and international regulatory concerns, incidents, and safety issues
- Identify gaps that need standards development in order to fully address the safety concerns
- Recommend a path forward for addressing each identified need, including coordination and communication between regulators and the standards community

Questions, comments, or concerns?



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“To promote safety, protect the environment and conserve resources offshore through vigorous regulatory oversight and enforcement.”