Disastrous Decisions: The Human and Organisational Causes of the Gulf of Mexico Blowout

In his latest book – Disastrous Decisions: The Human and Organisational Causes of the Gulf of Mexico Blowout – leading disaster analyst, Professor Andrew Hopkins, takes the reader into the realm of human and organisational factors that contributed to this disaster, going beyond all previous commentary on this topic. He acknowledges that it is important to know what people did, but even more important to know why they did it. Hopkins provides a sophisticated analysis of the accident that first identifies a series of critical defences that failed and then goes on to explain why they failed. Disastrous Decisions: The Human and Organisational Causes of the Gulf of Mexico Blowout is an essential reference for all work, health and safety professionals.

Failure to Learn: the BP Texas City Refinery Disaster

Failure to Learn discusses the causes of a major explosion at the Texas City Oil Refinery on March 23, 2005. The explosion killed 15 workers and injured more than 170 others. It also analyses the similarities between this event and the Longford Gas Plant explosion in Victoria in 1998.

Learning from High Reliability Organisations

High Reliability Organisations (HROs) operate with hazardous technology, yet consistently avoid disasters, Professor Andrew Hopkins, the lead author, analyses in depth HROs including airlines, nuclear power stations and chemical processing plants. Topics covered include Identifying and Responding to Warnings, and AcciMap Analysis.

Lessons from Gretley: Mindful Leadership and the Law

This book describes the 2004/05 conviction and fining of two mine managers in NSW following the Gretley mine disaster in 1996 and discusses whether the law was unfair to these managers. It also examines the impact of the prosecution on the industry, using interviews with a small sample of mine managers.

Lessons from Longford: The Esso Gas Plant Explosion

Professor Andrew Hopkins was an expert witness at the Royal Commission of inquiry into the Longford refinery gas explosion that resulted in the death of two workers and crippled Melbourne’s gas supply for two weeks. In examining how the explosion occurred, he outlines eleven key contributory elements in the safety chain.

Safety, Culture and Risk

The concepts of safety, culture and risk are matters of concern and often discussed, but are not often clearly understood. This book deals with these complex issues so that organisations will be better able to create safe environments for their employees and clients, and to mitigate risk.

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