



SAFETY, QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND THE SINKING OF THE LARGEST OFFSHORE OIL PLATFORM

March 2001

**For those of you
who may be
involved in
safety
management and
project cost
control, at
whatever level,**



please read this
quote from a
company
executive,



**extolling the
benefits of
cutting quality
assurance and
inspection
costs...**





**on the
project that
sunk into the
Atlantic
Ocean off the
coast of
South
America in
March 2001.**



*"The company has established
new global benchmarks for the
generation of exceptional
shareholder wealth..."*



...through an aggressive and innovative programme of cost cutting on its offshore production facility....

*...Conventional constraints have
been successfully challenged...*



*...and replaced with new paradigms
appropriate to the globalised
corporate market place.*





*Through an integrated
network of facilitated
workshops...*

...the project successfully rejected the established constricting and negative influences of prescriptive engineering...



...onerous quality requirements, and outdated concepts of inspection and client control.



Elimination of these unnecessary straitjackets has empowered the project's suppliers and contractors to propose highly economical solutions...



An aerial photograph of an offshore oil rig. A large red crane arm extends from the rig's deck over the ocean. The rig's structure is complex, with various platforms and pipes visible. The ocean is a deep blue with some whitecaps. The text is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

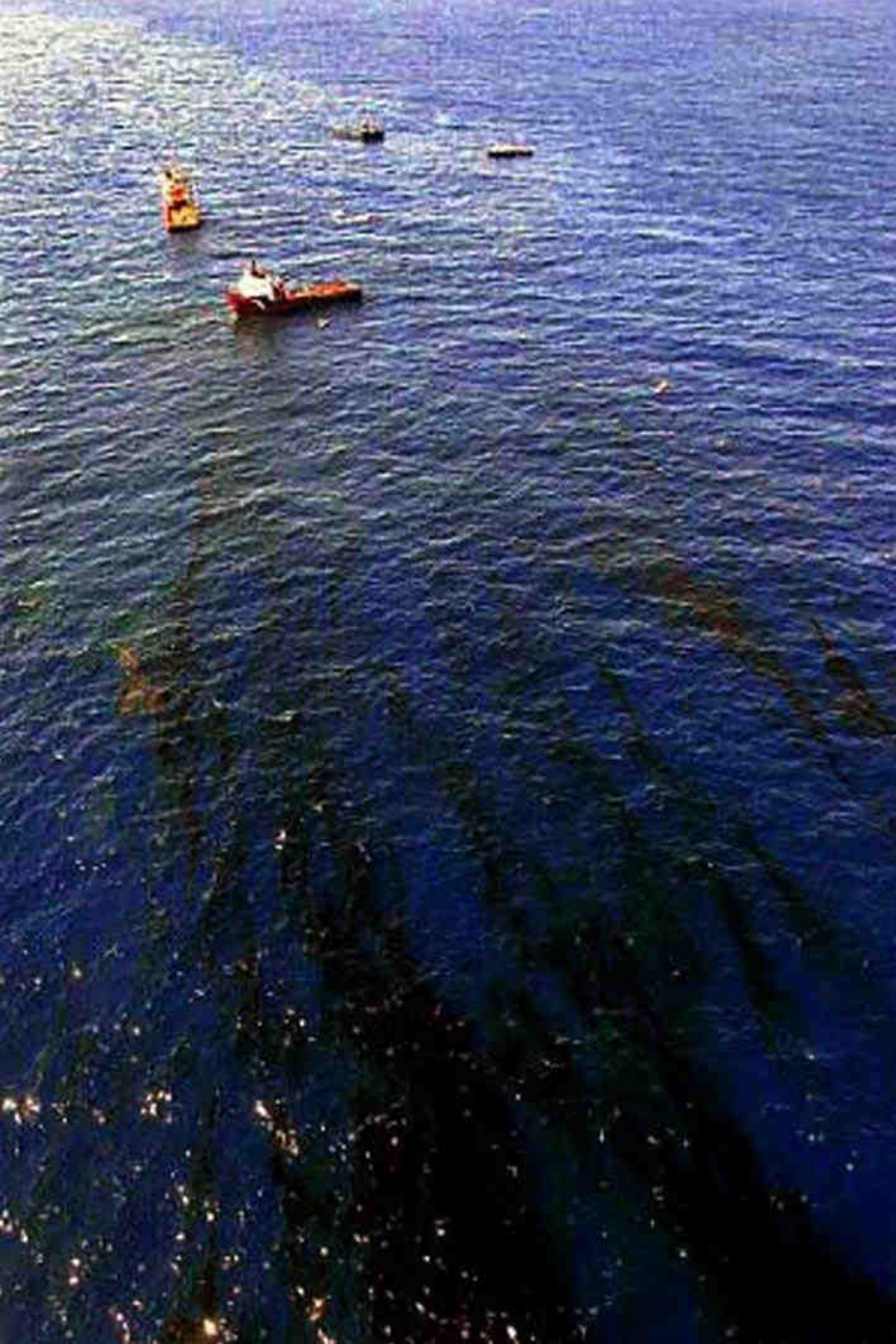
*...with the win-win bonus of
enhanced profitability margins
for themselves.*



*The new platform shows the
shape of things to come...*

An aerial photograph of a vast, dark blue ocean. A large, dark, irregular oil spill is visible, stretching across the water's surface. In the upper left, a small yellow and red buoy or marker floats. The text is overlaid in the lower right quadrant.

...in the unregulated global market economy of the 21st Century."



**And now you
have seen
the final
result of this
proud
achievement,**

QUIZ:

1. How many lives were lost to this cost saving effort and how did this impact the environment, needlessly?
2. How much did the company *really* save?
3. Does *your* company have a cost saving effort? *If so, you'd better learn how to swim.*

Herald of Free Enterprise

Accident Report

“The directors did not have any proper
Comprehension of what their safety duties were....
From top to bottom the body corporate was infected
with the disease of sloppiness.”

And Finally

Remember

If you can't manage
safety, you probably can't
manage the business