Conference Programme

Close Calls: Organizations, Near-Misses and Alarms

March 26-27, 2009

ESRC Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation
London School of Economics and Political Science

Location: Hong-Kong Theatre [Ground Floor] & D202 [2nd Floor] - Clement House; Aldwych; London

Thursday, March 26th

10:00 - 11:00  Coffee and Registration *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre Foyer)*

11:00 - 11:15  Introduction and Welcome: Michael Power

11:15 - 12:00  Opening session 1 (Chair: Michael Power) *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

   Todd LaPorte: “Considering ‘Close Calls’, Precursor Dynamics and Improved Operational Wisdom.”

12:00 - 12:45  Opening session 2 (Chair: Michael Power) *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

   Andrew Hopkins: “Why BP Failed to Learn The Lessons From Elsewhere: The Texas City Refinery Fire”

12:45 - 2:00  Lunch *(Location: Café Pepe 3rd Floor)*

2:00 - 3:00  Session 1

A. *Near Misses’ as an Organizational Construction* (Chair: Jeanette Hofmann) *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

   Carl Macrae: “Constructing near-misses: proximity, distance and the space between”

   Lise Justesen: “Constructing the category of “the near miss” in the construction industry”

B. *Medical Competence and Error* (Chair: Erika Mansnerus) *(Location: D202 2nd Floor)*

   Mary Dixon-Woods & Justin Waring: “Detecting the dodgy doctor: ‘warning signs’ as an essentially contested concept”

3:00 - 4:00  Session 2

**Foundations of Near Miss Analysis** (Chair: Bridget Hutter)  
*(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

John Downer: “Anticipating Disaster: Why Near-Misses aren’t Nearly Enough”

Ulku Oktem & Rafael Wong: “Near-Miss Management: Managing the Bottom of the Risk Pyramid”

4:00 - 4:30  Tea  *(Location: Café Pepe 3rd Floor)*

4:30 - 6:00  Panel Discussion: Organizations under stress – what are the warning signs?  
*(Chair: Michael Power)  *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

Mark Cooke (Regional Chief Operational Risk Officer - EMEA & Switzerland, UBS)

Martyn Jones (Technical Partner, Deloitte)

Richard Hobbs (Managing Director, Beachcroft Regulatory Consulting)

6:00 -  Drinks Reception  
*(Location: Atrium, Old Building)*

Friday, March 27th

9:00 - 10:00  Session 3

**A. Safety in the Nuclear Industry** (Chair: Henry Rothstein)  
*(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

Sandrine Pierlot; Violaine Bringaud & Jean-François Maffre: “Weak Signals for Improving Safety in the Nuclear Industry”

Johan M Sanne: “Bounded practices in knowledge production produce vulnerabilities in safety-case regulation”

**B. Clinical Systems and Warnings** (Chair: Carl Macrae) *(Location: D202 2nd Floor)*

Myles Leslie: “Near Misses: Systems management in clinical medicine and public service”

Carine Vassy; Robert Dingwall; Richard Keller; Anne Murcott “Deaths that go unnoticed: Registration and excess mortality in England, the USA and France”

10:00 - 11:00  ‘Near Miss’ Management Systems (Chair: Sharon Gilad)  
*(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

Michael Huber: “Organisational Prerequisites of Early Warning Systems: The Emergence of Failure Management in Academia”

11:00 - 11:30  Coffee and Tea *(Location: Café Pepe 3rd Floor)*

11:30 - 12:30  Early warnings and Organizational Responses *(Chair: Michael Power)* *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

William Stein & Darinka Asenova: “An innovative approach to risk prediction in the regulation of care services in Scotland”

Anu Suokas: “Managing risk and uncertainty: the organisational dynamics of early warning systems”

12:30 - 1:30  Final Session *(Chair: John Downer)* *(Location: Hong-Kong Theatre)*

Paul Shrivastava: “Nearly Missing the Near Misses”

1:30 - 1:45  Concluding Remarks

1:45 - 2:45  Lunch *(Location: Café Pepe 3rd Floor)*

2:45 -  Conference Ends