

Recent OHS books written by Australian authors

Nightmare pipeline failures: fantasy planning, black swans and integrity management

Jan Hayes and Andrew Hopkins

\$85

Available in both hard copy and ebook.

This book examines the causes of two pipeline ruptures in suburban USA which caused death and injury and the clean-up cost was more than a billion dollars. The risk of similar events haunts many cities around the world. The book argues that, although the events were profoundly surprising to the companies concerned, from a broader perspective they were no surprise at all, stemming as they did from well-known human, organisational and regulatory failures. The book contrasts two equally flawed approaches to prevention of rare but catastrophic events: 'fantasy planning' and 'black swans'. These two concepts shed new light on why integrity management is so difficult to get right and also how it can be improved. The authors hope that those in positions of responsibility in companies that have responsibility for hazardous facilities will feel the need to scrutinise their own integrity management systems with these absurdities in mind. The major failings they have identified provide valuable lessons for all organisations that use risk assessments to manage and prioritise routine activities.

See <http://www.cchbooks.com.au/nightmare-pipeline-failures-fantasy-planning-black-swans-and-integrity-management/>

Occupational Risk Control - Predicting and Preventing the Unwanted

Derek Viner

£70

In Occupational Risk Control, Derek Viner presents a detailed, consistent and practical theory of both accidents and risk, showing at each step the implications of the theory for real world practice in risk control and management applicable to either research, industry, commerce or the various levels of Government. The book is a distillation of 35 years of experience in consulting and teaching and will be of value to the engineer, scientist, academic, student, specialist risk or safety practitioner and manager of industrial or commercial undertakings.

The theoretical base rests on the few necessary (and scientifically credible) principles that enable processes resulting in damage and loss to be understood and these are developed into the simplest possible useful form. All applications of the theory are developed from these easily memorable first principles and they are used also to enable the reader to understand the overall relationship to these principles of various past and current theories, including accident theory. An historical perspective is also offered, to facilitate this understanding. In a world in which there is a plethora of commercial and semi-academic practical tools offered to the manager, risk management practitioner and law maker, this text provides a foundation from which to critically evaluate the meaning, scope and practical value of these tools and their associated concepts as well as to develop useful applications for specific requirements.

See

http://www.gowerpublishing.com/default.aspx?page=637&calcTitle=1&title_id=19767&edition_id=1209349850

Ten pathways to death and disaster: Learning from fatal incidents in mines and other high hazard workplaces

Michael Quinlan

\$145

Why do mine disasters continue to occur in wealthy countries when major mine hazards have been subject to regulation for well over a century? How can this problem be addressed as part of work

organisation, regulation and policy? Are the causes of single fatality incidents significantly different to those that result in multiple fatalities? Do the underlying causes of fatal incidents in mines have relevance for other high hazard workplaces like refineries and off-shore oil rigs. This book seeks to answer these and other critical questions by analysing mine disasters and fatal incidents in five countries – Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand and the USA between 1992 and 2010 together with catastrophic workplace incidents in other industries.

The book finds that there are 10 pattern causes of both single and multiple fatality incidents in mining. Further, these pattern or repeat causes can be identified in other workplace disasters including aircraft crashes, oil-rig explosions, refinery and factory fires, and shipping disasters. Drawing on this the book proposes a number of practical measures for addressing the pattern causes of workplace death. It identifies instances where lessons have been learned while also exploring why it has proved so hard to reshape the political economy of safety.

See <http://www.federationpress.com.au/bookstore/book.asp?isbn=9781862879775>

The Field Guide to Understanding 'Human Error' (3rd Ed).

Sidney Dekker

\$130

When faced with a 'human error' problem, you may be tempted to ask 'Why didn't these people watch out better?' Or, 'How can I get my people more engaged in safety?' You might think you can solve your safety problems by telling your people to be more careful, by reprimanding the miscreants, by issuing a new rule or procedure and demanding compliance. These are all expressions of 'The Bad Apple Theory' where you believe your system is basically safe if it were not for those few unreliable people in it.

<http://sidneydekker.com/books/>

Risky Rewards: How Company Bonuses Affect Safety

Andrew Hopkins and Sarah Maslen, both at The Australian National University, Australia

\$60

Financial incentives have long been used to try to influence professional values and practices. Recent events including the global financial crisis and the BP Texas City refinery disaster have been linked to such incentives, with commentators calling for a critical look at these systems given the catastrophic outcomes. *Risky Rewards* engages with this debate, particularly in the context of the present and potential role of incentives to manage major accident risk in hazardous industries. It examines the extent to which people respond to financial incentives, the potential for perverse consequences, and approaches that most appropriately focus attention on major hazard risk. The book is based in part on an empirical study of bonus arrangements in eleven companies operating in hazardous industries, including oil, gas, chemical and mining.

'This is a thought provoking book. It lays out the inherent conflicts in including process safety performance (a long term issue) in senior managers' remuneration which almost inevitably focuses on the short term. But the book also makes clear that all major hazard industries still have a very long way to go in developing meaningful indicators of process safety performance – whether or not they are linked to individuals' financial reward.' Judith Hackitt CBE FREng, Chair Health and Safety Executive

<http://www.amazon.com/Risky-Rewards-Company-Bonuses-Affect-ebook/dp/B00R6471DM>

Safe Design and Construction of Machinery: Regulation, Practice and Performance

Elizabeth Bluff, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

\$119.95

The book deals with machinery risks and the efficacy of manufacturing firms' actions to design and construct inherently safer machinery. It blends empirical data, literature and theory drawn from the human factors, health and safety, socio-legal and learning disciplines. The book reveals the highly contextualized nature of safety knowledge and motivational factors, as the principal elements differentiating firm performance, and variously sustaining or impeding effective risk management. The book is potentially of interest to specialists, practitioners, researchers, regulators and policy makers, educators and students in human factors and safety engineering, work and product safety, risk management, regulation and socio-legal studies, sociology of work, standard setting and enforcement, and professional and vocational education.

<http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9781472450777> and for a 35% discount quote W14iSH35 when ordering

While English rather than Australian, Reflective learning by Budworth and Al Hashemi offers some excellent guidance for OHS professionals and practitioners. The only reservation is that those not resident in the UK will need to ignore the UK-specific references to qualifications but this is only one chapter.

Reflective learning: An essential tool for the self-development of health and safety practitioners

Teresa Budworth and Waddah S. Ghanem Al Hashemi

\$65

Reflective Learning targets both new and experienced health and safety professionals wanting to develop their professional skills and practice. Reflective Learning provides step by step guidance through the principles to help OHS professionals to learn and improve their ability to reflect on past experiences. The book has clear explanations, diagrams and practical tools throughout help you OHS professionals improve their understanding and advance their professional development. The only book on reflective learning to focus on health and safety

A number of distributors but one is <http://www.fishpond.com.au/Books/Reflective-Learning-Teresa-Budworth-Waddah-Shihab-Ghanem-Al-Hashemi/9780415715515>