

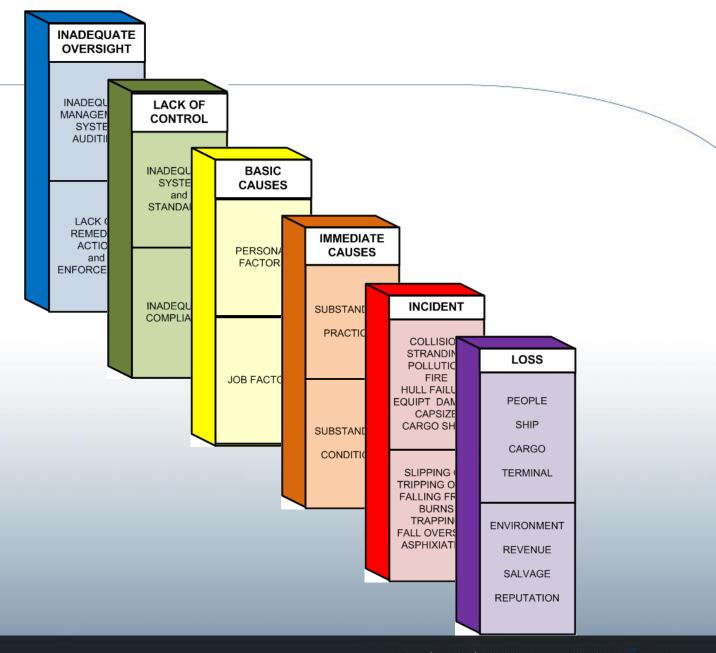
Baltic Accident

The Analysis

Captain Andrew Mitchell

Marine Director RTI Ltd. London









IMMEDIATE CAUSES

SUBSTANDARD PRACTICES

SUBSTANDARD CONDITIONS

Substandard practices

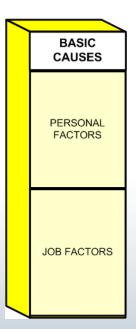
- Ship allowed to set to the east of centre line of Route
- Possibly improper speed in current conditions
- Only small scale charts laid off
- Who had the con?
- Total reliance on ECDIS
- No formal ECDIS training carried out
- Watchkeeper left the bridge to check spurious alarm
- No early contact with other ship
- Sound signals made at last minute

Substandard conditions

- Outstanding speed input to ECDIS problem
- Only small scale charts laid off
- Improper speed in current conditions
- Spurious alarms from fire panel
- Reduced visibility







Personal factors

- Master's dictatorial attitude
- Master too proud to ask for instruction on ECDIS
- OOW distracted by Master's conversation concerning relief
- OOW lack of situational awareness, ship drifting east off track
- OOW slack attitude with regard to position fixing
- C/O relationship with Master influenced command structure
- 2/O not firm with senior officers over ECDIS familiarity

Job factors

- Lack of leadership in shipyard re quality
- Outstanding commissioning problems not addressed
- Interim SMC issued by a non IACS member
- No risk mitigation to address known problems
- No Master's Standing Orders
- Lack of compliance with COLREGS

Who is to blame?
Could it be the Master?
Maybe.... and easy to look no further!





LACK OF CONTROL

INADEQUATE SYSTEM and STANDARDS

INADEQUATE COMPLIANCE

Inadequate system and standards

- Inadequate ship commissioning procedures
- Inadequate company training programme
- Inadequate familarisation programme
- Inadequate operational procedures
- Inadequate internal auditing procedures
- Inadequate auditing by Recognised Organisation

Inadequate compliance

- By Managing Director
- By Operations Director
- By Superintendant
- By Training Manager
- By Master
- By Chief Officer
- By Second Officer



Northern Glow

IMMEDIATE CAUSES

SUBSTANDARD PRACTICES

SUBSTANDARD

Substandard practices

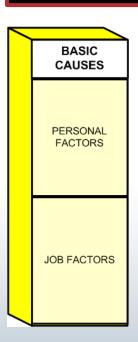
- Master under orders to "expedite"
- Ship at full sea speed in reduced visibility
- Navigation by "eye" from Radar
- Chart plots every 30 minutes
- Master incapacitated?
- C/O had been "on his feet for 36 hours"
- 2/O still laying off voyage charts
- No contact with other ship
- No sound signals made
- Watchkeeper off the bridge calling the cook

Substandard conditions

- Critical spares not onboard
- Reliance on emergency generator
- Continuing problems with internal telephone system
- 2/O new to company and newly promoted
- Passage plan not completed
- Reduced visibility



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Personal factors

- Master stressed over voyage plans
- Master stressed over family concerns and non relief
- C/O working excessive hours and fatigued
- OOW slack attitude with regard to position fixing
- 2/O unfamiliar with ship and company
- 2/O possibly inexperienced and stressed

Job factors

- Critical spares not supplied in timely manner
- Class items outstanding
- Ship delayed 12 hours awaiting critical spares
- No risk mitigation to address known problems
- Inadequate handover period for 2/O
- Inadequate supervision of new and newly promoted staff
- Lack of compliance with COLREGS

Once again...the Master?



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LACK OF CONTROL

INADEQUATE SYSTEM and STANDARDS

INADEQUATE COMPLIANCE

Inadequate system and standards

- Inadequate purchasing procedures
- Inadequate employment procedures
- Inadequate familarisation programme
- Inadequate operational procedures re handovers
- Inadequate maintenance procedures
- Inadequate internal auditing procedures

Inadequate compliance

- By Managing Director
- By Operations Director
- By Superintendant
- By Training Manager
- By Purchasing Manager
- By Master
- By Chief Officer
- By Second Officer



INADEQUATE OVERSIGHT

INADEQUATE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDITING

LACK OF REMEDIAL ACTION and ENFORCEMENT

... is this the heart of the onion...?

The "heart of the onion" is a metaphor for a journey – peeling through the layers of raw feeling and emotion; peeling away layers of conditioning and illusion; and connecting with the truth...!

Barry Goldstein

- What motivates the flag?
- Are they proactive in seeking improvement?
- Do they stand back and let others do the job?
- Do they monitor their Recognised Organisations
- Do they monitor their clients?
- Are they full of good intent.....but.....
- Do they care?



Baltic Accident

