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An ‘all hazards approach’ to maritime safety and security issues in the context of the Australian offshore oil and gas industry

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Abstract

Australia is a major exporter of energy. In the coming decade Australia is poised to become the third largest exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Much of Australia's petroleum production and exploration occurs in the three offshore areas – the North West Shelf, Bass Strait and in the seas north of Darwin. The Australian Government regulates the safety and security of Australia's offshore facilities.

The approach to security, which has become a major challenge for States in the first decade of the new millennium, can benefit from approaches developed over years to enhance safety. While there are some obvious differences, there are also many factors security and safety share, and lesson can be drawn from the safety experience.

This presentation will set out Australia's approach to safety and security in the offshore oil and gas sector, and examine how an ‘all hazards approach’, drawing on other experience of developing safety culture and managing risk and vulnerability, can also facilitate security outcomes.

The presentation will focus on the regulatory and legislative environment including both international agreements (such as the ISPS Code) and its implementation through amendments in 2005 to Australia's legislation.

Technological developments, such as Automatic Identification Systems, will also be explored allowing the presenter to draw conclusions about their complementary application across both safety and security spheres.