

Report of Accident Statistics for IMCA Members – Period: 1 January 1998 – 31 December 1998

Introduction

Members may recall Information Note IMCA S&L 31/98, which reported the 1997 accident statistics for IMCA members. The gathering and publishing of this information is now an annual exercise – and all IMCA members are encouraged to participate.

This report covers the 12-month period from 1 January 1998 to 31 December 1998. It is based on information supplied, on a voluntary basis by 32 IMCA members.

Background

Although only one indicator of health, safety and environment performance, lost time accident frequency statistics are nonetheless seen as providing a useful tool to the performance of a company in that area.

Definitions

In order to compile meaningful statistics, it is important that standard definitions are used. For the purposes of these statistics the following definitions apply:

- ◆ Fatal Accident Rate (FAR) – the number of fatalities per 100,000,000 (100 million) hours worked
- ◆ Hours Worked – the actual ‘hours worked’ for onshore operations. For offshore operations, the ‘hours worked’ are calculated on a 12-hour day.
- ◆ Lost Time Accident (LTA) – any work related injury involving the absence from normal work on the day / shift following the incident
- ◆ Lost Time accident Frequency Rate (LTAFR) – the number of lost time accidents per 1,000,000 (1 million) hours worked

$$= \frac{\text{lost time accidents} \times 1,000,000}{\text{total hours worked}}$$

Number of fatalities – the total number of company employees and that of any others (including contractors) who died as a result of an accident at work.

Overall Statistics for 1 January 1998 – 31 January 1998

		1996 Figure	1997 Figure
No. of lost time accidents	= 257	236	146
Lost time accident frequency rate	= 4.86	4.96	3.27
Number of fatalities	= 2	3	0
Fatal accident rate	= 3.78	6.30	0
Range of LTAFR (second highest – second lowest)	24.17 – 1.43		

Comments

The 1996 figures were based on a pilot exercise using figures from 6 international contractor members; the 1997 figures were based on figures supplied from 23 members and the 1998 figures on information supplied by 32 IMCA members.

The 1998 figures cover 52.9 million hours worked compared with 47.6 million hours in 1997, representing an increase of 10% over the previous year.

Attached at annex I is the lost time accident frequency rate on an individual company basis – each company has been arbitrarily assigned a number to ensure anonymity.

Comparison with Published Figure

◆ CONCAWE (the European downstream oil company organisation)

Their figures, obtained from returns from 27 companies, cover 470 million hours worked.

They reported a lost time accident frequency rate (LTAFR) of 4.5 per million hours worked covering both employees and contractors working in both manufacturing and marketing sectors. The manufacturing sector LTAFR in fact was 6.3 per million hours worked – with a rate of 4.7 for own employees and 9.3 for contractors. In total 12 fatalities were reported many on the marketing side – these in the main were attributed to road accidents.

◆ The E&P Forum (the international oil company trade association)

They report that provisionally last year the lost time accident frequency rate was 2.42 per million hours worked, slightly down on their 1997 figure. The contractor LTAFR was 2.7, which was lower than the previous year and reversed the increase shown over the previous year. The E&P Forum also reported 145 fatalities in 1998 – this was a marked increase on the 100 fatalities reported the previous year. However, a single helicopter crash in South America accounted for 65 of these fatalities.

◆ The UK Health and Safety Executive

The UK HSE publish figures for the financial year 1 April to 31 March 1999. The 1998 figures as, as yet unavailable, but the lost time accident rate, based on 3-day injuries for 1997/8 was 7.3 per million hours worked, which represented an increase over the 1996/7 figure of 5.8.

Individual Company Lost Time Accident Frequency Rate

Company Number	Lost Time Accident Frequency Rate per million hours worked
1	4.03
2	2.15
3	12.68
4	0.00
5	1.43
6	6.63
7	10.20
8	7.78
9	4.32
10	6.52
11	2.16
12	14.25
13	0.00
14	24.17
15	2.06
16	0.00
17	4.69
18	10.94
19	3.66
20	13.54
21	4.51
22	0.00
23	4.50
24	12.34
25	2.71
26	8.23
27	17.12
28	40.48
29	3.00
30	2.90
31	18.92
32	7.55
Combined figure	4.86