



# M.O.S.T.

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## **M.O.S.T. Newsletter – September 2005**

*From the desk of John McMillan*

### **To Our Friends:**

As we begin this message, the Gulf of Mexico Coast is being hammered by Hurricane Katrina. Since we are an emergency preparedness training company, I wonder how many people took this hurricane seriously and realize the consequences of not being prepared. The years of "hurricane parties" are over for those of us who have been in the "eye". I have a feeling it will be like 9-11 and the aftermath is going to be history.

I can relate this hurricane to our survival training. How many people actually take training seriously or believe when it happens, they can make it due to common sense or other aspects without proper knowledge of the "enemy" ? The belief that it won't happen to me is no longer the belief of those who live in the swamps and coastal regions of the Gulf Coast. It has been predicted that something like this could happened and it has.

Survival training for offshore personnel has now taken the same intensity. For many years, it was a "nice to have" course but with international influences, accidents/fatalities and sound company safety practices it has become a "need to have" program. The sad fact for this type of training to be "required" a tragedy needs to happen. Death is a reality in the offshore oil & gas industry, commercial fishing industry and recreational boating industry. We have known this for years but have now only began to address the issues of safety at sea for those that earn a living on the water. Our learning curve can take a while to develop.

What will we learn from this hurricane? Will the emergency management planners do something different next time? Will construction contractors need to build to "hurricane approved" standards as they do in California for earthquakes. Will the population follow instruction quicker or will they take a training class for hurricane preparedness? Probably not!

The belief is that it won't happen to me...again.

**John McMillan, President**  
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