
Contents

<i>Forethoughts</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xii
<i>Introduction</i>	1
1 Two simple incidents	13
2 Protective system failure	22
3 Poor procedures and poor management	32
4 A gas leak and explosion – The hazards of insularity	40
5 A liquid leak and fire and the hazards of amateurism	52
6 A tank explosion – The hazards of optional extras	63
7 Another tank explosion – The hazards of modification and ignorance	73
8 Flixborough	83
9 Seveso	103
10 Bhopal	110
11 Three Mile Island	122
12 Chernobyl	135
13 Aberfan	146
14 Missing recommendations	155
15 Three weeks in a works	162
16 Pipe failures	179
17 Piper Alpha	196
18 The King's Cross underground railway station fire	207
19 Clapham Junction – Every sort of human error	216
20 <i>Herald of Free Enterprise</i>	226
21 Some aviation accidents	234
22 Invisible hazards	253
23 Signals passed at danger	259
24 Longford: the hazards of following fashions	267
25 The Gresford Colliery explosion	275
26 Green intention, red result	281
27 Looking beyond violations	291

28	Keeping an open mind	29
29	Secondhand software: the Therac story	30
30	Conclusions	30
	<i>Appendix 1</i>	32
	<i>Appendix 2</i>	32
	<i>Appendix 3</i>	33
	<i>Afterthought</i>	33
	<i>Index</i>	33