

## What is the SafeOCS Program?

The SafeOCS program collects and analyzes safety data in oil and gas operations on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). SafeOCS captures and shares essential information across the industry about equipment failures, safety incidents, accident precursors, and other potential hazards associated with offshore oil and gas operations.

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) established the program with input from industry and then entered into an agreement with BTS to develop, implement, and operate the program.



Currently, SafeOCS collects and analyzes the following types of reports:

- **Industry safety data (ISD)** reporting comprises near-miss event reports and other industry safety data.
- **Well control equipment (WCE)** failure reporting comprises critical safety equipment failure reports in drilling and other well operations.
- **Safety and pollution prevention equipment (SPPE)** failure reporting comprises critical safety equipment failure reports in production operations.

ISD reporting is voluntary, and BSEE regulations mandate WCE and SPPE failure reporting.

## What is BTS?

The U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) is an independent federal statistical agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation. Its primary function is to compile and analyze relevant and accurate data and disseminate information for statistical purposes.

BTS is policy-neutral and independent from political or other undue external influence. BTS is not a regulatory agency and has no authority to issue fines or penalties.

### For More Information

[www.safeocs.gov](http://www.safeocs.gov)

#### Contact Us

[safeocs@dot.gov](mailto:safeocs@dot.gov)  
1-844-OCS-FRST  
(1-844-627-3778)

*“The primary points of leverage for creating change are the conversations we have.”*

*—Jaqueline M. Stavros*



# SafeOCS

## Industry Safety Data Program

### *The Value Proposition*

**OBSERVE - REPORT - PREVENT**  
*“The more we know, the safer we’ll be.”*

[www.safeocs.gov](http://www.safeocs.gov)



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

## What Is Industry Safety Data (ISD) Reporting?

The SafeOCS Industry Safety Data (ISD) is a voluntary, confidential reporting program that collects and analyzes information about safety-related events, near misses, and other pertinent safety information for cross-company analysis. The ISD program captures both agency-reportable incidents and other safety incidents that are not reported.

Statisticians and industry subject matter experts analyze the aggregated data to identify industry-wide trends to advance safety in oil and gas operations on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).

The program is supported by BSEE and maintained by BTS, but this framework is intended to belong to all industry stakeholders.



## What Is the Value Proposition?

The value of this collaborative data sharing is in the conversations it sparks, the questions it enables us to ask, and learning from incidents and events that occur, which ultimately promote continuous improvement in the industry. This collaboration is crucial for major hazards and associated prevention/mitigation barriers.

Key aspects of this effort include:

- provide a secure, central repository for

collecting, collaborating, and sharing insights from safety-related data,

- identify the types of data for analysis,
- create alignment on incident and indicator definitions,
- implement a methodology for identifying systemic issues,
- disseminate results to stakeholders to reduce or eliminate the risk of recurrence through greater barrier integrity,
- provide opportunities to collaborate and benchmark performance, and
- establish a framework that protects data submitters and safety data.

## How Is Data Protected?

SafeOCS operates under a federal law, the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA), which requires that the program protect the identity of a data submitter and treat reports of safety events confidentially.

Information submitted under CIPSEA is also protected from release to other government agencies, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and subpoenas. BSEE cannot have access to a submitter's identity or incident report.

In addition, the information from individual records cannot be used for enforcement purposes. CIPSEA is subject to strict criminal and civil penalties for noncompliance.

## How Can My Company Participate?

All companies working in the Gulf of Mexico are encouraged to participate in the SafeOCS ISD program so the industry can optimize the opportunities to learn from each other and improve safety performance. Companies joining the program submit data for safety events on a monthly or quarterly basis. Once a company decides to submit its safety data to BTS voluntarily, the first step is for that company to meet with BTS to discuss the elements of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).



Each MOA details the scope of engagement between the company and BTS, including:

- type of data to be submitted (i.e., reportable incidents, near misses, etc.),
- event date ranges (i.e., number of years) of submitted data,
- format of the database to be provided to BTS (i.e., existing data input form or a company-specific format), and
- company's expectations regarding data review and analysis.

Upon executing an MOA, companies can register on the SafeOCS website, select the ISD program tab, and follow the instructions for transferring data to the BTS secure data system. While companies submitting data do not have access to detailed information that other companies submit, each company always has access to its data.