



**Commander Mark Prescott
U.S. Coast Guard
Chief, Vessel and Facilities Operating
Standards Division**



**“FPSO’s in the
Gulf of Mexico”
Are we there yet?**



YES:

- We are working with MMS
- We believe FPSOs can safely operate in the GOM
- We believe we can work with a company now



Working with MMS

- Developing uniform policy
- Reducing redundancy
- Trying to merge philosophies
- Still lots to do



We believe it can be done safely

- We concur with the MMS Record of Decision
- We have seen the success worldwide
- It clearly is not that different from existing operations in the GoM



We can work with a company now

- Our Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for OCS Activities is the starting point
- Using the NPRM as a guide & working as team with MMS/CG/Operator



What have we done & What are we doing

- Outreach
- Nailing some policy issues
- Working with MMS
- Reviewing existing standards



Outreach

- Meeting with energy companies
- Visited FPSOs and Shuttle Tankers
- Held a public meeting for input



Nailing down some policy issues

- Jones Act applies to shuttle tankers
- OPA 90 applies for storage of oil
- Adopting industry standards
- Need determination on FPSOs in No lightering zones



Design/Technology Pending Consideration

Allow for flexibility!

- Synthetic mooring lines,
Aluminum quarters...
- Transfer/Offloading
methods
- What about natural gas?





Areas for Further Review

- Pollution response
- Manning/training
- Assist vessels
- Vapor collection
- Environmental conditions
- Use of industry standards



Summary

- FPSO's/shuttle tankers can succeed in the GoM
- We must ensure/consider Safety, Security, & Environmental Protection
- We are confident that we can work with industry when projects go forward
- Continue to educate & engage with us!