# Modern regulation: Industry driven, or a knee-jerk reaction to isolated incidents?

#### State Secretary Oluf Ulseth

Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry

Mare Forum 2003, Amsterdam

### Increased focus on safety and security...

- "Safer seas and cleaner oceans"
- After disasters like Erika, Prestige and 9/11 we must focus on the lessons learned
- New demands will be placed on the standards of our ships
- Incidents raise legitimate concern over rules and regulations
- Avoid accident driven "aftermath" legislation, and safeguard proper decision making processes







#### ... changing legislation and guidelines

- Important improvements have been made in international maritime law as a consequence of disasters
  - Amendments to SOLAS following the sinking of Estonia and the fire on Scandinavian Star
  - Amendments to MARPOL due to the oil pollution disaster after ERIKA
  - Amendments to SOLAS and the new International Ship and Port Security Code following
    9/11

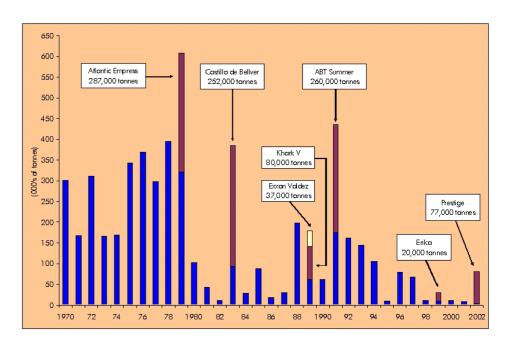




#### ... working closely with the maritime industry

- Develop rules that promote costefficiency and have real impact on the safety at sea
- Legislators and regulators must work together with industry experts and the shipping industry
- Process in developing rules and regulations must be transparent and the importance of the IMO must never be underestimated

#### **Quantities of Oil Spilt**



Source: ITOPF statistics



#### ... and through global co-operation

- Political pressure for national and regional solutions
- Essential to maintain international set of rules
- Improving the IMO mechanisms rather than resorting to national or regional solutions
- Lack of efficient implementation of IMO standards is a serious challenge to the credibility of global standards



MO



## The importance of quality shipping

- A concept of quality should be sought on all levels
- Still a need to improve technical standards
- Lack of flag state compliance with international conventions
- Port State Control is an important supplement to Flag State Control





#### Our common challenge

- Maintaining shipping as a cost-effective and environmentally friendly driver of growth
- The international shipping community working together to build trust in the public opinion
- Focus national and regional efforts to comply with and develop global (IMO) regulations





