

Preface

An international conference on Major Hazards in the Transport and Storage of Pressure Liquified Gases (Major Hazards 90) was held at Queen's University at Kingston on May 27–30, 1990. This was the second conference on this topic, the first being held at the University of New Brunswick in August of 1987 under the Chairmanship of Professor J.E.S. Venart.

Major Hazards 90 was sponsored primarily by Queen's University and the Transportation Development Centre of Transport Canada. It was attended by international guests representing industry, government and academia. The conference included some thirty paper presentations and two keynote addresses. Topics included tanker thermal modelling and experiments, pressure relief device performance, global accident modelling, accident data analysis, release mechanisms, and others.

While putting this conference together, I was encouraged by the interest and amazed by the workload of individuals in this field. It was clear to me that people involved with the safe transport and storage of pressure liquified gases are busy people.

The conference was well attended by government and industry scientists and managers. The two keynote papers were given by high ranking individuals in transport Canada's Dangerous Goods Directorate and their papers had themes primarily focused on research needs. It was an excellent opportunity for researchers to reflect on their areas of expertise and to think about future activities.

The papers selected for this special issue represent only a sampling of the wide range of research activities being carried out around the world. It is my sincere hope that the collection of papers in this issue provide an interesting sample and recording of Major Hazards 90.

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