Riding out the Storm

The public safety challenge

- 2,200 miles of waterway
- 200 year old infrastructure designed for professional boat crews and manned structures
- Unrestricted access 24hrs a day, 365 days a year
Cost saving measures included:

• Restructuring in 2009 to centralise support functions including safety.

• Further overhead reductions in 2011 e.g. Safety Advisor/Employee ratio increased from 1:200 to 1:350.

• Contracting out of maintenance activities resulting in reduced employee presence on the network.

BW’s strategic response to the pressures

A National Trust for the waterways

• Charity status – The Canal and River Trust

• Long term funding agreements

• Greater engagement with communities and supporters

• Potential new income streams
Continuity at Times of Change

Keeping the focus on reducing risk by:

• Prioritising expenditure on works required for the safety of the network
• Remaining responsive to incidents
• Encouraging safer behaviour by employees and visitors

Public fatalities

Visitor incidents

Focus on safety standards has reduced injuries which have an infrastructure related cause.

Defects which fail minimum safety standards are prioritised.

Visitor risk assessment carried out across the network and reviewed to a set timetable dependant on risk.
Improving safety outcomes

- Minimise deterioration of infrastructure
- Partnership working with other agencies such as Police Forces and Local Authorities
- Set specific targets i.e. maintain or if possible, improve safety performance

Opportunities

- Increased manager awareness/ownership
- Challenging the way things have always been done
- Growth of volunteering will allow CRT to have more direct contact with visitors
Actions

• Compliance self audit – safety, environment, heritage

• Raising awareness of public safety issues, looking beyond minimum standards

Engaging volunteers in safety

• Education and outreach work

• Maintenance and operations

• Towpath Rangers

Results - Visitors

![Graph showing results over time]
### Results - Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Recorded Injury Frequency/100,000 hours (Employees)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>4</td>
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Thank You