IPLOCA Safety Workshop, Geneva, July 1, 2015:

Instructions for Group Work

The group should choose a case study that they would like to look at in more detail, in order to understand the role of the safety myths.

- Go through the list of myths and make a note when you think a myth is recognisable in the description / analysis of the case.

- In which ways do you think the myths were useful? What are the main benefits?

- In which ways do you think the myths were detrimental to the analysis of the case, for instance by leading to ineffective recommendations? What are the main drawbacks?

- What could be done to weaken or avoid the detrimental effects of myths?

When you have finished with one case study, choose another and repeat the procedure.

Case study name / identifier: Fall from a ladder	
Safety myth (see presentation materials for a more detailed description)	*Please describe which role – if any – the myths played in the case study.*
All accidents have causes which can be found and fixed.	No.
Different types of adverse outcomes occur in characteristic ratios.	No.
Human error is the major contribution to accidents and incidents.	Yes. There just blaming the crew.
Accident investigation is a rational search for root causes	No real investigation. Just making up causes.
Systems will be safe if people comply with procedures / standards.	Yes. The conditions appear not to be present to comply with the rules.
Achieving world class safety performance conflicts other business objectives	Yes. Feeling of conflict between safety and productivity.
There is only one solution for safety: doing it the client's way	No.
World class performance requires rigid compliance and minimal variability	No.
The prevention of minor incidents will also prevent higher consequence incidents.	No,
All incidents should be investigated with the same thoroughness.	No investigation in this case.
Safety training of workers ensures that they will make safe decisions	Yes. Training on how to safely use a ladder is assumed to help.