

# Hawkins

Leaders in root cause investigation



## When It's All Gone Wrong

Specialists in root cause analysis and post failure advice to risk management professionals, with offices in the UK, Dubai, Hong Kong & Singapore.



Whatever your physical corporate risks, Hawkins has the scientific and engineering expertise to help mitigate them.

We can assist in your risk management requirements from pre-failure prevention and risk assessment, through root cause analysis, to post-failure remediation advice. Our clear, concise and timely reports will provide the understanding you need to make the correct decisions on your risks.

We have over 100 experts in the UK, Dubai, Hong Kong and Singapore and provide worldwide service from these bases. All our experts are highly experienced forensic scientists and engineers from a wide range of disciplines with proven expertise and practical experience.



We understand that you need to get your business up and running again quickly. A preliminary report is normally produced within three days of the scene visit, setting out the most probable cause and a proposed strategy for further investigation. Our reporting is flexible and can be tailored to your needs, depending on the scale and urgency of the investigation.

When needed, a court-compliant report can be prepared for the support of legal action, which may require more extensive investigation.

*“Clients come back to Hawkins because of our honesty and integrity. Our subject matter experts have sound technical knowledge and expertise, married with a real commercial awareness of what our clients need. Hawkins provides a rapid response, giving timely, accurate advice and communication of the evidence in a way our clients can act upon.”*

Dr Andrew Prickett, Managing Director, Hawkins



# Service Types

From fire to flood and from architecture to acoustics, our team of expert forensic scientists and consulting engineers can advise, investigate and assist at any stage of an incident, as well as provide ongoing support and guidance for the future.



## ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

Scientific investigation into all aspects of an incident to determine what happened, why and in what sequence.



## MAJOR & COMPLEX LOSS

Global resources and multidisciplinary teams, armed with the knowledge, equipment and facilities to manage and investigate major and complex incidents.



## EXPERT WITNESS SERVICES

Independent and impartial technical advice to assist Counsel during all aspects of litigation.



## POST-FAILURE ADVICE

Consultancy advice to reduce, mitigate and prevent risks associated with similar events happening in the future.



## PRE-FAILURE RISK MANAGEMENT

Guidance on design, installation, and regulations to ensure safety, compliance, and risk reduction.



# Levels of Reporting Available

Our reporting is flexible and can be tailored to your needs, depending on the scale and urgency of the investigation. Our services range from a free consultation through to a full investigation including a court-compliant report for the support of legal action.

1

## FREE CONSULTATION

We are always available for an initial, confidential discussion with no commitment and at no charge.

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## PRELIMINARY APPRAISAL

Our Preliminary Appraisal consists of an initial investigation of the readily-available information, including a site visit where applicable and interviewing relevant personnel on site. This allows you to make an informed decision on the future conduct of the investigation, while keeping your costs under firm control.

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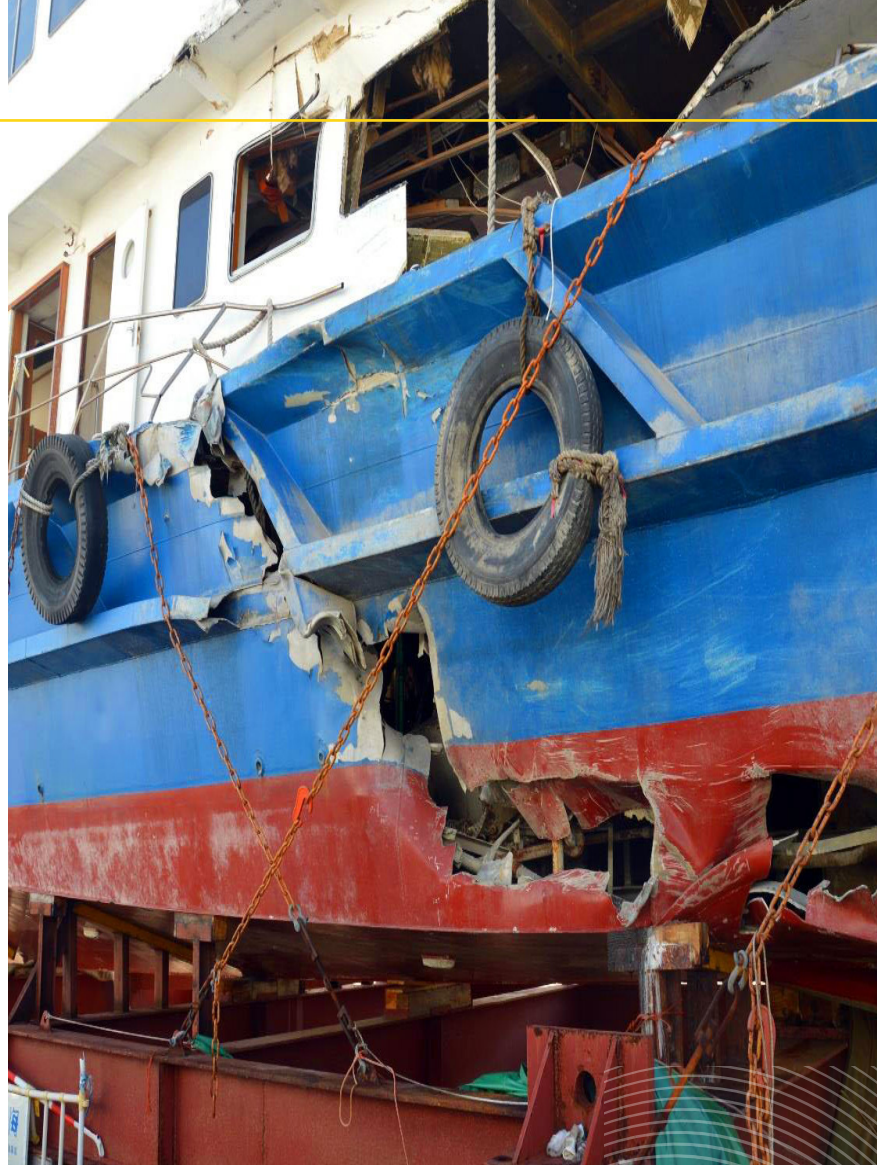
## FULL INVESTIGATION

We can carry out a full, in-depth investigation, accompanied by a detailed report with clear conclusions and recommendations.

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## PHASED APPROACH

Where your case is large, complex or the scope is not easy to define, we often recommend a phased approach.



# Solutions to meet your objectives

At Hawkins, our aim is to provide technical and scientific assistance to our clients, whilst being approachable and remaining commercially aware. These are some of the issues that we regularly deal with, but please contact us if you would like to discuss specific requirements.

## RECOVERY

We can assist with identifying third parties, who might be liable for your incident, and determining whether a recovery might be possible. Our experts are trained as expert witnesses and can provide support to a case throughout a recovery process if required.

## QUANTUM

Our experts are experienced in providing headline costs for repair, mitigation, or alternative solutions.

We can also review the claimed quantum, to check it is reasonable. For example, we can determine whether the construction methodology chosen is the most appropriate and efficient way of completing the work, and identify opportunities to minimise both the time taken and cost to complete.

## DEFENDING THIRD PARTY CLAIMS

Our experts are familiar with working for both Claimants and Defendants.

With our depth and breadth of knowledge on a wide range of subjects, we can investigate third party claims and review the accuracy of other expert findings and reports. Many of our experts have worked in the field and can provide insight on common practices, guidance, and legislation.

## RISK ASSESSMENT & MANAGEMENT

Hawkins takes a realistic, common-sense approach when assisting our clients to identify and implement practicable steps to reduce risks on their sites.

Having experience of what can go wrong allows us a unique perspective when advising our clients to help prevent similar losses occurring in the future.



# Hawkins' expertise

We have over 100 experts located across the UK, Dubai, Hong Kong and Singapore. Our expertise covers a vast number of specialist areas including:

## ACOUSTICS & AUDIOLOGY

Our experts assess and advise on acoustic design in the planning stages, and provide mitigation strategies post-construction in the event of a noise dispute.

## ARCHITECTURE

We investigate building defects to determine whether design or workmanship is the root cause. With experience in many sectors and across all RIBA stages from inception to occupation, we can provide advice tailored to your project.

## THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Our civil, structural, geotechnical and fire engineers provide expert investigation of defects and failures in the built environment, including water ingress, structural collapses, storm damage and personal injuries, especially on construction sites.

## CHEMISTRY & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Hawkins' team of highly qualified and experienced chemists and chemical engineers provide expert opinion on problems associated with chemical processes in a wide variety of industries, including post-incident investigation, goods handling, environmental concerns, hazardous substances and personal injury.

## CONTAMINATION

Our team of highly qualified and experienced chemists can investigate a wide range of contamination and spillage incidents.

## DIGITAL FORENSICS

Hawkins' experts collect, authenticate and preserve original evidence. We discover the source of a digital event or attack, how it occurred, and what information may have been lost or compromised.

## ELECTRICAL

We investigate incidents including failures and injury involving most types of electrical equipment, from micro-electronics and domestic electrical appliances through to high voltage generation and distribution.

## ESCAPE OF WATER, GAS, OIL AND OTHER FLUIDS

We can provide system failure analyses for incidents involving all fluids and gases in industrial and domestic settings with onsite and laboratory investigations.

## FIRE & EXPLOSIONS

As a leader in forensic fire investigation, Hawkins has the necessary knowledge and experience to investigate the full scale of losses globally, and advise on recovery, liability and risk management.

## FIRE ENGINEERING

Hawkins has the necessary competencies to advise on fire engineering matters including compliance with fire safety legislation and guidance, investigation of fire spread and building fire safety design, construction and management.

## FRAUD

We compare physical evidence with witness accounts to establish if the evidence is consistent with a suggested sequence of events or actions. This applies to both small and major losses.

## HYDROLOGY

Our expert hydrologists and engineers have years of experience identifying the cause(s) of complex flooding incidents.

## MARINE INCIDENTS

We assist on a wide range of incidents including agricultural cargoes, liquefaction, fires, explosions, chemical contamination and ship management.

## MATERIALS

From medical implants to satellites, our experts are on hand to establish the cause of failure of manufactured items.

## MECHANICAL

Losses often involve the failure of multi-component mechanical systems. We have the knowledge and experience to identify the cause, no matter how complex.

## PERSONAL INJURY

We provide independent and expert assistance with all types of personal injury, including specialised and complex areas like slips, trips and falls, and noise-induced hearing loss.

### PLANT PATHOLOGY

At Hawkins, plant pathology encompasses agricultural, horticultural, forestry, marine and contamination claims. Our experts are experienced in investigating the causes of plant diseases, crop failures and spoilage of fresh produce and agricultural cargoes.

### POWER & ENERGY

We investigate all aspects of this field including electric shock, gas leaks, power failure, over-voltage, equipment failure and poor design and maintenance.

### PROCESSES

Our engineers help identify the cause of a problem and advise on liability and future prevention.

### PRODUCT LIABILITY

We are experts in the field of product liability and often deal directly with UK Trading Standards offices or similar statutory bodies.

### RAILWAYS

We have investigated incidents including derailments, unintended runaways and accidents at level crossings.

### ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

Our investigators identify all contributory factors and analyse issues such as vehicle speed, visibility, human factors, CCTV, road positioning, weather, vehicle faults and damage assessments.

### VEHICLE, PLANT & MACHINERY

We investigate fires and failures involving all types of vehicles and plant. We routinely review designs and maintenance practices to provide recommendations to our clients.

## Get in touch

If you think you might have the need for an investigator but are unsure what service you might need, we can provide you with a no obligation free consultation to discuss your requirements.



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