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MORT Technique Applied to Analysis of the January 2010 Haiti's Earthquake

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Throughout history, natural disasters have exerted a heavy toll of death and suffering and are increasing alarmingly worldwide. Given this, natural disasters present a great challenge to society today concerning how they are to be mitigated so as to produce an acceptable risk is a question which has come to the fore in dramatic ways recently. This paper presents some preliminary results of the analysis of the Haiti's earthquake that occurred in January 2010, by applying the Management Oversight Risk Tree (MORT) model. The key questions that have been addressed are: what can be learnt from earthquakes? Can MORT be applied to the analysis of natural disasters? The MORT may be regarded as a structured checklist in the form of a complex fault tree model that is intended to ensure that all aspects of an organization's management are looked into when assessing the possible causes of an incident. The MORT model has been applied extensively to the analysis of accident/incidents that have occurred in industries, such as the oil and gas, nuclear, aviation, etc. It may be argued that the model has the potentiality to be applied to the analysis of natural disasters such as earthquakes. It is hoped that by conducting such analysis lessons can be learnt so that the impact of natural disasters such as the Haiti's earthquake can be mitigated in the future.