



The International Marine Contractors Association

Representing offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies

news letter
July 2003

Issue 28

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Safety Improving

IMCA has carried out its annual task of receiving and analysing data from a significant number of contributing members, with the aim of producing safety statistics for the year 2002. These will be published shortly, once we have input from other associations and groups, so that we can show comparisons within the offshore industry. A change that has occurred this year is the introduction of leading performance indicators, the statistics for which you will be collecting this year for feedback in 2004.

The result for 2002 shows a continuing improvement in the decrease of lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR), which is defined as comprising all accidental injuries (including fatalities and lost work day cases, but excluding restricted work day cases). This decline was despite an increase in the working hours. The offshore only LTIFR was based on over 62 million working hours, a significant increase from the 40 million hours reported for 2001. Unfortunately, there were three fatalities reported last year – all occurred offshore – which was one less than the previous year. Any injury is a serious matter, but three fatalities are very sad and show that there is a long way to go toward the industry's zero incident target.

Although we believe that, in comparison with other industries, the offshore industry is doing well with regard to safety, IMCA continually tries to improve the situation through the provision of its guidelines on safe working practices across all technical divisions, the safety flash system, the core committees' seminars and work on safety, training and competency, and involvement with other industry groups where safety is top of the agenda. It is hoped that all these various initiatives help and we obviously think they do, but IMCA relies on input from the members.

One of IMCA's key philosophies is about sharing: sharing information, safety flashes, good practice and ideas. This philosophy was demonstrated very successfully at the SEL safety seminar in February this year and last year. There is still more to do in this area and we encourage members to be open and share their experiences for the benefit of all.

We need to know what else we can do, where we can improve and how to get safety messages across to relevant personnel. For example, the style of safety flashes has changed slightly as a result of input from members. Do you think they could be improved? If so, then make sure you share your suggestions – they might save lives.



Steve Preston (IMCA President 2003) giving outgoing President John Smith (of Subsea 7) a picture of the Old Course at St Andrews by Graham Baxter in recognition and thanks for his significant contribution to the Association's recent growth.

Parul Patel joins IMCA

Since the end of May, if you've called the IMCA office you may have found a new voice at the end of the telephone. Parul Patel has joined IMCA as Support Services Assistant, working with Adam and Nina to help deal with secretarial tasks, meeting co-ordination, communication and general administrative functions.

Parul, 27, spent her early years in Fiji before moving to the UK to complete her education in law from the University of Wolverhampton. Having completed her degree, she decided to pursue further education in accountancy, which she is currently studying part-time.



Charity Ball

IMCA held another highly successful Midsummer Charity Ball on 20 June at Aberdeen's premier hotel, The Marcliffe at Pitfodels, raising £850 in aid of the Mission to Seafarers.

Around 170 people attended an evening where a full Scottish flavour permeated both the menu and the music by the Atholl Smith Jazz Trio and Slinky. IMCA's President, Steve Preston, welcomed the guests and spoke encouragingly of the role, expansion and internationalisation of IMCA and its committees. He also presented a picture of the Old Course at St Andrews by Graham Baxter to John Smith of Subsea 7 in recognition and thanks for his significant contribution to the organisation's growth during his time as IMCA President (2001-2002).

Peter Mitchell is a well known Aberdonian after-dinner speaker. His local knowledge and industry insights included some from his day job at the Aberdeen Press and Journal. He wove other snippets

Accounts

IMCA has invested in a new computerised accounting package to replace the 'leather ledger' in use since AODC days. The program, Sage Line 50, is widely used and was introduced at the end of 2002.

The ledger was becoming increasingly difficult to handle as the number of members and transactions rose. Looking back we must congratulate Joe Harte on his dedication to the ledger. Looking forward, we have now built a tailor made package which can accommodate our current and future requirements.

We also have Maria Titley who has replaced Joe as our part-time bookkeeper to run the system.

from the evening's conversation into a hilarious 'review' which poked fun equally in many directions.

The evening also offered a casino where everyone could chance their luck. The proceeds from this went to the Mission to Seafarers, this year's chosen charity. That organisation was formerly called the Missions to Seamen. It updated its name recently but retained its striking logo – the flying angel – by which it is also known. It is a society of the Anglican Church and cares for the welfare of seafarers of all races and creeds in over 300 ports all over the world, so it is truly a worthy cause for IMCA.

CAR Seminar

IMCA has commissioned a study from CTC into the possibility of establishing a mutual to provide insurance cover for 'Construction All Risks' (CAR) insurance. Recent trends have been towards clients asking IMCA members to provide this cover rather than the client.

Both clients and contractors have seen their premiums, deductibles and the extent of cover deteriorate in recent years.

IMCA wanted to assess the reaction of clients and the market to establishing a mutual, so seminars were held recently in Houston and London on this.

The insurance work group is now considering the next steps.



The Mission is often a first port of call for seafarers when they go ashore. It takes part in IMO work and lobbies for safe vessels and crew safety/security much like IMCA does. Their headquarters are in the Church of St Michael Paternoster Royal, on the Thames, near Cannon Street station – where Dick Whittington, famously four times mayor of London, is also buried.

Hugh Williams (left) delivering IMCA's donation to The Rev. Canon Bill Christianson (right), Secretary General of the Mission.

New rules to govern affiliate membership

Better and fairer arrangements have been introduced by the OMC for affiliates of existing member companies world-wide. We believe these will significantly improve IMCA's world-wide coverage and communication.

Communication is probably the most important keyword in IMCA's vocabulary because safety and best practice require the exchange of good information between the right people at the right time, within and outside IMCA.

Historically each IMCA member company has only had individuals nominated

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It has been a great pleasure to see IMCA establish its new Europe & Africa Section, chaired by Robin Davies from Subsea 7, and to schedule its first meeting in September in Paris. Coming hard on the heels of the Americas Deepwater Section, this excellent development means IMCA now has all of its regional sections operating under the new international structure set down in Jan 2003.

In another international development, the annual marine and safety seminar for this year is to take place in Houston in November. Before that, however, in a joint initiative with the SEL core committee, the Europe & Africa Section will also host a special seminar on security issues arising from working off-shore West Africa. This takes place in response to clear requests from many IMCA members to have a common approach to working in areas where security is a major issue and to create the networks and trust required to share any lessons gained by doing so.

Meanwhile IMCA's initiative on 'Construction All Risks' insurance and the development of standard terms and conditions for contractor members contin-

ues to make steady progress after lively seminars in Houston and London involving major clients and the insurance industry. It's hoped that the OMC will be able to report later this year with new proposals for a collective way forward, not least in respect to the challenge of CAR.

In my own travels recently I have been through pretty much every region in the world including Australia, the Far East and the Americas. The overwhelming message from these visits is that contractor members are anxious for IMCA to make progress on this agenda, so the work will remain a very high priority over coming months. The goal remains a standard set of terms and conditions acceptable to both contractors and clients, similar in function to those that exist within the drilling industry. Getting them right offers us the potential to cut waste (on costly legal negotiations) and add value in the form of a more consistent, cost effective framework.

On a different subject, IMCA



continues to rely on its members for key information. In its latest exercise of this kind it is currently preparing a questionnaire to be used to conduct a contractor survey intended to map the skill shortages known to exist or be emerging across the industry. With robust information IMCA will be much better placed to liaise with government and training organisations to ensure yawning gaps do not emerge over the coming decade among both offshore marine and onshore technical staff. We ask members to fully support the survey because its results are likely to affect the long term future of the sector as a whole.

From the Chairman

IMCA Overall Management Committee

President & Chairman: Steve Preston, Heerema Marine Contractors

Vice-President: Frits Janmaat, Allseas Group

Chairman Diving: Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7

Chairman Marine: Hugo Bekker, Allseas Group

Chairman ROV: Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering International

Chairman Offshore Survey: Alf Parker, Subsea 7

Chairman SEL: Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Cont.

Chairman TCPC: John Greensmyth, Technip-Coflexip

Vice-Chairman Diving: Georges Arnoux, Stolt Offshore

Vice-Chairman Marine: Pete Somner, Subsea 7

Vice-Chairman ROV: Dave Walker, Technip-Coflexip

Vice-Chairman SEL: Mike O'Meara, Subsea 7

Vice-Chairman TCPC: Brendan Kelly, Oceaneering Int.

Chairman, Americas Deepwater Section:

John Reed, Heerema Marine Contractors

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Section:

Andy Bolton, Technip-Coflexip Oceania

Chairman, Europe & Africa Section: Robin Davies, Subsea 7

Chairman, Middle East & India Section:

Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott

Eastern Hemisphere

IMCA Technical Director: Jane Bugler

IMCA Chief Executive: Hugh Williams

IMCA Issues Revised Guidance

IMCA's competence assurance and assessment guidance was launched in 1999 to provide a framework within which contractor members could demonstrate the competence of their personnel to clients and regulators. Although it has necessarily taken some time for members to implement their in-house schemes based on this framework, the effort will deliver real benefits in improved safety.

During the past five years, there has been an increasing global emphasis on the importance of using competent personnel and this is set to continue. This framework, with its focus on workplace assessment, where skills and behaviour are considered, as well as its international perspective, provides a suitable mechanism for the demonstration of competence now demanded internationally in the offshore industry.

The framework covers safety-critical positions identified within the four technical divisions of IMCA – Marine, Diving, Offshore Survey and Remote Systems & ROV. Due to the diverse nature of the needs and positions covered by the four different divisions, there have been clear differences in approach in taking implementation forward within member companies. This is reflected in this updated guidance – for example, performance criteria for the identified safety-critical positions have been developed by both the Offshore Survey and Remote Systems & ROV divisions.

The framework, when first launched, identified 42 different safety-critical positions. It has now been extended to include a further 13 positions and may be extended in the future.

The objective application of the assessment process by offshore assessors is paramount if in-house schemes are to be truly beneficial. Clients, insurers and regulators expect offshore contractors to demonstrate that a robust process is applied within their industry. Failure to self-regulate could result in the imposition of impractical and inappropriate systems.

IMCA's Training, Certification & Personnel Competence (TCPC) Core Committee, which has compiled this guidance, regards this material as a 'live' document that will require modification in the light of experience, technological developments and changes in work activities.

The committee will continue to support members in the implementation of their in-house schemes by organising regular workshops where members can discuss common issues and share insight.

TCPC Core Committee

Chairman: John Greensmyth, Technip-Coflexip
Vice-Chairman: Brendan Kelly, Oceaneering International

Monique Laros, Allseas Group
Donald Beezer, Global Marine Systems
Mark Elder, Subsea 7
Eric Law, Subsea 7
Mike Lloyd, Technip-Coflexip
Brian Robertson, Technip-Coflexip
Carol Munro, Thales GeoSolutions

Americas Deepwater Section: Mark Canada, Transocean
Asia-Pacific Section: Leslie Wong Wui, Seacor Marine
IMCA Schemes Administrator: Vicki Graham

TCPC Information Notes

published since Issue 27

TCPC 07/03 ISPS training courses

TCPC 08/03 Training of bridge personnel

Skills Shortage Survey

IMCA has discussed at recent Council, OMC and TCPC meetings the question of potential future skills shortages in our industry.

The TCPC committee was asked to carry out a survey amongst the larger contractor members and we have commissioned BDI to do this.

The survey will probably take place in September and will ask for input from human resources, business development and operations departments to capture the number of people employed currently and future needs based on industry forecasts together with information about recruiting staff.

The survey aims to cover the worldwide workforce. IMCA believes that this is an important piece of work and will lead to a report which all members can share and act upon.

Americas Deepwater Section

The Training, Certification & Personnel Competence (TCPC) sub-group for the Americas section got underway last month with a well attended first meeting.

The group aims to tackle issues affecting all members active in the region and has already developed an extensive programme addressing regional aspects of existing IMCA work and extending further into local issues:

- maritime certification requirements
- drug screening
- ISPS code training
- recruitment issues
- DP operator training
- marine trash and debris awareness and elimination training

Members wishing to get involved should contact the IMCA office.

Drug & Alcohol Policy Guidance

New guidelines intended to assist companies when drawing up drug and alcohol testing procedures have now been issued.

The first publication, *IMCA SEL 008*, deals with the taking of samples and the second, to be published shortly, deals with breath testing. The second document also summarises other types of testing and gives examples of typical substance cut-off levels.

A large amount of information for this project was provided by some members who contributed details of the procedures that they followed and we are very grateful for that assistance. Further guidance was obtained from various government or international government-affiliated sources. It was then possible to draw all of that information together to provide guidelines which should cover all reasonably conceivable aspects of the subject, such that anybody tasked with drawing up a company's procedures would have a pragmatic base on which to start.

Working Time

The Working Time Directive and its application to IMCA's members working offshore has been a prominent topic for the SEL committee for a number of years.

The legislation to implement the directive for 'offshore workers' (covering personnel working on offshore installations and divers) needs to be in place by 1 August in all EU members states. Working time for 'seafarers' is covered by the ILO convention and came into effect for ships flagged in EU states in July last year.

IMCA intends producing an information note updating members on the situation post-1 August and setting out who is covered by what requirements.

SEL Core Committee

Chairman: Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Contractors
Vice-Chairman: Mike O'Meara, Subsea 7

Richard Curtis, Diamond Offshore Drilling
David Rankin, Global Maritime
Mat Schreurs, Heerema Marine Contractors
Sal Ruffino, Saipem
Ken London, Stolt Offshore
Allan Hannah, Technip-Coflexip
Wallace Robertson, Well Ops UK

Americas Deepwater Section: Wayne Seelbach, Cal Dive International
Asia-Pacific Section: Des Power, Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific
Middle East & India Section: Mohamed Osman, Maridive & Oil Services

Security Seminar

An event is planned for 25 September in Paris, France to raise and discuss issues of security when working offshore West Africa. It is aimed at IMCA contractor members likely to be working in this region, together with corresponding members (oil companies) operating in the area.

Topics to be covered include:

- Marine security – including kidnap threat and management
- Logistics, travel security and personnel movement
- Local community relationships and management
- Health management
- Security in port – precautions and response

Short presentations will be given on each topic prior to panel discussions and Q&A sessions.

Registration information on this event will be provided to members shortly and shown at www.imca-int.com/events

SEL Information Notes

published since Issue 27

SEL 015/03 Application of SOLAS to FPSOs and FSUs under amendments arising out of security issues at IMO

SEL 16/03 International Convention on the Control of Anti-Fouling Systems (AFS) 2001

SEL 17/03 Annual summary of piracy and armed robbery against ships

SEL 18/03 Halon

SEL 19/03 DnV project on bridge design of offshore supply vessels

SEL 20/03 Marine trash and debris awareness and elimination – US Gulf of Mexico OCS

SEL 21/03 IMO Maritime Safety Committee report

DP Training – S.E. Asia

ASET, the first Nautical Institute Accredited DP training provider, together with their partner **MSTS** (Nutec Group) have launched their new, fully accredited centre in Malaysia. The new centre will provide both DP Induction and Simulator courses from the N.I. syllabus.

ASET also supply many other courses from their extensive portfolio. Visit our website for more details: www.aset-aberdeen.ac.uk, or contact **MSTS**: tel +60 72522108, website www.msts-my.org.



Tel: +44 1224 859613 E-mail: r.donnelly@abcol.ac.uk

IMCA kicks off Europe & Africa

Continuing the internationalisation of IMCA (to create world-wide coverage by time zone) IMCA has formed a steering committee to oversee the creation of an effective section for Europe and Africa. Robin Davies of Subsea 7 will act as Chairman and Ian Stevenson of Technip-Coflexip as Vice-Chairman until officers are elected.

As with other sections, Europe & Africa will be encouraged to meet regularly, to discuss all IMCA business at a section level. Unlike the other regional sections Europe & Africa won't however form additional sub-groups to mirror IMCA's six world-wide committees while those also sit in Europe.

If, in due course through election or necessity, one or more of the world-wide committees evolve a base in a different region, then at that point a Europe & Africa sub-group could be formed (and the corresponding regional sub-group would become defunct). IMCA will keep an eye out for such developments.

Several work groups already sit in Europe. The Standard Marine Construction Contracts Committee and the workgroup looking into the 'Construction All Risks' (CAR) insurance question are two examples. They will form part of the section's work. Other typically European and African issues likely to form part of the section's work include anything arising from the EU, security questions and medical management/health issues in West Africa, decommissioning, liaison with bodies such as LOGIC, NOGEP, OLF and UKOOA, plus offshore renewable energy.

All IMCA sections use their regional meetings as a social forum where members can network with one another and with clients, typically holding two client (corresponding member) briefing sessions per year. It is intended that the Europe & Africa Section will hold similar meetings of its own.

A security seminar is already planned for 25 September 2003, to be held in Paris. This will address vessel security issues, such as piracy and threats to the crew, which have been faced by members in West Africa recently. This event will be held jointly by the Europe & Africa Section and the SEL Core Committee.

The day is likely to be split into a security seminar and a separate Europe & Africa Section meeting.

Americas Deepwater

The Americas Deepwater Section's third general meeting, held on 21 May in Houston, saw good attendance and lively discussion. Reports from the sub-groups told of a lot of work across the member companies generated by some 12 sub-group meetings where the detailed activity is being pursued. Subsea 7 provided a telling presentation on finger injuries to finish off the meeting.

Initial difficulties around establishing the TCPC sub-group have now been overcome. That group, chaired by Mark Canada of Transocean, has now met and set itself a busy agenda.



Americas Deepwater Section – left to right, John Reed (Chairman), Dick Martin (Vice-Chairman), Roy Sijthoff (Steering Committee member).

Middle East & India

The section held its latest well attended meeting on 7 April in Abu Dhabi. As usual, members were updated on world-wide IMCA developments, focusing on how IMCA guidance can help to raise safety standards and good practice to benefit the regional industry as a whole.

Like elsewhere, membership continues to rise. While diving remains a main focus for many in the region, extra briefing and discussion took place across other areas of IMCA's core and technical committee work, reflecting the widening membership.

With that in mind, the section's Marine Division representative, Lachlan McKelvie of Seabulk Offshore, will host a first sub-group meeting for Marine Division members in the region in September. Work items identified so far include:

- Implementation of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) by local port states
- Operation of supply boats and transfer of crew.

Members wishing to suggest items for the sub-group's agenda and/or to participate in the meeting should contact the IMCA office.

The section as a whole will meet again on 8 September in Sharjah, UAE, retaining its diving focus, but again including shorter items on other IMCA activities.

Asia-Pacific

The quarterly meeting of the Asia-Pacific Section was held on 17 July, two months after the originally planned date of 8 May was postponed due to SARS.

The meeting started with confirmation that Andy Bolton and Des Power were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, for another two-year term.

The well-attended meeting discussed the section objectives in general before moving on to discuss progress with the current work programme, including the development of guidelines on the mobilisation of (air and saturation) diving spreads on vessels of opportunity and plans for an IMCA diving seminar in the spring of 2004.

Later in the day, the meeting was joined by a number of local client companies. Andy Bolton and IMCA's Technical Director, Jane Bugler, outlined IMCA's organisation, regional structure and discussed some of the many activities being undertaken by IMCA, both locally and internationally.

The next Asia-Pacific Section meeting is to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 16 October. The format will again be a morning members meeting with a client briefing session in the afternoon.

Regional Section Officers

Middle East & India Section

Chairman: Steve MacMillan,
J Ray McDermott
Eastern Hemisphere
Vice-Chairman: Charlie
Rogerson, Consolidated
Contractors Co.

Asia-Pacific Section

Chairman: Andy Bolton,
Technip-Coflexip Oceania
Vice-Chairman: Des Power,
Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific

Europe & Africa Section Steering Committee

Chairman: Robin Davies,
Subsea 7
Vice-Chairman: Ian Stevenson,
Technip-Coflexip

Americas Deepwater Section

Chairman: John Reed, Heerema
Marine Contractors
Vice-Chairman: Dick Martin,
Subsea 7

Americas ROV Sub-Group

The Remote Systems & ROV sub-group has been very active since it started work last year.

Already it has reviewed a number of IMCA documents, with valuable feedback provided into the ongoing world-wide review of documents *AODC 036 Rev.1* and *IMCA R 003*.

It has also been agreed to update *IMCA R 004 Rev. 1 Code of practice for the safe and efficient operation of remotely operated vehicles* and *IMCA R 005 High voltage equipment – safety procedures for working on ROVs*. New versions will become available shortly.

The sub-group's Americas focus helps to ensure a fully international perspective is applied to IMCA guidance and is much welcomed.

In addition, the group is looking at other topics relevant to any members operating in the region, including competence issues, the promotion of ROV usage and certification body matters.

Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee (election underway)

Chairman: Kevin Kerins,
Oceaneering International
Vice-Chairman: Dave Walker,
Technip-Coflexip

Sandy Michie, Fugro Survey
John Davies, Global Marine Systems
Andrew Beveridge, Rovtech
Keith Robathan, Sonsub
Colin Mackay, Stolt Offshore
Paul Brain, Subsea 7
Alan Edwards, Thales
GeoSolutions

Americas Deepwater Section:
Scott Wagner,
Oceaneering International
Asia-Pacific Section:
Neil Forbes,
Technip-Coflexip Oceania

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Underwater Air Lift Bags

Revised guidance (*IMCA D 016 Rev. 2*) has been developed in the light of further experience gained in the use of underwater air lift bags since the previous version was published in January 1999. In particular, information provided about incidents via the IMCA safety flash system and the lessons learned from them are incorporated in this updated guidance.

Additional printed copies are available to members priced at £5 each. The documents are also available for downloading from the members-only website and will be included on the next issue of the IMCA offshore diving CD.

Approved Auditors

Further to recent queries from members and their clients, the following is intended to clarify the situation regarding approval of auditors:

IMCA D 18/01 sets out criteria for different types of auditors carrying out either management or DESIGN-type audits. However, while the secretariat identifies auditors from time to time to undertake audits for IMCA, the Association does not have and does not intend to create a list of 'IMCA-approved' auditors.

Diving Division Management Committee

Chairman: Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7
Vice-Chairman: Georges Arnoux, Stolt Offshore

Paul Warriner, Cal Dive International
Fred Pope, Divex
Bill Macdonald, Global Industries Asia Pacific
Anthony Barnes, J Ray
McDermott Eastern Hemisphere
Ian Mackenzie, National Hyperbaric Centre
Bjørn Kahrs, Norwegian State Diving School
Derek Beddows, Technip-Coflexip

Asia-Pacific Section: RP Singh, Stolt Offshore Asia Pacific/
PT Komaritim

Middle East & India Section:
Steve MacMillan, J Ray
McDermott Eastern Hemisphere

Cleaning for O₂ usage

IMCA D 031 provides new guidance on setting up facilities and procedures to enable contractors to develop and operate cleaning processes for pipework, fittings, valves and other equipment for use in oxygen-enriched environments, due to the combustion risk from hydrocarbons. This document replaces *AODC 029*, reflecting changes such as the Montreal Protocol, which prohibits the use of volatile (chlorinated) solvents.

Australian Regulations

Members have now received information notes on the revised Australian diving regulations, which became law in May this year.

One part of these regulations is a requirement for all offshore diving supervisors to be certified under the Australian Diver Accreditation Scheme (ADAS).

Members will already be familiar with the well-established IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor Scheme, used world-wide by contractors and their clients and recognised under a number of regulatory regimes.

The ADAS requirements can be fulfilled in one of three ways:

- direct crossover from IMCA;
- through an ADAS 'grandfather' clause;
- through ADAS specified training and assessment.

IMCA is pleased to note that, as agreed with industry, all currently qualified IMCA supervisors would, on application, automatically be issued with certification to ADAS air and bell supervisor levels as appropriate. This automatic acceptance of IMCA certificates means that members and their personnel can continue to make use of the IMCA scheme world-wide.

The full set of documentation on the revised Australian arrangements, including relevant forms, issued by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources is available to members on request from the IMCA office.

Diving

Information Notes

published since Issue 27

D 05/03 Netherlands off shore diving regulations

D 06/03 IMO requirements for hyperbaric evacuation

D 07/03 IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor Scheme: Withdrawn AODC/IMCA certificates

Development of IMCA Diver Training Strategy

IMCA recently commissioned Paul Blewett to undertake a study on diver training strategy. This research involved a number of stakeholders – IMCA contractor members, training establishment members, the International Diving Schools Association (IDSA), certifying bodies and regulatory authorities.

The study included a number of topics:

- Initial diver training;
- Diving supervisor and LST training;
- Diver medic training;
- Competence assessment of experienced divers.

The study report includes suggestions on all diver training issues and various options for dealing with initial diver training.

The Diving Division Management Committee has set up a workgroup to review the report and prepare advice for the Overall Management Committee on the way forward.

IMCA would like to thank Paul Blewett for his extensive and in-depth work and thank all those who contributed to this valuable study.

Cross-Hauling of Diving Bells

This technique is used to get the diving bell closer to the work site when the distance between the bell at its normal deployment position and the work site makes diving operations either unsafe or impractical even with the use of an extended umbilical.

The cross-hauling technique, whether on barges, diving support vessels (DSVs), platforms or structures can be divided into two main categories – those operating with a static line or those using the winch-operated method.

This new IMCA document (*IMCA D032*) was developed in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Section. It provides guidance on both static and winch operated methods, setting out items for consideration in the risk assessment, operational guidance (including deployment, personnel and communications) together with guidance on emergency procedures.

Copies are now available to members price £5 each and for downloading from the members-only website.

Offshore Survey Services Contract

IMCA has developed a set of *Terms and Conditions for Survey Support Services (IMCA S 007)*, based on the principles set out in *Offshore Survey Contracting Principles (IMCA S 001)* – published in April 1999.

They have been prepared for use by IMCA members in particular, but not exclusively, in the situation where the client entity contracting for and that providing such services are both members of the Association. However, it must be noted that they are not binding and that each IMCA member is free to enter into whatever contracts it deems to be in its own interests.

Their publication comes eighteen months after the Remote Systems & ROV Division issued a similar document, which has generated much interest from companies operating in that sector. It is hoped that members will find this new document just as useful.

Offshore Survey Division Management Committee

Chairman: Alf Parker, Subsea 7

Andrew McNeill, Fugro Survey
Dave Roberts, Fugro Survey
Ray Morgan, Stolt Offshore
Oddvar Misund,

Stolt Offshore AS
Walter Steedman, Subsea 7
Will Primavesi, Thales GeoSolutions
Americas Deepwater Section:
Ian Edmonstone, Subsea 7

Asia-Pacific Section:
Jason French, Thales GeoSolutions

Offshore Survey Information Notes

published since Issue 27

S 03/03 Encryption of Veripos HF DGPS service

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ROV Support
Air & Closed Bell
IMCA Supervisors

PRODUCTS

Inspection Cameras
RoxAnn
(Seabed Material Mapping)
Pipeline Crawlers
Pipeline Pig
Dataloggers

HIRE



ROVs
RoxAnn
Sonars
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www.theunderwatercentre.com

www.sonavision.co.uk

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Fanbeam® Review

Marine Laser Positioning Systems – Part 1: MK 4 Fanbeam® (IMCA M 170) has been prepared to provide a review of the Fanbeam system, especially for members considering using this equipment in dynamic positioning.

A description of the current MK 4 system is provided, along with installation and maintenance requirements, recommended training and a consideration of advantages/disadvantages and likely failure modes.

The report is in addition to *IMCA M 131*, produced in 1995, which reviewed the MK 1 system. A second part to this new report is currently under preparation and will cover the CyScan system.

Additional copies are available to members priced at £10.

Web-Based DP

Members may have seen from recent committee minutes that IMCA has developed an introductory guide to dynamic positioning (DP) for its website. This is aimed at people interested in a career offshore and at anyone not specifically involved in DP operations but who would benefit from some basic reference notes.

It can be found online at www.imca-int.com/marine/. It has also been added to the main careers section of the website.

New Guidance on Crane Specification

Lifting operations have been highlighted as a key area of focus for current and future work by IMCA, including the incident reporting scheme and mention in recent safety flashes.

To assist with the specification and ordering of cranes, either new from a builder, for second hand purchase or for hire, IMCA has produced a general guide.

While offshore crane design is unique, in that almost every new build crane will be a one-off to meet specific requirements, this document discusses various aspects of crane design and performance in general terms to enable a functional specification to be presented to potential suppliers in the early stages, which can then be built on with detailed technical specifications as the design is finalised. *IMCA M 171*

describes the multiple issues that purchasers or hirers of cranes need to consider if they are to ensure that the crane delivered on site is best suited for its intended purpose. It is intended to help avoid problems that can arise if a crane does not perform as required because of something overlooked in its specification.

The guidance was produced from an initiative in the Marine Division Management Committee and involved the writers visiting and questioning a number of manufacturers and end users internationally. The format is aimed at being user friendly, with a comprehensive questionnaire and checklist supported by explanatory notes, which are keyed to reference numbers within that checklist. It can also be tailored to suit individual company needs. The guide has already received praise from industry users and a classification society.

Additional copies are available to members priced at £20.

Marine Division Management Committee

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Michiel Goedkoop, Heerema Marine Contractors
Kjell Egil Helgøy, Navion
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Marine Information Notes

published since Issue 27

M 13/03 DnV project on bridge design offshore supply vessels

M 14/03 Encryption of Veripos HF DGPS service

M 15/03 DP training courses

New members

IMCA welcomes:

- Arabian Gulf Mechanical Services & Contracting Co.
- CTC Marine Projects
- Dave Oliver Hydrographic Services
- Dutch Diving
- Fairmount Marine
- Integrated Subsea Services
- Kirby Morgan Dive Systems
- Measurement Devices
- Noble Denton Singapore
- Oceaneering Int. (Asia-Pacific)
- Seacor Marine (International)
- Sub Sea Group
- Submersible Television Surveys

Name Changes

TotalFinaElf is now *Total*

Fugro-UDI is now *Fugro Survey*

Commercial Diving Group is now *Sub Sea Group*

Charles Tompkins Consultants is now *CTC Marine Projects*

(the latter two are new members)

New rules *cont. from p3*

as IMCA contacts in one location. In recent years, this had led to situations where the secretariat lacked good points of contact in all of the regional offices of member companies – often based in a different regional section to their parent/the existing member company.

Likewise, in the interests of achieving a successful start for each new section, IMCA has permitted a few companies with membership in a different regional section to participate as 'guests' in the new section or sub-groups. The new rules governing affiliate membership mean:

- From January 2004 affiliates active in a regional section must have joined as members in that region
- Participants in IMCA regional section meetings must be from companies that are members of IMCA in that geographic region
- Participants in regional sub-group meetings must be from companies that are members of the relevant technical division in that geographic region
- From 2004 onwards, affiliate members will be excused payment of the 'basic' subscription fee. To aid the transition, affiliate companies can also join without charge for the remainder of 2003
- Affiliate members will have the same rights as their parent member regarding receipt of IMCA material, standing for elections, voting rights and, most importantly, the nominated points of contact.

Arabian Gulf Mechanical Services & Contracting Co. Ltd

Arabian Gulf Mechanical Services & Contracting Co. Ltd is based in Kuwait. It was founded in 1960 as a marine contractor to serve the increasing demand for marine services to oil companies and port authorities in the Arabian Gulf. The company specialises in operating and chartering crew boats, harbour tug, anchor handling tug, supply boat, crane barge, maintenance of offshore structures, navigation buoys, light house, beacons and combating pollution.

www.agmskuwait.com

Measurement Devices Ltd

A designer, manufacturer and supplier of innovative laser based products plus positioning and navigation systems. Founded in 1983, the company headquarters in Aberdeen, Scotland supports all research and development, marine and industrial applications. Internationally MDL operates out of Houston, Texas providing sales and support for their large international client base. MDL's products include its laser range and bearing system 'Fanbeam®'. MDL's latest addition to its marine product portfolio includes a GPS position and heading vector measurement system known as G-Vec.

www.mdl.co.uk

CTC Marine Projects

CTC Marine Projects, based in Darlington, UK, specialises in the installation, trenching and burial of subsea cables, umbilicals and pipelines, for the oil and gas, power and telecommunications industries.

CTC has a modern and technically advanced fleet, comprising 2 cablesheips, 1 trenching support vessel, 3 ploughs and 6 heavy weight ROV-based jetting vehicles, supported by world seafloor (geotechnical) engineering, training and R&D facilities.

www.ctcmarine.com

Agip Kazakhstan North Caspian Operating Co. NV

On behalf of seven international partners (BG, ConocoPhillips, Eni, ExxonMobil, Inpex, Shell and Total) and under the North Caspian Sea PSA, Agip KCO is undertaking exploration and appraisal operations in the Kazakh sector of the Caspian Sea.

Activities, concentrated on the Aktote, Kairan, Kalamkas and Kashagan prospects, have led to two discoveries. One of these, the Kashagan, was declared a commercial discovery in June 2002 with estimated 7 to 9 billion barrels of recoverable oil – one of the world's largest recent finds.

The Republic of Kazakhstan is represented by KazMunaiGaz.

IMCA news

Published quarterly to promote knowledge of safety and technical matters affecting the marine, underwater and engineering industry.

Succinct, positive contributions of potential interest to a wide cross-section of IMCA members are welcome.

Views expressed on these pages don't automatically reflect policies or positions of IMCA itself.

Edited & produced by Hannah Pearce, freelance journalist, (zintl@gn.apc.org).

International Contractors (ICO)

Allseas Group
Heerema Marine Contractors
Saipem
SEAMEC – South East Asia
Marine Engineering &
Construction
Stolt Offshore
Subsea 7
Technip-Coflexip

Contractors

Algoasibi Diving & Marine Services
Allied Marine & Equipment
Aqua Diving Services
Arabian Gulf Mechanical Services &
Contracting Co.
Bakri Navigation Company
BJ Services Co (UK)
Bluewater Energy Services
British Antarctic Survey
BUE Marine
Cal Dive International
Canyon Offshore International Corp.
Cape Diving & Salvage
C&C Technologies
CODERO
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CTC Marine Projects
Diamond Offshore Drilling (UK)
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Dolphin Drilling
Dolphin Offshore Ent. (India)
Dulam International
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EDT Towing & Salvage Co.
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Fugro Geonics
Fugro Survey (Middle East)
Fugro Survey (Singapore)
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GB Diving
Global Industries Asia Pacific
Global Marine Systems
Global Santa Fe Corp.
Gulf Dredging & Gen. Contracting
Gulf Marine Services
Hallin Marine Systems
Halul Offshore Services Co.
Impresub
Integrated Subsea Services
Intl Marine Works – Alexandria
Intl Naval Works – Abu Dhabi
International Oilfield Services
IRSHAD
J Ray McDermott Eastern Hemisphere
Keliston Marine (Far East)
Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repairyard
Company

PT Lancar Rejeki Berkas Jaya
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Master Tech Diving Services
MENAS
Mermaid Maritime
Mohn Drilling
Mutawa Marine Works
Navion
Noordhoek Offshore
Northern Marine Management
Oceaneering International
Oceaneering Int. (Asia-Pacific)
Ocean Works Asia
PT Panji Adi Samudera (PAS) Maritime
PT Patra Dinamika
Pride International
Prosafe Offshore
Rasmussen Maritime Services
Rovtech
PT Samudera Biru Nusantara
Sapura Diving Services
Sarku Engineering Services
SAROST
SBM Production Contractors
Seabulk Offshore
Seacor Marine (International)
Seaway Heavy Lifting Engineering
Seaweld Engineering Services
Secunda Marine Services
Smedvig Offshore
Smit Terminals
Smit Vessel Management Services
Sonsub
Stolt Offshore AS
Stolt Offshore Asia Pacific/
PT Komaritim
Submersible Television Surveys
Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific
Subsea Petroleum Services
Subtec Middle East
Technip-Coflexip Oceania
Technip Offshore Contractors Inc.
Technip Offshore Norge
Thales GeoSolutions (North Sea)
Thales GeoSolutions (Singapore)
Tideway Marine & Offshore
TL Geohydrographics
Torch
Transocean
Underwater Services Company
URS
Van Oord ACZ
Well Ops (UK)
Wijsmuller International Towing
Workshops Contractors

Naval Diving Units

Royal Saudi Navy Forces
Salvage & Marine Operations IPT
Superintendent of Diving

Suppliers

ABB
Advanced Marine
Alstom Schilling Robotics
Alstom T&D
Anglo-Eastern Group
Auto Dynamic Positioning Services
BMT Salvage
Brunvoll
C-Mar Services (UK)
Core Technical Services
Divex
Global Maritime
Holland Offshore Consulting Den Helder
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Hydrovision
JP Kenny Caledonia
KB Associates
Kenz Cranes
Kirby Morgan Dive Systems
Kongsberg Simrad
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Nautronix
Noble Denton Europe
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Offshore Commissioning Solutions
PAE Singapore
Perry Slingsby Systems
Poseidon Maritime (UK)
Promarine
QinetiQ
Rolls-Royce Oy
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Southern Oceanics
Thales Navigation
Unique System
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Training Establishments & Personnel Agencies

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DOOR
Dynamic Positioning Centre
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INPP
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Interdive Services
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Maritiem Trainingscentrum
Maritime Inst Willem Barentsz
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