



The International Marine Contractors Association

Representing offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies

news|etter

September 2004

Issue 32

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IMCA Contracting Principles

A new set of contracting principles will be published shortly. These extend work undertaken previously by IMCA to help develop the CRINE contracts in the 1990s, their recent updates under the LOGIC banner, and publication of standardised IMCA contracts for ROV and survey services. IMCA has also been asked to help develop 'model' contracts with clients on behalf of several contractors.

All these efforts needed additional impetus, with members continuing to advise that contractual conditions were becoming more onerous. Generally, projects have become more difficult as technology and water depth increases in step with further geographical and political challenges. Insurance provision is shrinking at a time when clients have become risk-averse and contracts set out to transfer greater risk to contractors. Additionally, despite a shrinking client base, due to mergers and take-overs, contract formats around the world continue to increase and each version, since it is probably untested at law, presents unknown implications for the signatories. These contracts demand time-consuming and costly review. IMCA's contracts workgroup has taken a three-pronged response:

- Developing a set of contracting principles (see below).
- Encouraging the development and spread of standard contracts that reflect those principles.
- Working on 'risk apportionment' with clients, using the principles (see p.2).

The contract principles, under the acronym 'FAIR', start from the premise that

responsibility should be taken by the party best placed to accept it. They aim to achieve an equitable contractual balance based on risk and reward for both parties. A total of fifteen principles describe key contractual areas in detail, but not as draft clauses.

A comment paragraph explains the aim of each principle and how it works in practice – highlighting experience of how a legal clause translates from the paper into reality during a project and where events can demand recourse to the contract. IMCA is keen to share these experiences between contractors and clients for the benefit of both.

Members will be aware the Association cannot impose contract terms or interfere with the client/contractor commercial relationship, so this work will be published as 'principles', to be available for members to use as they see fit.

IMCA believes these new principles will serve the long-term interests of both parties, improve relations and efficiency, and reduce overall costs.

Industry Mutual Hold Harmless

The UK initiative on IMHH has reached its second birthday with 238 signatory companies covering about 65% of personnel working offshore in the UK sector.

IMCA, with sister trade associations the Offshore Contractors Association, and the Well Servicing Contractors Association, has taken a lead in steering IMHH, as they support the annual cost of administering it. The aim of IMHH is to provide contractors with an underlying agreement should there be no other agreement in any of the contracts which engage companies and their employees offshore. Benefits to those signing the deed include:

- clearer allocation of key risks
- financial benefits from reduced legal fees and resource needs
- more effective and efficient risk management
- reduced time and confrontation when negotiating contractual responsibility and indemnities
- greater industry collaboration
- potential for lower insurance premiums

IMHH is free to join, delivers a benefit and, in principle, the more signatories the better. IMCA encourages all members working offshore in the UK sector to sign up.

Details on IMHH are available at www.imhh.com or from Hugh Williams.

IMCA leads risk strategy development

Contracting is about completing a task for someone who does not want to do it themselves, so there are always risks which clients pass to contractors in their contracts.

In almost all its work, IMCA focuses on risk – understanding, reducing, mitigating, managing and insuring risk – technical and commercial risk.

Understanding the commercial risks in a venture is a complex process and a recent conference – hosted by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) in Texas – identified that problems arise where parties involved in a project don't fully understand this subject.

Workshop discussions suggested guidelines could help all parties to better understand commercial risk and the gaps, overlaps, misunderstandings, false assumptions, losses and delays that generate problems.

IMCA was duly asked to work on behalf of its members, other contractors and oil companies to develop some guidelines. This work is now being done by the contracts workgroup which will draw on the new IMCA contracting principles (see p.1).

IMCA seeks new technical specialist

The increased workload arising from IMCA's growing membership, wider geographical spread, more ambitious studies and better service delivery to members has created a new opportunity for a fourth technical specialist to join the secretariat. Working at the cutting edge of industry developments this post will report to the Technical Director. It involves support for IMCA committees, managing and carrying out studies, member liaison, and representing the Association at events. The post requires top level skills in at least one of IMCA's key areas: marine operations, DP, diving, safety or training, probably with a background in the offshore oil industry.

See adverts in the press and on the IMCA website. Also, contact Hugh.Williams@imca-int.com for further information.

Communications strategy

IMCA exists "to represent offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies". But what does this actually mean?

The secretariat, together with the Overall Management Committee and IMCA Council, is now developing a communications strategy by which to better define and promote 'the IMCA message'. This is more than a marketing exercise – it has provided a timely opportunity to review and clarify the association's objectives and activities on behalf of its expanding global membership.

The results will soon be reflected in an updated range of information and promotional documents and a single, better defined set of objectives with better reporting on how they're being achieved.

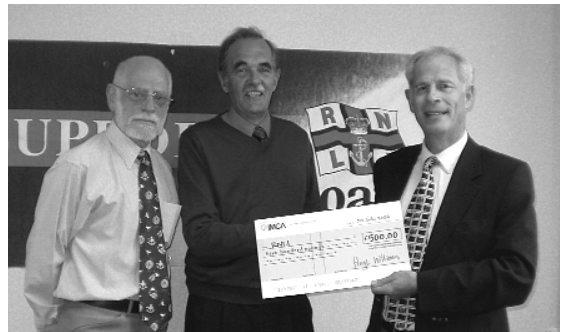
Annual Seminar – Register Now

This year's IMCA Annual Seminar 2004 – *Marine Contracting: from Deepwater Construction Vessels to Offshore Diving* – takes place on 2-3 December at the Regent Hotel in Singapore. This is the first such event to be jointly organised by all four IMCA divisions so the programme covers a diverse range of operations and reflects the common interest in each theme. It's also IMCA's first major event in the Asia-Pacific region.

Full details have been widely circulated but are also available at www.imca-int.com/events where you can now register online.

Record fundraising

IMCA's annual Charity Ball, held in Aberdeen on 11 June, saw over 170 members and guests dine, dance and donate their way to raising £1700 for IMCA's chosen charities – the International Lifeboat Federation (ILF) and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). The latter is a registered UK charity whose volunteer crews are funded entirely by donation to provide a 24-hour service around the coast of the UK and Republic of Ireland. It also currently hosts the secretariat for the ILF, an organisation founded in 1924 to bring together both volunteer and state administered lifeboat services around the world. It currently has 89 members, in 62 countries, seeking 'to promote the saving of life on water worldwide by providing an innovative forum for international co-operation in lifeboat search and rescue'. The ILF operates as an association rather like IMCA, with member organisations and issues to do with members, subscriptions, sharing procedures and guidelines around the world, and interests in training and competence.



Hugh Williams presenting a cheque to Gerry Keeling of the ILF, and another cheque to John Schul and Dennis Williams of Aberdeen and District Fundraising branch of the RNLI.

URGENT – Your material needed for safety DVD

Work is proceeding on the second IMCA DVD – tackling general safety awareness with a focus on avoiding slips and trips and on correct manual handling techniques.

IMCA wants input from members – video clips and still photographs relating to potential slipping, tripping and manual handling hazards; how they can be addressed and situations where manual handling is essential.

Any member wishing to contribute please contact Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com ASAP!

Secretariat moves

After seven years of steady growth IMCA's staff team has outgrown the office space available at Carlyle House.

From 1 October IMCA's secretariat will be located on the 3rd floor, 5 Lower Belgrave Street, London. This new site is slightly closer to Victoria station, retaining excellent airport, train and Underground connections.

The new offices include a dedicated boardroom for committee and work-group meetings. When not in use for such IMCA meetings this facility will also be available for members wishing to meet in London.

If you wish to make a booking for the boardroom please contact: Nina.Adams@imca-int.com.

It's been a quiet summer in the Western Hemisphere by routine standards for many IMCA members, despite the relentless need for us to continue trading viably on a 24/7 basis. With the oil price hitting an all-time high (five times higher than in 1999) and client companies announcing record profits for the second half of the year, we should all be busy. The combination of cash-rich customers and escalating global demand for oil should deliver something of a boom for the offshore supply and service support sector. Yet, nothing is proving further from reality as offshore exploration and new oilfield development work continue to bump along at very low levels. This is in addition to the often onerous contract terms and conditions for marine contractors.

Against that background the marine contracting principles soon to be published by IMCA are a highly significant development for any company seeking fair, well-remunerated terms and conditions for future work offshore. No contractor should have to risk their entire enterprise on the back of poorly assigned liabilities on one major contract. Yet, as has been seen far too often in recent years, many contractors have gone to the wall in precisely this manner because our industry has not been able to develop fair and standardised terms and conditions of work. It is therefore a significant achievement that IMCA has been

able to produce a framework that enables contractors to compete on matters of quality, price and schedule, rather than in reference to their tolerance for an uneven degree of contract risk.

It is also heartening to witness among several leading client companies the emergence of clear recognition that such principles are to be welcomed because they can only enhance the long term viability of a safe and well managed professional marine contracting industry.

Without wishing to sound too philosophical, the ongoing consolidation amongst client companies and between contractors is something that can only lead inexorably to a significantly greater degree of mutual



dependency between us all. Let's hope a similar maturity begins to provoke more new prospecting activities by major clients in the coming months.

I hope you all enjoyed your holidays and look forward to seeing strong support for the Annual Seminar in Singapore on 2-3 December.

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 Offshore Survey: Walter Steedman, Subsea 7

Chairman ROV: Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering International

Chairman SEL: Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Cont.

Chairman TCPC: John Greensmyth, Technip

Chairman, Americas Deepwater Section:

Roy Sijthoff, Allseas Group

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Section: Andy Bolton, Technip Oceania

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

Chairman, Middle East & India Section: Steve MacMillan,

J Ray McDermott Eastern Hemisphere

Vice-Chairman Diving: Georges Arnoux, Stolt Offshore

Vice-Chairman Marine: Pete Somner, Subsea 7

Vice-Chairman Offshore Survey: Will Primavesi, Fugro Survey

Vice-Chairman ROV: Andrew Beveridge, Rovtech

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

Vice-Chairman TCPC: Brendan Kelly, Oceaneering Int.

IMCA Chief Executive: Hugh Williams

IMCA Technical Director: Jane Bugler

Competence guidance for client representatives

The role of 'company representative' is long established within the offshore industry. It can be extremely diverse, covering a range of activities, specialist equipment and operational techniques. IMCA has now issued guidance on competence assurance and assessment for the client representative positions (information note *IMCA TCPC 12/04*). This follows the same format as the guidance framework launched in 1999 for other safety-critical positions and can be used by contractors as part of ongoing implementation of their own in-house schemes.

An opening section describes the company representative's role – covering personnel selection, levels or specialisations and a summary of the activities and job phases representatives are likely to be involved with, including sub-contractor assessment, engineering, fabrication/trials, mobilisation, offshore operation and project close-out.

The competence tables cover three levels – senior company representative, company representative and observation representative, with generic guidance on qualifications and knowledge for each position – plus specific competence guidance for diving, marine, survey and ROV-related operations.

Assessments completed using this guidance can be recorded in the IMCA record of competence (*IMCA C 006*) or other company systems.

Safety training guidance

IMCA members often report difficulties arising from variations around the globe in safety training requirements for offshore contractors' non-marine personnel. These can range from basic training as indicated in IMCA guidance (Basic safety training for non-marine personnel on specialist vessels) to something such as the three day UK style BOSIET (Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training) course or the Norwegian five day COET (Combined Offshore Emergency Training and fire fighting) course.

IMCA is now seeking members' input about safety training requirements for non-marine personnel set by coastal states and/or clients around the world. Information from training providers is also sought with regard to the relevant safety training syllabi on offer. It is hoped that additional guidance can be developed from this which will address the various requirements and offer world-wide applicability.

Anyone able to assist should contact Phillip.Wiggs@imca-int.com

TCPC Core Committee

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

Monique Laros, Allseas Group
Philip Hargreaves, Stolt Offshore
Darren Bown, Subsea 7
Mark Elder, Subsea 7
Gavin Smith, Subsea 7
Mike Lloyd, Technip
Brian Robertson, Technip

Americas Deepwater Section:
Lou Crane, Institute of ROVs

Asia-Pacific Section: Leslie Wong
Wui, Seacor Marine (Asia)

IMCA Schemes Administrator:
Vicki Graham

Training Opportunities

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IMCA Assistant Life Support Technician
Recompression Chamber Operator
IMCA Diver Medical Technician
& DMT Refresher
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and hyperbaric medical industry

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Simulators

Simulators are now widely used in the offshore industry, in particular for ROV and DP training purposes. The TCPC committee is to do a survey on the use of simulators by members to consider whether a methodology on their use in competence assurance and assessment needs to be developed. Input is invited from training providers and contractors.

Please contact Phillip.Wiggs@imca-int.com.

TCPC Information Notes published since Issue 31

- TCPC 06/04 UK merchant shipping regulations: Adoption of LOLER and PUWER
- TCPC 07/04 IMO Maritime Safety Committee
- TCPC 08/04 Last ten ports of call: ISPS Code developments
- TCPC 09/04 Implementation of the ISPS Code: Draft IMO guidance circular
- TCPC 10/04 Basic safety training
- TCPC 11/04 Updating IMCA Marine Division guidance
- TCPC 12/04 Competence of client representatives
- TCPC 13/04 ISPS Code: Feedback on members' experience
- TCPC 14/04 Emergency response and rescue vessels: Consultation on guidance for UK waters
- TCPC 15/04 Firefighting foam on helidecks

Safety improves steadily in 2003

IMCA safety statistics for 2003 show continuing improvement offshore but more work to do.

The offshore lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) fell, once again, to 2.74 in 2003 from 2.96 in 2002.

However, the overall rate was up slightly and, in any event, we all know more work must be done to reach the zero injury goal.

For the first time, the report included members' data on leading safety performance indicators (LSPI), which IMCA set out at the beginning of 2003. It is interesting that, generally, where the reported LTIFR was high, the relevant leading indicators were low and vice versa, illustrating how those companies that spend the most effort making safety observations, reporting activity levels, making managerial visits and issuing safety bulletins achieve better safety results.

It is hoped, as usage and reporting of LSPI increases, future analysis can assess if particular activities deliver better results in terms of safer working.

Safer Helicopter Operations

Helicopter safety has been an area of concern for members for some time. IMCA is keen to help in this area and would be grateful for information on past incidents, near misses and more general information.

IMCA is aware of work on this issue by other organisations and is liaising with industry colleagues to avoid duplication of effort and to convey the needs and experiences of specialist vessel operators in its membership.

Please direct your input on this to Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com

SEL Information Notes *published since Issue 31*

- SEL 13/04 Hazardous and Noxious Substances Convention
- SEL 14/04 Update on key EU health & safety legislation
- SEL 15/04 UK merchant shipping regulations: Adoption of LOLER and PUWER
- SEL 16/04 Waterborne freight grant – EU
- SEL 17/04 IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)
- SEL 18/04 ECDIS and ISM procedures
- SEL 19/04 Security measures from 1 July 2004
- SEL 20/04 Last ten ports of call: ISPS Code developments
- SEL 21/04 Implementing ISPS: Draft IMO guidance circular
- SEL 22/04 Basic safety training
- SEL 23/04 Updating IMCA Marine Division guidance
- SEL 24/04 ISPS Code: Feedback on members' experience
- SEL 25/04 Emergency response and rescue vessels: Consultation on guidance for UK waters
- SEL 26/04 IMCA general safety awareness DVD
- SEL 27/04 ILO: Consolidated Maritime Convention
- SEL 28/04 Ship exhaust sulphur emissions: Proposed new EU legislation
- SEL 29/04 Safety statistics 2003, report for IMCA members
- SEL 30/04 UK area helideck lighting: Further interim guidance
- SEL 31/04 Firefighting foam on helidecks

ILO to consolidate maritime conventions

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is working to consolidate a number of its standards that relate to the offshore workplace. A meeting is planned for this month in preparation for a diplomatic conference next year 2005.

IMCA can provide input through one of its members, attending on behalf of the Netherlands Shipowners. This work touches on a number of issues with consequences for the industry, such as:

- Determination of the tonnage limit for application of a consolidated convention
- Whether oilrigs and drilling platforms should be totally excluded from the convention or only when not under navigation
- Flexibility relating to vessels on coastal voyages
- State control over seafarer recruitment or placement services
- State regulation of seafarers' agreements
- Remedies for seafarers in the event of a ship's loss
- Manning levels and seafarer fatigue
- On-board security
- Issues concerning social security, occupational health, recreation and medical care
- Noise levels
- Provision of ships' maritime labour certificates
- Issues arising from seafarers' complaints to the employer

In addition, a number of other subjects in the text may be at issue, such as whether the definition of 'seafarer' should cover special personnel not directly employed by the vessel owner or operator.

IMCA is liaising with the International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) and the International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) and it is hoped that all three associations will be able to work together, as has been done previously with some success in other discussions on matters relating to hours of work and rest offshore.

Response from members has been low so far.

With the preparatory meeting fast approaching **please forward your comments urgently** to Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com

SEL Core Committee

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

Mat Schreurs, Heerema Marine Contractors
Philip Bradbury, Integrated Subsea Services
Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott Eastern Hemisphere
Sal Ruffino, Saipem
Ken London, Stolt Offshore
Allan Hannah, Technip
Wallace Robertson, Well Ops UK
Foeke Tulner, Workshops Contractors

Asia-Pacific Section: Des Power, Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific

Middle East & India Section: Mohamed Osman, Maridive & Oil Services

Americas Deepwater

The Americas Deepwater Section is to hold its next meeting on 22 September in Houston. With the various sub-groups busily tackling a wide-ranging technical work programme for the region, this broader section meeting is being combined with an afternoon session where Hugh Williams, IMCA Chief Executive, and those active in the section will be making various presentations before they engage in a question-and-answer session with clients, regulators and potential members.

Please let the secretariat know if you would like particular individuals to be invited to this session.

Since the section was formed in 2002, the regional membership has grown and a number of new people have become involved with IMCA. Two years on, it seems timely to set out a reminder that the sub-groups are open to all voting (contractor/supplier) members in the region (with the Safety, Environment & Legislation and Training, Certification & Personnel Competence sub-groups open to all and the four divisional groups open to local members in each division).

Americas Deepwater Section Sub-Group Chairmen

Safety, Environment & Legislation: Lynn Lehmann, Saipem/Sonsub
 Training, Certification & Personnel Competence: Lou Cranek, Institute of ROVs
 Diving Division: Allan Palmer, Stolt Offshore
 Marine Division: Pete Fougere, Transocean
 Offshore Survey Division: Ian Edmonstone, Subsea 7
 Remote Systems & ROV Division: Robert Keith, Saipem/Sonsub

Make a difference !

Regional sections and sub-groups provide a crucial forum for members to address local issues and a vital line of communication with the world-wide committees. By getting involved, members can ensure their interests are represented and can help shape the work programme and the resulting guidance. If you're not already involved, you should be.

Please contact the IMCA secretariat or your local representative if you wish to bring any issue to any committee's attention or to make a contribution to the ongoing work programme.

Europe & Africa

Over sixty delegates gathered in Aberdeen on 11 June 2004 for the second meeting of the IMCA Europe & Africa Section, linking in to a half-day seminar on decommissioning and renewable energy issues – important new areas of work for IMCA through and on behalf of its members.

The first session included updates on the section's work programme and from IMCA's world-wide committees, with an emphasis on current issues such as developments in European Union legislation, contractual and insurance issues and IMCA's initiatives in diver training in conjunction with IDSA. This was followed by presentations on decommissioning and renewable energy that provided material for a lively afternoon debate between enthusiastic participants.

Conclusions from the day suggested there are potentially huge areas of work for which IMCA members are especially suitable – both in terms of their actual project experience and safety record and more generally given their wider track record using innovative techniques in hostile environments.

Two new regional workgroups will now take forward work on decommissioning and renewable energy issues. Members

interested in being points of contact for and taking part in those workgroups should contact the secretariat.

Asia-Pacific

The section held its latest well-attended meeting on 15 July in Singapore. It also continues to make an important contribution to the activities and output of the world-wide committees, often participating by teleconference.

The section has now nominated representatives



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to each world-wide committee listed below:

Asia-Pacific Section Committee Representatives

Safety, Environment & Legislation: Des Power, Subsea 7 Asia Pacific

Training, Certification & Personnel Competence: Leslie Wong Wui, Seacor Marine (Asia)

Diving Division: RP Singh, Stolt Offshore Asia Pacific/PT Komaritim

Marine Division: Andy Bolton, Technip Oceania

Offshore Survey Division: Dave Scott, Fugro Survey

Remote Systems & ROV Division: Neil Forbes, Technip Oceania.

The next meeting of the section will take place on 7 October in Jakarta .

Please also don't forget, the IMCA Annual Seminar taking place in Singapore on 2-3 December!

Regional Section Officers

Middle East & India Section

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

Asia-Pacific Section

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

Europe & Africa Section Steering Committee

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

Americas Deepwater Section

Chairman: Roy Sijthoff, Allseas Group
Vice-Chairman: Dick Martin, Subsea 7

Middle East & India

Over a short break between recent meetings members have been busy with new developments to be taken forward at the next gathering on 6 September in the UAE. This is timed for the afternoon, allowing a more relaxed schedule with social time. With membership in the region growing steadily it's hoped that more members will attend.

The section is also now broadening its work programme to focus on Marine Division issues with plans for a promotional seminar for clients and other interested parties. The section will also be electing regional representatives to sit on the worldwide committees for TCPC, Offshore Survey Division and Remote Systems & ROV Division. Anyone from the region interested in serving on these committees should put themselves forward at the section meeting.

Middle East & India Section Committee Representatives

Overall Management Committee: Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott Eastern Hemisphere Safety, Environment & Legislation: Mohamed Osman, Maridive & Oil Services

Diving Division: Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott E. Hemisphere
Marine Division: Lachlan McKelvie, Seabulk Offshore

Joint Workgroup

Remote Systems & ROV Division has formed a joint workgroup with Offshore Survey to look at competency issues common to both sectors. A full report on the first meeting of this group can be found on page 9.

Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee

Chairman: Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering International
Vice-Chairman: Andrew Beveridge, Rovtech

Nigel Wilmott, Cal Dive/
Canyon Offshore
John Rossier, Covus
Dave McKay, Fugro Survey
John Davies, Global Marine Systems
Keith Robathan, Sonsub
Colin Mackay, Stolt Offshore
Vernon Fawcett, Subsea 7
Dave Walker, Technip

Americas Deepwater Section: Robert Keith, Saipem/Sonsub
Asia-Pacific Section: Neil Forbes, Technip Oceania

Remote Systems & ROV Information Notes

published since Issue 31

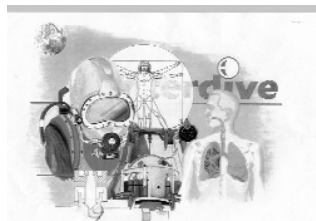
R 02/04 Basic safety training

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Dive in to the Annual Seminar

The Diving Division has enthusiastically participated in the development of an exciting programme for this year's Annual Seminar taking place in Singapore on 2-3 December.. This event will bring together engineers, managers, clients, offshore personnel, consultants, equipment manufacturers and others from around the globe.

Day one's diving session includes presentations on broad safety and training issues, followed by specific technical papers on deep saturation infection, subsea isolations and hazardous marine life.

Day two includes an overview of the joint subsea initiative established by operators in Indonesia, a vessel operator's view of 'subsea solutions', a review of the use of failure modes and effects analyses (FMEAs) in the diving industry and hyperbaric welding.

Both afternoons offer a variety of topic-related workshops for follow-on discussion.

IMCA/IDSA International Diver Training Standards

Wide variations exist around the world in the approach to and recognition of commercial diver training. This leads to non-recognition for some qualifications which generates confusion and inefficiencies, restricts free movement of some personnel and raises a number of potential safety issues.

Reflecting their common interests IMCA is therefore working closely with the International Diving Schools Association (IDSA) to develop an international scheme of common training standards for the certification of diving personnel that could be in place as early as the start of 2005. Initially this will cover only divers, but in time it will extend to other diving personnel positions. It is also designed to command recognition from and to benefit all parties including employers, clients, governments and training establishments.

By combining good standards, a representative advisory board and independent auditing, the scheme will be robust, capable of delivering long term benefits to the diving industry worldwide and able to grow and develop to reflect changing requirements for the industry. It will also be able to encompass the addition of new diving schools and countries over the years.

IMCA is confident that the proposed scheme will enhance safety for divers, ensure free movement of personnel and remove considerable inefficiencies from the industry.

Neurological Examinations

Filming is underway for a new IMCA video on the neurological examination of divers. The work arises from a presentation to doctors where a short but powerful home video was used to demonstrate such an examination on a volunteer patient. This generated a recommendation that IMCA should produce such a video aimed at diving supervisors, diver medics and divers, with commentary suitable for divers who have had no medical training. The results should be available later this year.

The Underwater Centre

Europe's leading diver training centre

The Underwater Centre in Fort William is one of the most highly regarded commercial diving training centres in the world. We're the **only** diving centre to be approved for all levels of HSE diver training, from HSE SCUBA to HSE Closed Bell (Saturation/Mixed Gas).

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Inverness-shire, Scotland
info@theunderwatercentre.co.uk

Diving Information Notes published since Issue 31

- D 04/04 Interim arrangements for Dutch diving supervisors working in the Dutch sector
- D 05/04 New style certificates: IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor & Life Support Technician schemes
- D 06/04 Verification of diver qualifications: Proposed discontinuation of service
- D 07/04 Basic safety training
- D 08/04 Diving statistics for the N.Sea, 2002 & 2003

Diving Division Management Committee

election underway

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 E. Hemisphere

Ian Mackenzie, National Hyperbaric Centre

Bjørn Kahrs, Norwegian State Diving School

Derek Beddows, Technip

Americas Deepwater Section: Allan Palmer, Stolt Offshore

Asia-Pacific Section: RP Singh, Stolt Offshore Asia

Pacific/ PT Komaritim

Middle East & India Section: Steve MacMillan, J Ray

McDermott E. Hemisphere

Offshore operators

Oil companies are increasingly using IMCA guidance as a basis for delivering safe offshore diving operations. Corresponding membership is rising among new companies and existing members affiliates, and client briefing/Q&A sessions held by the regional sections are well attended.

To improve dialogue with offshore operators, IMCA has established a regular forum with their world-wide diving representatives. These meetings provide the opportunity for IMCA to explain guidance, talk about ongoing work and raise other issues on behalf of members. Offshore operators also value the chance to liaise with the contracting industry via IMCA.

Any client representatives not currently involved are invited to contact Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com for more details.

Vessels of opportunity

While many offshore diving contractors now form part of more broadly integrated offshore service companies, in some parts of the world vessels of opportunity are still commonly used to carry out most surface supplied and saturation diving work.

Such vessels may vary greatly in size, form and overall fitness for purpose and a careful assessment must always be undertaken during selection to check for suitability (or in some cases explain unsuitability to a client).

While IMCA's Common Marine Inspection Document (IMCA M 149) is recommended for this, new guidance developed by the Asia-Pacific Section and published by the Diving Division (IMCA D 035) now provides generic information for members about factors to be considered when selecting a diving support vessel. The same guidance also outlines more specific project-related requirements.

Working with Agencies on Competence

While for many companies implementation of schemes based on the IMCA competence assurance and assessment framework is at a mature stage, there remain some issues where further work is required. In part, these are to be taken forward by divisional competence workgroups, which can focus entirely on the needs of a particular sector.

The Offshore Survey and Remote Systems & ROV divisions have formed a joint workgroup to look at issues common to both sectors. The group held its first meeting with personnel agencies on 24 June in Great Yarmouth, UK, where six IMCA-member agencies met representatives of relevant IMCA committees.

Walter Steedman, Chairman of the Offshore Survey Division Management Committee, explained the meeting's stated aim "to advise agencies about procedures for induction of their personnel into the IMCA competence framework" and some background. Many clients now demand proof of competence of all personnel (including agency employees) on their jobs. New (widely recognised and required) quality standards stipulate demonstration of competence, as do the legal obligations of employers and clients in certain jurisdictions. Increasingly, freelance personnel need a competence assessment record to secure employment.

The IMCA competence framework was developed as a means to avoid a plethora of different requirements by putting in place one, good, contractor-produced framework. It has become well recognised – by both contractors and clients. Such competence requirements can be likened to those, now well accepted, for offshore safety and survival certification where it is in everyone's interests that safety-critical staff are competent.

The meeting made good progress through a series of presentations and discussions. It was agreed that a common induction pack, or generic information to be included in agencies' own documentation, could be useful and this is currently being developed. Agencies are to help promote competence records to their personnel and there was discussion as to how contractors could assist in terms of completing documentation and providing feedback to agencies. Further discussions are planned and IMCA looks forward to hosting them.

Promoting membership

At a time of merger and acquisition within the industry, IMCA has continued to attract new interest and, indeed, new members. The Offshore Survey Division may be the smallest, but it too is contributing to growth in overall membership.

In recent months, Noordhoek Offshore, Andrews Survey and Oceanteam have all joined the division, where they've also won seats on the newly elected management committee (which has a new Vice-Chairman in the shape of Will Primavesi of Fugro Survey).

To help spread the word, a new membership information pack has been produced plus factsheets and other promotional documents. Please advise the secretariat if you would like copies of the documents for use with your industry colleagues.

Offshore Survey Division Management Committee

Chairman: Walter Steedman,
Subsea 7

Vice-Chairman: Will Primavesi,
Fugro Survey

Stuart Reid, Andrews Survey
Ian McKenzie, Fugro Survey
Bob Downing, Maritech
Brian Beard, Noordhoek Offshore
Ray Morgan, Oceanteam
Pino Baldini, Saipem

Americas Deepwater Section:
Ian Edmonstone, Subsea 7

Asia-Pacific Section: Dave Scott,
Fugro Survey

Offshore Survey Information

Notes *published since Issue 31*

S 02/04 ECDIS and ISM procedures
S 03/04 Basic safety training

IMCA Annual Seminar 2004

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, this year's event planned for Singapore on 2-3 December is the first to be organised jointly by all four technical divisions of IMCA. This event is expected to bring together engineers, managers, clients, offshore personnel, consultants, equipment manufacturers and others from around the world.

An exciting programme covers all aspects of today's marine contracting industry, addressing issues for those operating in the Asia-Pacific region together with broader topics on the latest developments in the world-wide industry.

Joint keynote sessions will address IMCA's changing role and the contracting environment, plus piracy and offshore safety.

Within the parallel session structure a variety of topics are also offered to those with a marine technical interest, including the challenges of operating large deepwater construction vessels using DP, optical cable burial verification surveys, what the latest positioning systems and related technologies now mean for vessel operators, plus training and competence of key operational personnel.

Further details on the seminar, together with online booking, are available at www.imca-int.com/events

Artemis Mk V

Marine Division's latest publication provides a full technical review of the Artemis Mk V positioning system. This operates with very low energy microwave radiation, using antennae placed on fixed and mobile stations which can track each other. The mobile unit determines range and bearing from the fixed station by detection of the difference from parallel that the two antennae are to each other.

The report sets out a range of technical information, from principles of operation, through installation, operation and maintenance, including training requirements. A full description of the system and its technical specifications are included, together with an analysis of its failure modes. Along with previous publications dealing with the failure modes of the Artemis Mk III and IV (*105 DPVOA and 118 DPVOA*), and covering the latest Fanbeam and CyScan systems (*IMCA M 170*), this latest document provides IMCA members with a good overview of all available systems.

Your experience of ISPS

1 July 2004 saw the entry into force of the International Ship & Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code. IMCA has worked actively within the International Maritime Organization on security issues and has briefed members on developments through a number of information notes in recent years. Now is the test of how the system works in practice. Different flag and coastal states may vary in their interpretations and it may be necessary to lobby them or to inform members about measures they may be required to adopt.

Please contact Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com with your experiences of the practical effects on operations and personnel of the ISPS Code and its interpretation.

FMEA Workshop

Development continues of the FMEA management guide, commissioned earlier this year. As part of the process, a workshop was held in Aberdeen on 18 June.

Around thirty delegates (representing contractors, equipment manufacturers and consultancies) took part in a discussion led by Wavespec (the consultancy commissioned to prepare the IMCA guide) that has provided valuable input which will assist in the completion of this key new document.

Marine Division Management Committee – election underway

Chairman: Hugo Bekker, Allseas Group
Vice-Chairman: Pete Somner, Subsea 7

Chris Jenman, Global Maritime
Michiel Goedkoop, Heerema
Marine Contractors
John Gorrie, Noble Denton
Europe
Ken McLean, Poseidon Maritime
Ian Young, Prosafe Offshore
Arnfinn Vika, Stolt Offshore
Steve Woodward, Technip
Kjell Egil Helgoy, Teekay Norway

Americas Deepwater Section:

Pete Fougere, Transocean

Asia-Pacific Section:

Andy Bolton, Technip Oceania

Middle East & India Section:

Lachlan McKelvie, Seabulk
Offshore

The ATEX Directive 94/9/EC for Mechanical and Electrical Equipment

Are you:

- A manufacturer of products intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres?
- Operating a plant within a potentially explosive atmosphere?

If yes, now is the time to start thinking about the ATEX Directive?

What is ATEX?

The ATEX Directive 94/9/EC is a Directive adopted by the European Union (EU) to facilitate free trade in the EU by aligning the technical and legal requirements in the Member States for products intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.

For further information on any of the above courses, please contact:
Sophie McKen, Business Development Executive
Aberdeen Skills and Enterprise Training Limited, Minto Operations Training Centre
Units 3-9 Minto Avenue, Altens, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK AB12 3JZ.

tel +44 (0)1224 859624 • fax +44 (0)1224 859640
email s.mcken@abcol.ac.uk • website www.aset-aberdeen.co.uk



New members

IMCA welcomes:

- Anglo-Eastern Group (Asia-Pacific Region)
- Atlantic Towing Ltd
- Azerbaijan International Operating Company
- Bluestream UK Ltd
- Combined Diving Inspection Services
- Dalgidj Private Company
- Fraser Diving International Ltd – Middle East
- LLP FSDS
- Global Industries Ltd
- Hydra Marine (Pty) Ltd
- Nautronix Inc.
- The Ocean Corporation
- Oceaneering International Inc.
- Oceanteam Ltd
- Offshore Logistics (Asia Pacific)
- Smit Terminals Middle East LLC
- Subsea Solutions (Aker Kværner Offshore Partner Ltd)
- Total Marine Technology Pty Ltd
- The Underwater Centre Fort William Ltd

Dalgidj Private Company

Undertakes a wide range of underwater survey, technical and diving operations mainly in the Caspian Sea. Has extensive experience working with global companies and smaller, local operators.

Contact: Ilgar Sadigov
Tel: +994 (12) 470 609
Fax: +994 (12) 470 609

LLP FSDS

Formed in Kazakhstan in 1998 (as a joint venture between LLP East-West, a 100% Kazakh company, and Fraser Diving International) to deliver underwater engineering services to the offshore oil and gas sector in the Caspian Sea. Offers a range of diving-related services including off-shore, civil engineering, inspection and construction.

Contact: Elena Velednitskaya
Tel: +7 (3272) 980 131
Fax: +7 (3272) 532 823

Promoting Membership

As IMCA continues to expand in membership, recognition and geographic spread, so the association continues to attract more interest from those companies not yet onboard.

To help promote wider membership, a new information pack is now available – for downloading from the website (www.imca-int.com/join) or in printed form. This details the benefits of membership, the categories, divisional structure, fees and the application process. Members also have access to other promotional materials via the members-only website.

*For specific queries or detailed information contact
Hugh.Williams@imca-int.com*

equipment to meet client demands.

Contact: Mike Jessop
Tel: +27 (21) 552 3600
Web: www.hydra.co.za

Name Changes

- Dutch Diving bv is now *Bluestream NL bv*

Hydra Marine (Pty) Ltd

Designs, makes and supplies air, mixed gas and saturation marine and diving equipment, marine winches, certified man-rider winches and specialised subsea rigging equipment to Southern/West Africa. Also offers rental options for specialist marine

Subsea Solutions (Aker Kværner Offshore Partner Ltd)

Provides a comprehensive subsea and pipeline capability and expertise to operators, contractors and to Aker Kværner business units. Focuses on providing: concept, front-end engineering design (FEED), project execution, installation support, commissioning, operation support and integrity management.

Contact: John Colegrave
Tel: (01224) 414515
Fax: (01224) 414537

Marine Information Notes published since Issue 31

- M 13/04 Hazardous and Noxious Substance Convention
- M 14/04 UK merchant shipping regs: Adoption of LOLER & PUWER
- M 15/04 Waterborne Freight Grant
- M 16/04 IMO Maritime Safety Committee
- M 17/04 ECDIS and ISM procedures
- M 18/04 Security measures from 1 July 2004
- M 19/04 Last ten ports of call: ISPS Code developments
- M 20/04 FMEA management guide
- M 21/04 Implementation of ISPS; Draft IMO guidance
- M 22/04 Basic safety training
- M 23/04 Updating Marine Division guidance
- M 24/04 ISPS Code: Feedback on members' experience
- M 25/04 Emergency response and rescue vessels: Consultation on guidance for UK waters
- M 26/04 Ship exhaust sulphur emissions: Proposed EU legislation
- M 27/04 UK area helideck lighting: Further interim guidance
- M 28/04 Firefighting foam on helidecks

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@gm.apc.org).

Membership

as of 31 August 2004

International Contractors (ICO)

Allseas Group
Cal Dive International
Heerema Marine Contractors
Saipem
Stolt Offshore
Subsea 7
Technip

Contractors

Algoasibi Diving & Marine Services
Allied Marine & Equipment
Andrews Survey
Aqua Diving Services
Arabian Gulf Mechanical Services
& Contracting Company
Atlantic Towing Ltd
Bakri Navigation Company
Bibby Offshore
BJ Services Co (UK)
Bluestream NL
Bluestream UK
Bluewater Energy Services
British Antarctic Survey
BUE Marine
Canyon Offshore
Cape Diving & Salvage
CDIS – Combined Diving
Inspection Services
Coastal Diving Services
CODERO
Consolidated Contractors Co.
Covus Corporation
CTC Marine Projects
Dalgidj
Diamond Offshore Drilling (UK)
Dolphin Drilling
Dolphin Offshore Ent. (India)
Dulam International
EDT Towing & Salvage Co.
EGS (Asia)
Fairmount Marine
Fraser Diving International
Fraser Diving Intl – ME
FSDS
Fugro Geonics Pvt Ltd (India)
Fugro Survey (Middle East)
Fugro Survey (Singapore)
Fugro Survey (UK)
GB Diving
Global Industries
Global Industries Asia Pacific
Global Marine Systems
Gulf Dredging & Gen. Contracting
Gulf Marine Services
Gulf Offshore NS
Gulmar Offshore Middle East
Hallin Marine Systems
Halul Offshore Services Co.
HEISCO
Hull Support Services
Integrated Subsea Services
Intl Marine Works – Alexandria
Intl Naval Works – Abu Dhabi
IRSHAD
J Ray McDermott E. Hemisphere

J Ray McDermott, Inc.
PT Lancar Rejeki Berkat Jaya
LD Travocean
Louisiana Overseas
Mærsk Supply Service
Maridive & Oil Services
Master Tech Diving Services
MENAS
Mermaid Offshore Services
Mohn Drilling
Mutawa Marine Works
Noordhoek Offshore
Northern Marine Management
Oceaneering International, Inc.
Oceaneering International
Oceaneering Intl (Asia-Pacific)
Oceanteam
Ocean Works Asia
Offshore Works
OSM Ship Management
PT Patra Dinamika
Pride International
Prosafe Offshore
Rolv Berg Drive
Rovtech
Royal Saudi Navy Forces
Saibos
Salvage & Marine Operations IPT
PT Samudera Biru Nusantara
Sapura Diving Services
Sarku Engineering Services
SAROST
SBM Production Contractors
Seabulk Offshore
Seacor Marine (International)
Seacor Marine (Asia)
SEAMEC
Seaway Heavy Lifting Engineering
Seaweld Engineering Services
Secunda Marine Services
Smedvig Offshore
Smit Terminals
Smit Terminals Middle East
Smit Vessel Management Services
Sonsub
Stolt Offshore Asia Pacific/
PT Komaritim
Submersible Television Surveys
Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific
Subsea Petroleum Services
Subtec Middle East
Superintendent of Diving
Svitzer/Wijsmuller
Technip Oceania
Technip Offshore Contractors Inc.
Technip Offshore Norge
Teekay Norway
Tideway Marine & Offshore
TL Geohydrographics
Torch
Total Marine Technology
Transocean
Underwater Services Company
URS
Van Oord
Well Ops (UK)
Workshops Contractors

Suppliers

ABB
Advanced Marine
Alstom Power Conversion
Anglo-Eastern Group
Anglo-Eastern Group (Asia-Pacific)
Ashtead Technology (SEA) Pte Ltd
Auto Dynamic Positioning Services
Brunvoll
C-MAR Services (UK)
Core Technical Services
Divex
European Underwater Tech' Centre
Global Maritime
Houlder Insurance Services
Hydra Marine
Hydrovision
JP Kenny Caledonia
KB Associates
Kenz Cranes
Kirby Morgan Dive Systems
Kongsberg Maritime
Lexmar Engineering
Measurement Devices Ltd
Nautronix plc
Nautronix Inc
Noble Denton Europe
Noble Denton Middle East
Noble Denton Singapore
NUI
Offshore Logistics
PAE Singapore
Perry Slingsby Systems
Poseidon Maritime (UK)
Promarine
QinetiQ
Rolls-Royce Oy
Schilling Robotics
Seaeeye Marine
Seatools
Subsea Solutions (AkerKværner)
Subsea Vision
Underwater Technology Services
Unique System
Wavespec

Training Establishments & Personnel Agencies

Aberdeen Skills & Ent. Training
Ålesund University College
Centre for Marine Simulation
College of Oceaneering
Dave Oliver Hydrographic Services
Delphinus Svcs – ROV Training
De Moura Shipping
Divers Institute of Technology
Diving Diseases Research Centre
DOOR
Dynamic Positioning Centre
Ecole Nationale de la Marine
Marchande de Marseille
Energy & Mining Training Solutions
Force Technology
Holland College
Marine Training Centre
Hydrosub
INPP
Institute of ROV

Interdive Services
Lowestoft College
Marine & Offshore Group Intl
Maritech Group
Maritime Inst Willem Barentsz
Maritime Training &
Competence Solutions
National Hyperbaric Centre
Netherlands Diving Centre
Norwegian State Diving School
NUTEC Rotterdam
Ocean Corporation
Oceanscan
Petrolis
Petrovietnam Manpower
Training College
Power & Generation Services
PR Offshore Services
ResQ Haugesund
Satakunta Polytechnic
Ship Manoeuvring Simulator Centre
Southampton Oceanography Centre
Sribima Maritime Training Centre
SubServ
SubServPro
Technocean
UK Project Support
Underwater Centre Fort William
Underwater Centre Fremantle
Underwater Centre Tasmania
WA Maritime Training Centre
– Fremantle

Corresponding Members

Agip KCO
AISI
Azerbaijan International Op. Co.
Bahrain Petroleum Co.
BG Group
BHP Billiton
BP Exploration Operating Co
BP Americas Production Co
Cairn Energy India
ConocoPhillips China
ConocoPhillips UK
Det Norske Veritas
Esso Australia
GDF Production Nederland
Health & Safety Executive
NAM Offshore Business Unit
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation
Petro Canada – Terra Nova Project
Petrobras
Premier Oil Natuna Sea
PTT Exploration & Production
Sarawak Shell
Shell Intl Exploration & Production
Shell Petr. Dev. Co. of Nigeria
Star Energy (Kakap)
Talisman Energy (UK)
Total Austral (Argentina)
Total E&P
Total E&P Nederland
Total E&P UK
US Minerals Management Service
Wintershall Noordzee
Woodside Energy
Zakum Development Co



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