



The International Marine Contractors Association

Representing offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies

news|etter

November 2005

## Issue 37

IMCA News	2
TCP	4
SEL	5
Regional News	6
ROV	7
Marine	8
Offshore Survey	9
Diving	10
Questions & Answers	11
Member' News	12

# Security Task Force underway

IMCA has formed a task force to work on such topics as security and health issues for personnel in transit, piracy, the effects of the International Ship & Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and security in the workplace and onboard vessels.

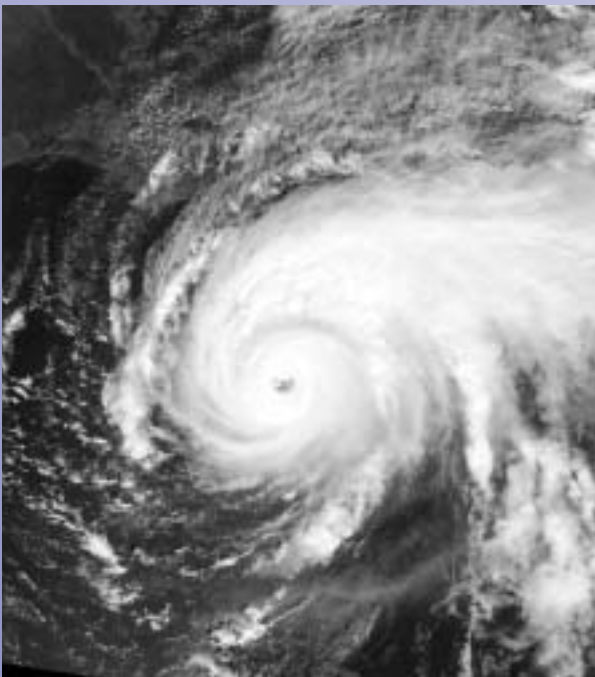
"These are real issues of growing concern to our members who operate globally, some of them in politically sensitive areas," explains IMCA's Chief Executive, Hugh Williams. "The advent of the ISPS code, greater awareness of terrorism and piracy issues along with heightened health concerns have led to our members asking us to bring all manner of maritime security issues under the banner of our newly established task force. These are issues we take extremely seriously."

Under the chairmanship of Nigel Hope of Technip, the new task force has participants from several IMCA contractor members working internationally. It will have input from, and feed into, the other IMCA committees, particularly the Safety, Environment & Legislation (SEL) Core Committee.

Terms of reference for the IMCA Security Task Force agreed at the recent inaugural meeting cover:

- interface with IMCA committees to take forward issues relating to training, competence, marine and shore operations with a security impact
- develop industry guidance and best practices on security – for example, a common security audit (an industry standard to be audited against) which would be acceptable to clients, industry and national authorities and would help prevent unnecessary repetition of similar audits
- identify the requirements for security information to be provided to personnel and develop appropriate guidance
- establish a security network among IMCA members for the exchange of intelligence information, to be interpreted, translated and disseminated through a new security zone on the IMCA website
- act as catalyst to share information with the various intelligence agencies
- take forward the International Ship & Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code and onshore security principles, focus on security and proactively promote requirements for offshore vessel and onshore security provision which specifically

*continued on page 5*



*IMCA extends its sympathy and best wishes to members, industry colleagues and their families affected by Hurricane Katrina and other recent severe weather events in the Gulf of Mexico and in Central America.*

## Seminar reminder

*With more than 180 delegates already registered, participation levels for the IMCA Annual Seminar 2005, taking place on 22-23 November at the Beach Rotana Hotel & Towers in Abu Dhabi, UAE, already look promising.*

If you are able, please register your name as soon as possible, to avoid the final rush and to help us with catering arrangements, etc. An updated programme and registration details are available at [www.imca-int.com/events](http://www.imca-int.com/events). Please remember to pass them on to colleagues, clients and friends.

The event mixes high quality presentations with workshops, an exhibition and social activities including a welcome reception on 21 November, the seminar dinner and a beach barbecue on the final evening hosted by the IMCA Middle East & India Section.

Most of all the seminar is a unique annual occasion that brings together the international marine contracting community to share experiences and learn the latest techniques. It also provides an important opportunity to decide the future direction of the Association.

## Malaria charity given cheque

Jane Bugler, IMCA Technical Director, recently presented a cheque for £2,000 to Dr Ron Behrens (see right) of the Hospital for Tropical Diseases – the beneficiary of IMCA's 2005 Midsummer Charity Ball held in June. This impressive figure donated by generous ballgoers will go towards research into malaria and its prevention for travellers – an important issue for many in our industry as offshore activities move into more at-risk areas of the globe.

Members have also been circulated with details of the health surveillance/research project planned by the School in conjunction with the University of Leiden, which will study the long term use of prophylactic drugs in combating malaria.

*If you might be able to assist with this work, please contact [Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com](mailto:Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com)*



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## Offshore Europe

At the Offshore Europe exhibition and conference held in Aberdeen in September the IMCA stand (see above with Hugh Williams on the stand) gave the Association the chance to promote itself and was much visited by members and old friends as well. A lunch reception held during the show also proved popular and gave all present a great opportunity for informal discussion and information exchange.

## Raising awareness in Norway

As we go to press, IMCA is about to hold a briefing seminar in Norway. Taking place at the Stavanger Petroleum Museum on 27 October, a range of members, potential members, client and regulatory representatives has been invited for a series of presentations on IMCA, its role and work, key guidance documents and more about the ongoing work programme, followed by a question and answer session and a drinks reception.

Raising the profile of the association is a key IMCA objective. As part of their routine meetings schedule, members of the IMCA secretariat frequently travel to centres of the offshore industry world-wide and may be available to meet with you, colleagues and/or clients to explain more about IMCA's role and activities. Please contact the secretariat if this would be of interest in your area.

Members are encouraged to promote their membership through using and referring to IMCA guidance, displaying their membership certificate and using the logo to indicate their membership on headed paper, promotional literature, websites, etc.

A range of factsheets and other material is also available via the members-only website or on request.

For further details, please contact:  
Hugh.Williams@imca-int.com

*The world has been shocked again by the heavy toll paid as a result of the natural disasters hitting hard in the coastal area of the Gulf of Mexico and in Guatemala (as well as in and around Pakistan). Our sympathies go to the victims, their relatives and to the survivors of these disasters.*

*That our industry may be a contributing factor to the increased strength and frequency of these phenomena has been confirmed publicly by the chairman of one of the major operators. This is something to be commended, especially taking into account the sensitivity of such messages towards shareholders and share prices. Protection of our environment is an important IMCA objective and through the Safety, Environment & Legislation Core*

*Committee we will continue to work together with other organisations in our industry to help protect and improve the environment where we live and work in every possible way.*

*The offshore industry is proving again that it is one of the most dynamic markets around. With the oil price ranging between US\$ 50 and US\$ 60 per barrel and world-wide economic growth resulting in an ever increasing demand for hydrocarbons, the ingredients are there for the jump in activities we are experiencing today. The consequences of the hurricanes Ivan, Katrina and Rita for the offshore industry in the Gulf of Mexico are an addition-*

*al factor resulting in an extreme demand for local resources.*

*It is a situation that is particularly challenging for those who are working under tight budgets and/or severe schedule constraints. The guidelines developed and maintained by IMCA for safety, environment, legislation, training, certification, personnel competence and also specifically for diving are meant to be followed all around the world in any market situation.*

*Unfortunately there may be pressure to 'soften' the technical and safety related pre-qualification requirements for projects. We believe there is no reason for unprofessional decisions, although they may be driven by extraordinary circumstances. Contractors, both IMCA members and non-mem-*



*bers, who have confirmed that they are working in accordance with the IMCA guidelines, should stand firm in following these guidelines under all circumstances. Rising costs or shortage of time should not be reasons for temporary relaxation, resulting in increased risk of damage to our health or our environment!*

*Hope to see you at the Annual Seminar in Abu Dhabi on 22 November!*

## From the Chairman

### IMCA Overall Management Committee

*President & Chairman:* Frits Janmaat, Allseas Group

*Vice-President:* Knut Boe, Technip

*Chairman SEL:* Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Cont.

*Chairman TCPC:* John Greensmyth, Technip

*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, Americas Deepwater Section:*

*Roy Sijthoff, Cal Dive International*

*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 SEL:* Wallace Robertson,

*Cal Dive International Ltd*

*Vice-Chairman TCPC:* Mark Elder, Subsea 7

*Vice-Chairman Diving:* Derek Beddows, Technip

*Vice-Chairman Marine:* Pete Somner, Subsea 7

*Vice-Chairman Offshore Survey:* Will Primavesi, Saipem

*Vice-Chairman ROV:* Andrew Beveridge, Rovtech

*IMCA Chief Executive:* Hugh Williams

*IMCA Technical Director:* Jane Bugler



## Promoting offshore careers

Recruitment and career development have always been a keen interest for the TCPC core committee, partly because IMCA has always attracted a high level of enquiries from those interested in working offshore.

In recent times, an increasing proportion of these have come via the internet and the IMCA website has included a range of careers information since 1999.

The current high world-wide workload is also encouraging employers to stimulate more job applications from a wide variety of personnel.

The TCPC core committee is now embarking on a full review of this material, aiming to update the information so that it will attract individuals with the right skills and interests into various facets of the industry. The information will also be made more international in its focus.

*If you have particular suggestions that you would like to contribute to this work, please contact Nick.Hough@imca-int.com*

## Questionnaire exercise

IMCA has issued its 2005 competence review questionnaire to contracting companies and personnel agencies for their completion as soon as possible.

The questionnaire seeks input from members about their experience of implementing competence assurance and assessment schemes in line with the IMCA framework of guidance on these matters.

Members in the Offshore Survey and Remote Systems & ROV divisions are particularly asked for their input on agency issues and for feedback on the information pack issued earlier this year for experienced free-lance personnel.

All members are encouraged to submit a completed questionnaire to help provide a better insight into members' successes, into current issues and into the needs of members for future IMCA seminars or other work.

## Slips, trips & finger nips

A new safety DVD is now available from IMCA that focuses on 'slips, trips and finger nips'. This material seeks to highlight the need for safety awareness about how simple measures can prevent a range of incidents sufficient to cause permanent harm.

While the offshore industry is a leader in developing safe systems of work, demonstrated by the ongoing dramatic improvement in safety statistics over many years, these types of incidents remain among the most common.

The DVD features subtitles in nine languages: Arabic, Filipino, French, Indonesian, Italian, Malay, Portuguese, Spanish and – for the first time – Russian, making it an ideal tool for use with personnel on vessels and at work sites around the globe.

Copies of the DVD are available from IMCA priced at £10 to members (£50 to non-members) – please see [www.imca-int.com/](http://www.imca-int.com/) publications for more information.

### TCPC Core Committee

*Chairman:* John Greensmyth, Technip  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mark Elder, Subsea 7

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

*Americas Deepwater Section:* Lou Craneck, Inst. of ROVs

*Asia-Pacific Section:* Vacancy

*Middle East & India Section:* Mohamed Omar,  
International Naval Works

*IMCA Schemes Administrator:* Vicki Graham

### TCPC Information Notes *published since Issue 36*

TCPC 14/05 Nautical Institute Certification of Dynamic Positioning Operators: Update of Documentation

TCPC 15/05 ISM Code Compliance:

New US Coast Guard Guidance for Inspectors

TCPC 16/05 UK Sector Offshore Helicopter Operations:  
New 'Guidance on Standards' CAP 437

TCPC 17/05 Nautical Institute Certification of DP Operators: Cadetships & Previous Experience

TCPC 18/05 Emergency Towing Procedures



## TRAINING & ASSESSMENT ONBOARD MARINE VESSELS & OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS

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- ▶ Safe Rigging & Slings Training
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- ▶ PPE Training
- ▶ Competent Authorized Person (Lifting Appliances)
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[www.smtc.com.my](http://www.smtc.com.my)

## Security Task Force

*continued from page 1*

meet the needs of the IMCA membership

- develop and enhance security initiatives to the benefit of the industry
- develop and identify suitable security training acceptable to IMCA members, meeting industry and authority requirements
- maintain the confidentiality of security information issued amongst IMCA members
- develop a knowledge pool and intelligence surveillance to minimise the impact posed by piracy and best practices to combat this threat.

The new security zone has been set up on the website at [www.imca-int.com/security](http://www.imca-int.com/security) with enhanced features on the members-only version. This will be expanded shortly as the task force's work develops. Using the discussion forums, it is intended that members will be able to share information on security issues. Additional links to security related resources will also be included, along with other output from the security task force. Members' contributions on this topic are very much welcomed.

*For more information on the work of the security task force, please contact Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com*

## Safety Seminar 2006

*The Safety, Environment & Legislation Core Committee is organising its fourth major safety seminar, to take place on 9-10 February 2006 at the Murrayfield rugby union stadium in Edinburgh, UK.*

The event will follow the same format as those held previously in Manchester, Newcastle and Amsterdam, with a combination of presentation and discussion sessions, the sharing of lessons learned from incidents and examples of members' own successful safety initiatives.

Development of the programme is already well underway, but additional suggestions for speakers, presentations or topics of interest to members on any offshore safety-related topic would be welcome.

*If you have suggestions for the programme, please contact: Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com*

## Cable laid slings and grommets

New guidance on the use of cable laid slings and grommets (IMCA M 179) has now been published. This document is intended to replace guidance previously published by the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) in the form of guidance note PM20 (*Plant & Machinery Series 20*).

HSE has advised that, although it no longer issues this type of guidance, it would not be averse to operational practices which followed the guidelines formerly available in PM20. With the approval of HSE, IMCA has therefore reproduced an updated version of PM20 to provide guidance on good practice in the use of cable-laid slings and grommets.

The HSE original has been fully reviewed by an IMCA workgroup, including input from manufacturers, and updated as required to reflect current industry best practice. The draft was also sent to classification societies.

*The guidance is available for downloading from the members-only website, with additional printed copies available to members priced at £15 (non-member price £30).*

## SEL Information Notes *published since Issue 36*

- SEL 19/05 Safety in Lifeboat Drills: Draft UK HSE Document
- SEL 20/05 Ship Security: False Emails Relating to Security Plans
- SEL 21/05 IMO Update: Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 80)
- SEL 22/05 IMO Update: Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV 51)
- SEL 23/05 IMO Update: Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 53)
- SEL 24/05 Archaeological Sites in Northern European Waters
- SEL 25/05 Changes to IMO OSV Guidelines
- SEL 26/05 UK Helicopter Operations: Change of Standards for Passenger Weights
- SEL 27/05 Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Cranes: Draft British Standard
- SEL 28/05 ISM Code Compliance: New US Coast Guard Guidance for Inspectors
- SEL 29/05 UK Sector Offshore Helicopter Operations:  
New 'Guidance on Standards' CAP 437 Published
- SEL 30/05 UK HSE Revitalising Health & Safety Initiative: KP2 – Drilling and Deck Operation-Related Activities
- SEL 31/05 Radioactive Waste Issues: Scottish EPA Review
- SEL 32/05 Lifting Operations Incident Forms
- SEL 33/05 Emergency Towing Procedures

## SEL Core Committee

*Chairman:* Chris van Beek,  
Heerema Marine Contractors  
*Vice-Chairman:* Wallace Robertson,  
Cal Dive International

Mat Schreurs, Heerema Marine  
Contractors  
Philip Bradbury, Integrated Subsea  
Services  
Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott  
Eastern Hemisphere  
Sal Ruffino, Saipem  
Paul Blewett, Stolt Offshore  
Allan Hannah, Technip  
Foeke Tulner, Workships Contractors

*Americas Deepwater Section:*  
Lynn Lehmann, Saipem

*Asia-Pacific Section:* Leslie Wong Wui,  
Stolt Offshore/PT Komaritim

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

## Europe & Africa Americas Deepwater

Over 25 delegates attended the IMCA Europe & Africa half-day seminar held on 18 October at the Marcliffe at Pitfodels in Aberdeen.

This was the second meeting of the section held during 2005 and the fourth since its inauguration in 2003. Delegates were drawn from Europe & Africa Section members in the UK and the Netherlands, as well as a number of guests.

The seminar focused on several topical issues, including an introduction to the legislative process within the EU and the EU Working Time Directive.

There was a very interesting presentation about the UK government's proposed Corporate Manslaughter Bill which drew the full attention of the gathered audience.

Also covered were highlights from the Europe & Africa Section's workgroups, including presentations on renewable energy issues and about the new IMCA Contracting Principles.

The next meeting of the Americas Deepwater Section takes place on 3 November in Houston, rescheduled from late September due to Hurricane Rita.

The Americas contracts workgroup will hold its first meeting on the same day. This group has been established to review and promote discussion about the IMCA Contracting Principles and to consider contracting issues in the region.

The Americas Deepwater Section was established in 2002 and its sub-groups quickly set about getting to work, reviewing existing IMCA documents and providing valuable input to further improve the international applicability of the association's guidance. That work is now largely complete but if you think things will now quieten down ... think again!

- The SEL and TCPC sub-groups have held joint meetings to discuss issues such as the Safe Gulf initiative for personnel working offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. Useful dialogue took place at a recent sub-group meeting, where a presentation was given on this topic and subsequently a set of questions was submitted to provide clarification on a number of current issues.

The sub-group has been strengthening links with the wider industry, inviting presentations from organisations such as IADC (the International Association of Drilling Contractors) to learn more about them and synergies with the sub-group's (and, more widely, IMCA's) work and issues

- The diving sub-group has continued to meet regularly and despite the high workload in the Gulf of Mexico, made even more extreme by the spate of recent hurricanes, its members have worked hard to take forward issues relating to certification, equipment and operational practices, with the Americas annex to the IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving now about to be published. The sub-group also continues to provide valuable input to other global work items

through its representation on the Diving Division Management Committee and a number of workgroups

- While sub-group meetings have not been held recently in the Marine Division, the



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Safety management	IMCA Assistant Life Support Technician
Technical authorship	IMCA exam refresher preparation
Procedure writing	Client diving familiarisation course
Dive system build	
Project risk analysis	
Project HAZIDS	
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## Regional Section Officers

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*Vice-Chairman:* Charlie Rogerson, Consolidated Contractors Co.

### Asia-Pacific Section

*Chairman:* Andy Bolton, Technip Oceania

*Vice-Chairman:* John van Kuyk, Anglo-Eastern Group

### Europe & Africa Section Steering Committee

*Chairman:* Robin Davies, Subsea 7

*Vice-Chairman:* Ian Stevenson, Technip

### Americas Deepwater Section

*Chairman:* Roy Sijthoff, Cal Dive International

*Vice-Chairman:* Craig Broussard, Subsea 7



development of guidance on DP trials for drilling rigs (which is being expanded to include review and update of a number of related existing IMCA guidance) is being taken forward while members in the Remote Systems & ROV Division have been working on guidance for the testing of deepwater umbilicals.

Members are encouraged to involve themselves in section and sub-group meetings, where they can raise issues they feel the association could help with and provide input and feedback into IMCA's work and guidance at both the regional and global levels.

*Please contact the secretariat if you are not already receiving details on forthcoming meetings.*

## Middle East & India

The section held its latest meeting on 19 September in Jebel Ali, UAE. A number of issues across the range of IMCA's work were discussed, with some useful points highlighted for taking forward by the committees and secretariat and actions for members in advance of the next meeting.

The section has also been greatly involved in plans for this year's IMCA Annual Seminar, which takes place on 22-23 November in Abu Dhabi (see page 2).

The Section is hosting a beach barbecue on the final evening of the seminar which promises to be a enjoyable opportunity to continue informal discussion about issues raised earlier in the day while socialising with friends and colleagues.

The next section meeting will take place on the afternoon of 21 November – immediately ahead of the seminar – where members will have the chance to meet and question a number of representatives from IMCA's world-wide committees.

## Asia-Pacific

Andy Bolton, Marine Operations Vice President of Technip Oceania has been re-elected as chairman of the IMCA Asia-Pacific Section, a role he has held since 2001.

During this period the section has seen significant growth with membership almost trebling to stand at 69 companies. Well attended quarterly meetings have offered popular and effective briefing sessions for clients and potential members. The section has also undertaken work on a number of draft guidance documents and other local issues.

The section held its latest meeting on 15 September 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. Over thirty individuals attended the morning session, where members were updated on the latest activities and discussed a range of current work items and other issues. In the afternoon, fourteen guests (clients and potential members) joined the session which comprised a number of presentations, including an introduction to dynamic positioning, and a productive question and answer session.

One major issue in the region at the moment is the application of the new safety case regime by the Australian National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority (NOPSAs). Following the useful presentation and discussion at the section's June 2005 meeting, IMCA has continued its dialogue and has written to the authority seeking clarification on a number of issues. It is hoped that this will prompt publication of guidance on the NOPSAs website. In the meantime, IMCA will remain active in representing members and highlighting further issues with the authority and its sponsoring government department.

### Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee

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

Michel Hebert, Bluestream  
Nigel Wilmott, Cal Dive/  
Canyon Offshore  
John Rossier, Covus  
Dave McKay, Fugro Survey  
John Davies, Global Marine Systems  
Espen Ingebretsen, Oceaneering  
International  
Keith Robathan, Saipem  
Colin Mackay, Stolt Offshore  
Neil Milne, Subsea 7  
Dave Walker, Technip

*Americas Deepwater Section:* Vacancy  
*Asia-Pacific Section:* Neil Forbes,  
Technip Oceania  
*Middle East & India Section:*  
Chris Blake, Fugro Survey Middle East

### 2006 ROV seminar

IMCA's Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee is organising a half-day seminar entitled 'ROVs: Leading the way into the future' on 22 March 2006 alongside the Oceanology International exhibition in London.

The free event will present the latest developments surrounding remote technology and the wide range of tasks it can now perform. Even in the past few years the capabilities of such systems have expanded considerably and the seminar will provide an opportunity to keep the industry updated on this. It is also hoped to attract others from the Oceanology audience and provide them with information on IMCA and its work.

*If you would like to be involved in the seminar, please contact  
Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com*

### Remote Systems & ROV Information Notes

*published since Issue 36*

R 04/05 Remote Systems & ROV  
Division Management Committee

## Common Marine Inspection Document

September saw the publication of issue 5 of the Common Marine Inspection Document (*IMCA M 149*). Since its original publication in January 1999, the CMID has successfully fulfilled its aim to cut the number of audits carried out on individual vessels through the adoption of a common auditing standard for the offshore industry. While originally developed with the UK Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA) and the Chamber of Shipping, the CMID has seen broad take-up on a world-wide basis. This latest update incorporates feedback from around the globe and truly internationalises the document. IMCA continues to promote the document to relevant organisations and would welcome contact details for individuals within organisations which IMCA could follow up.

The CMID should be seen as a 'living' document, which can be kept up to date onboard a vessel. The guidance also identifies those sections where crews can prepare by assembling relevant certificates and documentation prior to the arrival of an inspector.

A CD of the document in PDF and Word formats together with the updated guidance on its use (*IMCA M 167*) is also now available.

## Latest on OSV guidance

The proposed international cross industry guidelines for the safe operation of dynamically positioned offshore supply vessels are nearing completion.

The workgroup now comprises some 41 companies and organisations from around the world and each draft of the guidance has received a smaller amount of comment and considerable praise, reflecting growing satisfaction with its development.

One interesting point arose in relation to the way in which some DP Class 1 vessels might have performance advantages in terms of power and/or manoeuvrability over a Class 2 DP supply vessel. This has been catered for by the use of the risk assessment that developed with this document, such that each operation can be assessed individually against a basic matrix whilst still maintaining the safety parameters for working with DP near to an installation or other collision risk.

The next draft, which will incorporate some changes resulting from those comments, is expected to be the last version to be circulated prior to publication.

The other principal DP guidance documents, *IMCA M 103 – Guidelines for the Design and Operation of Dynamically Positioned Vessels* and *IMCA M 117 – The Training and Experience of Key DP Personnel* are in the course of revision and the aim is to have the full suite available in the New Year, when a submission to the International Maritime Organization will be made, particularly in relation to *M 117*, which is referenced in IMO documentation.

## Cranes and winches

The Marine Division has formed a new 'Crane & Winch Operations' workgroup to take forward a number of priority items on its current programme. Two meetings have now taken place where seven IMCA projects have been discussed, together with input into other industry initiatives where IMCA is involved including:

- Training/competence guidance
- General crane operations guidance
- Revision of the crane specification document
- Operational communications relating to lifting operations
- Reactivation of the lifting incidents database
- Guidance on winch operations/purchase, as an addition to the

### Marine Information Notes *published since Issue 36*

- M 18/05 Safety in Lifeboat Drills: Draft UK HSE Document
- M 19/05 IMO Update: Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 80)
- M 20/05 IMO Update: Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV 51)
- M 21/05 IMO Update: Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 53)
- M 22/05 Archaeological Sites in Northern European Waters
- M 23/05 Changes to IMO OSV Guidelines
- M 24/05 UK Helicopter Operations: Change of Standards for Passenger Weights
- M 25/05 Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Cranes: Draft British Standard
- M 26/05 Nautical Institute Certification of Dynamic Positioning Operators: Update of Documentation
- M 27/05 ISM Code Compliance: New US Coast Guard Guidance for Inspectors
- M 28/05 UK Sector Offshore Helicopter Operations: New 'Guidance on Standards' CAP 437 Published
- M 29/05 UK HSE Revitalising Health & Safety Initiative: KP2 – Drilling and Deck Operation Related Activities
- M 30/05 Nautical Institute Certification of Dynamic Positioning Operators: Cadetships and Previous Experience
- M 31/05 Lifting Operations Incident Forms
- M 32/05 Emergency Towing Procedures

### Marine Division Management Committee

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

Michiel Goedkoop, Heerema Marine Contractors  
David Blencowe, Maersk Supply Service  
Ian Young, Prosafe Offshore  
Arnfinn Vika, Stolt Offshore  
Steve Marshall, Sealion Shipping  
Steve Woodward, Technip  
Kjell Egil Helgøy, Teekay Norway  
Pete Fougere, Transocean

*Americas Deepwater Section:* Vacancy  
*Asia-Pacific Section:* Andy Bolton, Technip Oceania  
*Middle East & India Section:* Lachlan McKelvie, Seabulk Offshore



crane specification document  
• Crane reliability study

Several actions identified are now being taken forward, including feedback to crane manufacturers on certain issues.

In particular, the lifting incident reporting form has been updated and reissued in a new format that is easier to complete and has fewer pages. It is hoped that the new form can be completed in just a few minutes onboard, with subsequent questions relating to onshore follow-up taking a similar amount of time. Copies of the form are available on request from IMCA and for downloading from the members-only website. Submissions of companies' own format incident reports would also be welcome. All identifiable data will be kept confidential, as IMCA seeks to build a useful database from which, it is hoped, future analysis will be able to identify trends, particular issues to be addressed and prompt relevant work items for the committees.

## Digital video guide

The advent of digital video brings with it a new era for the offshore oil and gas industry. Digital methods of data acquisition have now permeated most offshore survey techniques, with satellite transmissions, acoustic positioning signals and most forms of sonar being generated and recorded in digital form. One of the last operations still being performed with analogue technology is the recording of video signals from subsea inspection and intervention tasks. The adoption of digital encoding and recording of video data has been gathering pace in recent years and many annual inspection campaigns now include digital video deliverables. This adoption has been dictated either by client specification or by sub-contractors seeking more efficient processing and delivery techniques than can be realised with analogue video.

IMCA's Offshore Survey and Remote Systems & ROV divisions established a workgroup which has developed "Digital Video: A Review of Current and Future Technologies" (*IMCA S 008/IMCA R 012*) for the benefit of offshore contractors and their clients. It has been written to

provide an understanding of digital video technology, the potential benefits available over existing analogue technology, practical applications and issues relating to the development of standards within the survey industry. Its aim is to encourage the widespread use of digital video and to provide information on how the data is captured, synchronised with traditional survey information and compiled into digital reports for delivery to the end client.

There is discussion of the many factors affecting the quality of recorded digital video data, including the quality of the hardware from the camera through to the recorder; the method of data transmission, and the environment in which the camera is used. In addition, the document addresses the alternative approaches or philosophies taken by different clients to the acquisition and use of digital video including selection of media storage options and integration with GIS systems to provide a basis for further discussion on agreement of standards for the implementation of digital video within the offshore pipeline/structural inspection industry.

This document is not intended to be a specification or an instruction to follow. Equally, it must be recognised that, like all technology, digital video systems will continue to develop and therefore their effective operation should not be constrained by anything written or inferred in this document. It is intended that this document will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

*The document is now available for downloading from the IMCA members-only website, with additional printed copies available priced at £15 (members) or £30 (non-members).*

## Shared use of DGPS

The IMCA guidelines for the shared use of DGPS for DP and survey operations have now been published as *IMCA S 009*. The guidelines, produced following discussion and consultation including review by the Marine Division, set out basic definitions before going on to consider the differing requirements of both surveyors and DP operators. They highlight the potential problems relating to control and performance of the system and the need for planning and co-operation to avoid conflict and ensure safety. They conclude with a set of recommendations for those considering sharing systems.

*Printed copies are available from IMCA, with the guidance also available for downloading from the members-only website.*

## Shared use of other vessel sensors

The Offshore Survey Division has now embarked on the development of guidance on the sharing of other vessel sensors. Keep up to date with their development through minutes of the committee meetings on the members-only website and future issues of the newsletter.

### Offshore Survey Division Management Committee

*Chairman:* Walter Steedman, Subsea 7

*Vice-Chairman:* Will Primavesi, Saipem

Stuart Reid, Andrews Survey

Ian McKenzie, Fugro Survey

Bob Downing, Maritech

Brian Beard, Noordhoek Offshore

Keith McGregor, DeepOcean

Ray Morgan, Stolt Offshore

*Americas Deepwater Section:*

Stephen Browne, Subsea 7

*Asia-Pacific Section:* Dave Scott,

Fugro Survey

*Middle East & India Section:* Phil

Hillier, Fugro Survey

(Middle East)

## New DESIGN documents coming soon

Work is well advanced on two new volumes to the diving equipment systems inspection guidance note (DESIGN). The existing documents, covering air diving (IMCA D 023) and saturation diving (D 024), are used throughout the industry and form a key part of company systems relating to plant and machinery.

DESIGN for surface supplied mixed gas diving operations will cover equipment used for operations undertaken in accordance with the recently updated guidance IMCA D 030 Rev. 1 – Surface supplied mixed gas diving operations.

DESIGN for mobile/portable surface supplied diving systems will address the specific requirements relating to this 'SCUBA-replacement' diving technique.

Fully drafted, both documents are now being reviewed and it is hoped to publish later this year.

## Chinese diver training

IMCA Technical Director Jane Bugler and Diving Division Management Committee member Darren Brunton recently visited Beijing, where they met with a team of representatives from the Ministry of Communications – the Chinese government body with responsibility for diver training issues (pictured above). A detailed presentation was given on the role and activities of IMCA, including key guidance documents, particularly in relation to the offshore diving sector. The officials learned about the IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving, DESIGN and associated guidance documents, plus current arrangements for recognition of diver training and certification.

The meeting also provided insight for IMCA into China's own diver certification system and other aspects of the country's offshore industry. IMCA is committed to finding ways forward in relation to diver certification and is keen to build relationships with national certification bodies. A number of Chinese organisations have recently expressed interest in membership and this dialogue was both important and useful in raising

awareness and understanding on both sides.



## FMEAs for diving systems

Earlier in 2005, the Marine Division published its FMEA Management Guide (*IMCA M 178*). Much of the guidance and many of the lessons to be learned from it are applicable to other sectors and there has been interest in the document from across the marine contracting sector. With this in mind, the Diving Division has commissioned the development of diving-specific guidance, building on the marine document and addressing those aspects to be considered by diving contractors.

### 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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[info@theunderwatercentre.co.uk](mailto:info@theunderwatercentre.co.uk)

  
**THE UNDERWATER CENTRE**  
 Fort William & Tasmania

### Diving Division Management Committee

*Chairman:* Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7  
*Vice-Chairman:* Derek Beddows, Technip

Dan Schultz, Cal Dive International  
 Steve Nairn, Cal Dive International Ltd  
 John Rossier, Covus  
 Jerry Starling, Integrated Subsea Services  
 Darren Brunton, KB Associates  
 Sal Ruffino, Saipem  
 Joar Gangenes, Stolt Offshore

*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 Eastern Hemisphere

### Diving Information Notes *published since Issue 36*

D 10/05 Implementation of DMAC 28 Rev. 1

D 11/05 Archaeological Sites in Northern European Waters

*Please tell us a little about Subsea 7 and your role in the company*

Subsea 7 is one of the world's leading multi-disciplinary subsea engineering, construction and services companies with a workforce in excess of 3300 people world-wide. Its global offshore operations are supported by bases in Asia Pacific, Brazil, Gulf of Mexico, Norway, UK and West Africa. Subsea 7 has more than 100 remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), five pipeline construction yards and a fleet of 16 modern, high specification ships with dynamic positioning capable of deepwater reeled and flexible pipelay, deepwater subsea construction, saturation diving and ROV and survey operations.

My current position in Subsea 7 is Global Business Development Manager of the Integrated Remote Technologies (IRT) division which provides a range of ROV, remote intervention, survey and positioning services primarily to the oil and gas business. IRT supports our own work but also has a large external customer base.

*How did you get to where you are in your career today?*

I graduated with a survey degree in the early 80s and joined Brown & Root Construction as an offshore surveyor. Since then I have had 22 years' continuous service, although the company has changed names a few times. I worked offshore for a few years before moving into project management, then into various commercial roles before becoming Global Survey Manager four years ago. My last move was just a year ago when I moved to Business Development.

*What do you see as the key areas affecting the industry at the moment?*

For the Offshore Survey Division, I believe that the key area affecting the industry at the moment is the availability of competent personnel. With particularly high activity in the offshore market, a generally aging workforce and fewer new personnel entering the industry, due to lifestyle choices and equally attractive career opportunities in other industries, it is critical to



ensure that the personnel available are competent. This applies to all disciplines covered by the division including survey engineers, geophysicists, inspection engineers and data processors.

*How can these issues be taken forward?*

To retain the best personnel, it is important to provide a structured training/personnel development path. Ambitious people need a clearly defined career path to aspire to and a documented system to demonstrate their competence and experience. Old fashioned CVs will not be acceptable for much longer. New management systems demand documentary proof of competence through field experience, attendance at training courses and both classroom and field assessments. At more senior levels, the necessary skills include management, coaching and assessment of more junior staff. Hopefully, all this will make a career in offshore survey a challenging but satisfying one.

*How do you think IMCA makes a difference?*

The availability of competent personnel is a cross-industry problem which is best tackled as a group rather than as individual companies. Publishing guidelines on competence for different disciplines and grades helps contractors and personnel. Although individual contractors may use different technology, processes and methods, there are many common general principles which are applicable and IMCA provides a framework

Walter Steedman is IRT Global Business Development Manager with Subsea 7.

He also serves as Chairman of the Offshore Survey Division Management Committee and a member of the Overall Management Committee – roles which he has filled since the fully elected committee for the division was formed in 2003.

In this article, Walter discusses his 'day job' and provides a personal insight into the work his committee is currently undertaking on behalf of members.

where all personnel in the industry can demonstrate their competence. IMCA has also been involved in raising the awareness of careers in the industry which will hopefully attract new entrants.

*How do you see the future?*

I believe that IMCA is promoting best practice which is now widely accepted. By working together as a group, I truly believe that we can raise standards in health, safety and environmental issues as well as providing an improved quality service to clients. The recently published guidelines on the shared use of DGPS for DP and survey purposes and the excellent work done by IMCA on the new digital video guide are just two examples of the good work performed by the group.



## New Members

IMCA welcomes:

- Amberjack Oil & Gas Recruitment Services BV
- CUEL Ltd
- DNT Offshore srl
- Electrical Power Engineering Ltd
- Gurkha International Manpower Services Ltd
- Khozzaanun Marine Engineering Sdn Bhd
- Maersk Oil Qatar AS
- Mediterranean Survey & Services (MSS) spa
- Mermaid Marine Australia Ltd
- Nexans Norway AS, Energy Division
- Offshore Marine Services Pty Ltd
- Professional Diving Centre
- Sonardyne International
- Swire Pacific Offshore Services Pte Ltd
- Velosi Certification Bureau Ltd



## 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 <zintl@gn.apc.org>

## Name Changes

- Oceanteam IRM is now part of *DeepOcean*

### DNT Offshore srl

DNT Offshore is an independent Italian offshore contractor specialising in the provision of electric ROV services in shallow and deep water ranges. The company, based in Ravenna, boasts a complement of certifications, including ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:1996 and OHSAS 18001:1999, as well as Lloyd's, RINA and CRS certification for in-water surveys of ships and mobile structures.

The company employs the latest high quality electric ROVs and ancillary equipment, with a fleet comprising: lightweight, highly mobile observer class; free swimming; and deepwater light work electric ROVs.

The company's three primary fields of operation are: instrumental and visual ROV surveys, diver and hydraulic WROV assistance during construction and decommissioning operations; and ROV drilling assistance and subsea maintenance operations

Tel: +39 0544 658 665  
Web: [www.dntoffshore.com](http://www.dntoffshore.com)

## International Contractors

**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 Subsea Solutions  
Bluewater Energy Services  
Boskalis Offshore  
British Antarctic Survey  
BUE Marine  
C&C Technologies  
Cal Dive International Ltd  
Canyon Offshore  
Cape Diving & Salvage  
Coastal Diving Services  
CODERO  
Combined Diving Inspection Svcs  
Consolidated Contractors Co.  
Core Technical Services  
Covus Corporation  
CTC Marine Projects  
CUEL  
Dalgidj  
Deep Ocean  
Diamond Offshore Drilling  
DNT Offshore  
DOF Management  
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 North Sea  
Gulmar Offshore Middle East

## Interdive™ Services Ltd

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- ◆ IMCA Diver Medic
- ◆ IMCA Trainee Air & Bell Diving Supervisor
- ◆ IMCA Diver Assessment
- ◆ IMCA ALST
- ◆ DSV Audits
- ◆ Personnel & Equipment
- ◆ Risk Assessments
- ◆ In-House Training

- ◆ HSE Approved Courses
- ◆ HSE First Aid at Work & Appointed Person
- ◆ HSE Offshore Medic
- ◆ Advanced Medical Skills
- ◆ MCA Medical Courses
- ◆ RYA First Aid
- ◆ NPD Leadership
- ◆ Overseas Training

Tel: +44 (0)1752-558060 Fax: +44 (0)1752-569090 Mob: +44 (0)7748-694339 E-mail: [diving@interdive.co.uk](mailto:diving@interdive.co.uk)  
Interdive Services Ltd, Stoke Damrell Business Centre,  
3 & 3A Church Street, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 4DT, Great Britain

Hallin Marine  
Halul Offshore Services Co.  
HEISCO  
Horizon Survey Co.  
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.  
Khozzaanun Marine Engineering  
Lamnalco  
PT Lancar Rejeki Berkati Jaya  
LD Travocean  
Louisiana Overseas  
Maersk Supply Service  
Maridive Offshore Projects  
Maridive & Oil Services  
Master Tech Diving Services  
MENAS  
Mermaid Marine Australia  
Mermaid Offshore Services  
Mohn Drilling  
MSS (Mediterranean  
Survey & Services)  
MTQ Subsea Technology  
Mutawa Marine Works  
Nexans Norway AS, Energy Div'  
Noordhoek Offshore  
Northern Marine Management  
Oceaneering International, Inc.  
Oceaneering International  
Oceaneering Int/PT Calmarine  
Ocean Works Asia  
Offshore Works  
Omur Salvage  
OSM Ship Management  
Pacific Richfield Marine  
PT Patra Dinamika  
Petroleum Marine Services  
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)  
Sealion Shipping  
SEAMEC  
Seaway Heavy Lifting Engineering  
Secunda Marine Services  
Smedvig Offshore  
SMIT  
SMIT Terminals  
SMIT Terminals Middle East  
Stolt Offshore Asia Pacific/  
PT Komaritim  
Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific

Subsea Petroleum Services  
Subtec Middle East  
Superintendent of Diving  
SvitzerWijsmuller  
Swire Pacific Offshore Services  
Technip Oceania  
Technip Offshore Contractors Inc.  
Teekay Norway  
Tideway Marine & Offshore  
Timsah Shipbuilding Co.  
TL Geohydrographics  
Total Marine Technology  
Transocean  
Underwater Services Company  
URS  
Van Oord  
Vroon Offshore Services  
Workshops Contractors  
Zakher Marine Intl

## Suppliers

ABB  
Advanced Marine  
Air Products Singapore  
Alstom Power Conversion  
Anglo-Eastern Group  
Anglo-Eastern Group (Asia-Pacific)  
Ashtead Technology (SEA)  
Auto Dynamic Positioning Services  
Bachrach & Wood  
Brunvoll  
Chaguaramas Terminals  
C-MAR Services (UK)  
Divex  
Electrical Power Engineering  
Falconer Bryan  
Frontier Offshore  
Global Maritime  
Houlder Insurance Services  
Hydra Marine  
JP Kenny Caledonia  
KB Associates  
Kenz Cranes  
Kirby Morgan Dive Systems  
Kongsberg Maritime  
Lexmar Engineering  
Magellan Marine Intl  
Measurement Devices  
MSS International  
Nautronix plc  
Nautronix Inc  
Navigare International  
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  
Rolv Berg Drive

Schilling Robotics  
Seaye Marine  
Sealion Shipping  
Sea & Land Technologies  
Seatools  
Sebastian  
Sonardyne International  
Subsea Solutions (AkerKværner)  
Subsea Vision  
SureSpek ISS  
Unidive Offshore  
Unique System  
Velosi Certification Bureau  
Wavespec

## Training Establishments & Personnel Agencies

Aberdeen Skills & Ent. Training  
Ålesund University College  
Amberjack Oil & Gas  
Recruitment Services  
Bergen University College – Diver Education  
Centre for Marine Simulation  
Dave Oliver Hydrographic Services  
Delphinus Svcs – ROV Training  
De Moura Shipping  
Divers Institute of Technology  
Diving Diseases Research Centre  
DOOR International  
Dynamic Positioning Centre  
Ecole Nat de la Marine  
Marchande  
Energy & Mining Training Solutions  
EUTEC Subsea  
ex + med UK  
Force Technology  
Gurkha Intl Manpower Services  
Holland College – Georgetown Ctr  
Holland College – Marine Trn Ctr  
Hydrosub  
INPP  
Institute of ROV  
Interdive Services  
Lowestoft College  
Maritech Group  
Maritime Inst Willem Barentsz  
Maritime Training & Competence Solutions  
MOG Industry Training  
National Hyperbaric Centre  
National Polytechnic College of Engineering and Oceaneering  
Netherlands Diving Centre  
NUTEC Rotterdam  
Ocean Corporation  
Oceanscan  
Offshore Marine Services  
Petroliis  
Petrovietnam Manpower Training College  
Power & Generation Services  
PR Offshore Services  
SEATAG Offshore  
Satakunta Polytechnic

Ship Manoeuvring Simulator Centre  
Southampton Oceanography Centre  
Sribima Maritime Training Centre  
Stord/Haugesund Univ. College  
SubNet Services  
SubServPro  
Technocean  
UK Project Support  
Underwater Centre Fort William  
Underwater Centre Fremantle  
Underwater Centre Tasmania  
WA Maritime Training Centre – Fremantle

## Corresponding Members

ADMA-OPCO  
Agiu KCO  
AISL  
Azerbaijan International Op. Co.  
Bahrain Petroleum Co.  
BG Group  
BHP Billiton  
BP Exploration Operating Co  
BP America Production Co  
BP West Java  
Cairn Energy India  
ConocoPhillips China  
ConocoPhillips Indonesia  
ConocoPhillips UK  
Det Norske Veritas  
Esso Australia  
GDF Production Nederland  
Health & Safety Executive  
Maersk Oil Qatar  
Mobil North Sea  
Nederlandse Aardolie Maatschappij  
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  
Wintershall Noordzee  
Woodside Energy  
Zakum Development Co

Membership status can be checked online at any time

The international trade association  
for offshore, marine and underwater  
engineering companies



## Interests

IMCA represents the collective interests of the members in offshore and related activities, including, for example:

- Marine operations
- Diving
- Remote controlled systems including ROVs
- Offshore survey/positioning systems.

## Interfaces

IMCA promotes close co-operation by interfacing with:

- Oil & gas and other offshore operators
- Governments and other regulatory bodies
- Other trade associations.

## Objectives

The main objectives will be to promote members' common interests, including to:

- Strive for the highest possible standards with a balance of risk and cost in; health and safety; technology, quality and efficiency; environmental awareness and protection
- Achieve and sustain self-regulation in the industry
- Ease the free movement of equipment and personnel globally
- Achieve equitable contracting regimes
- Provide the framework for training, certification, competence and recruitment to support and sustain the industry globally
- Resolve industry issues
- Promote co-operation across the industry

## Means to Deliver Objectives

IMCA has a number of committees and work areas. Each of these also has its own objectives, set at the beginning of each year and listed on the website. To deliver the Association's and the committees' objectives, IMCA will:

- Ensure endorsement of and continually improve IMCA guidelines
- Ensure endorsement of and continually develop IMCA competence schemes
- Publish global codes of practice, guidance notes, industry briefings, discussion papers and other media
- Promote the use of common and practical industry good practice
- Promote standard contracts to foster the ideals set by the industry and improve relations, increase efficiency and reduce overall cost
- Monitor legislation affecting the industry
- Provide a forum for discussion
- Hold meetings, workshops and seminars at various levels and in various locations
- Ensure the needs of members are adequately and properly addressed
- Encourage research and development of new technology
- Provide a single voice to speak on behalf of members where there is a common interest.

