

## Making a splash at OTC

IMCA exhibits for the first time as an official supporting organization of the Offshore Technology Conference - and there couldn't have been a better year to join in!

Over 67,000 people visited the Offshore Technology Conference on 30 April-3 May at the Reliant Park facilities in Houston, USA - home of the Reliant Stadium and the famous Houston Astrodome. For the first time, there were stands in the Reliant Stadium itself, which was an impressive sight. IMCA, as an official supporting organization, had a stand on the second floor of the nearby Reliant Center - the main show and conference venue. During the course of the four-day event, secretariat staff welcomed members, friends and other visitors from as far afield as China, India, Mexico, Nigeria and Trinidad.

The show itself saw nearly 2,400 companies represented, providing the opportunity for the team to visit the stands of a good number of IMCA members exhibiting at the show. The sheer size and scale of the exhibition meant that there was insufficient time to visit as many of our members' stands as we would have liked. The exhibition also provided an opportunity to learn about some of the developments, innovations and technologies emerging throughout the industry.

As well as the exhibition, the conference included a series of technical presentations and lectures, some presented by IMCA members, addressing many topics and issues on which the association has focused, such as risk assessment.

The general view among exhibitors was of a buoyant industry, but tempered with the acknowledgement of a skills shortage - a topic that IMCA continues to raise wherever possible. With this in mind, Chief Executive Hugh Williams praised the 'OTC Teacher Institute' - an initiative which saw one hundred



Nick Hough and Jane Bugler prepare to meet visitors at IMCA's OTC stand

teachers visit the conference where they learnt about the exciting opportunities available and how the skills they taught would be applied and developed in the offshore industry.

Many IMCA members were part of the show, but our particular congratulations go to the three Heritage Award winners, two of whom are key IMCA members - Owen Kratz, Executive Chairman of Helix Energy Solutions Group and John Huff, Chairman of the board of Oceaneering International, Inc.

This exhibition was, as always, very successful and IMCA looks forward to participating in future years.



### Also in this issue:

#### Tackling competence issues

The results of a questionnaire on competence scheme implementation have been published, emphasising member commitment but with recommendations for future action..

For the full picture, turn to page 4

#### Sharing of vessel sensors

A second volume of IMCA guidance has been published setting out considerations when sharing vessel sensors for DP and survey operations, building on the earlier DGPS guide.

For more information page 12

#### Secretariat team expands

Paul Evans has joined IMCA as its fourth technical adviser, focusing on supporting the Diving Division, while two new administrators have also been recruited.

See the new faces on page 3

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### Social reception aboard HQS Wellington a great success

IMCA held its first London social reception aboard HQS Wellington on the evening of 27 March.

The intention was to introduce IMCA to those in the area who might not otherwise interface with or be familiar with the association - clients, marine professional, non-members and members' staff from south east England and around 180 guests joined secretariat staff and committee members for the event.

The Wellington, moored at Temple Stairs on the Thames, is home to the Honourable Company of Master Mariners. A beautiful floating museum, it lent itself well to an IMCA event such as this.

Guests enjoyed a thoroughly entertaining evening, with background music and drinks hardly needed to lubricate the conversation, which flowed easily for several hours.

While not an evening for formal speeches, Hugh Williams welcomed guests and spoke briefly about the vessel, IMCA and the current state of the industry.

Thanks and feedback from a wide range of guests shows how the reception has brought IMCA to a new audience in a positive light.

The secretariat will be taking forward many of the new contacts made, as well as looking to organise similar events in the future.



### IMCA at MCE Deepwater Development

This annual event, organised by Quest Offshore Resources, was held at Alexandra Palace in London on 28-29 March. A busy presentation programme was accompanied by an exhibition where many key companies had taken stands. Even so, the palace is huge and swallowed up the large number of people. BP, as this year's sponsor, was to the fore and hosted a wonderful dinner in the Royal Courts of Justice.

Many members were present - as speakers, exhibitors and delegates. IMCA had a stand at the event too and secretariat personnel were able to renew some old friendships as well as to establish new relationships.

Many of the conference themes reflected current areas of IMCA focus - the industry's current high activity level, shortages of skilled personnel and the need for parties to work together to find solutions.

### OSJ conference 2007

A new magazine - *Offshore Support Journal (OSJ)* - has filled a space in the market and makes interesting reading for IMCA members.

Its publishers held their first conference in London on 13-14 March 2007, which was well received.

The event attracted a large audience of support vessel designers, owners and operators as well as end users, suppliers and consultants. The delegates included a number of IMCA members.

David Blencowe of Maersk Supply Services, a member of the Marine Division Management Committee, spoke on the *International Guidelines for the Safe Operation of Dynamically Positioned Offshore Supply Vessels* - the cross-industry guidance published last year as IMCA M 182.

Hugh Williams spoke about IMCA's general role and specific interface with supply vessels, noting how the the association's membership includes a growing number of supply vessel operators which can benefit from the extensive range of guidance on marine operations.

### Get involved

In this edition of Making Waves you can find a variety of ways in which you can get the most out of IMCA.

Here are a few pointers:

- ◆ Help make IMCA careers information more widely available to attract new personnel to the industry see [page 4](#)
- ◆ Can you contribute to the development of guidance on third-party transport? see [page 4](#)
- ◆ IMCA will be seeking diving contractors' input on medical support needs - make sure you respond see [page 11](#)
- ◆ Can you offer expertise for the review/updating of diving guidance? see [page 11](#)
- ◆ Submit material to help shape guidance on SIMOPs see [page 12](#)
- ◆ Attend an event - see the *IMCA Calendar* on [page 16](#)

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

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

The views expressed on these pages are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of IMCA itself.

Editor: **Adam Hugo**  
(Adam.Hugo@imca-int.com)



### Jane Bugler celebrates ten years at IMCA

IMCA Technical Director Jane Bugler celebrated ten years with IMCA in February, with secretariat staff joining together to congratulate and thank Jane for her outstanding contribution.

IMCA's membership and spread have increased rapidly over the past decade, enabling the committees to address an ever wider programme of work. Over that period, Jane's team has increased and is now five strong. While this adds broad expertise and experience in-house to the secretariat, keeping abreast of the vast array of work items and issues under consideration at any one time has become an ever more complex task, yet one that Jane has continued to deliver upon.

As well as her technical role, Jane also deputises for Hugh Williams, Chief Executive, and is a full member of the Overall Management Committee. Her extensive knowledge of the association, its activities and guidance help to ensure a consistent approach and direction and provide a strong foundation for the continuing growth IMCA is seeing.

Thank you Jane and here's to the next ten years!

### New faces at IMCA

**Paul Evans** joined IMCA in May as its fourth Technical Adviser, focused particularly on supporting the work of the Diving Division.

Paul has some twenty years' experience in hands-on operational roles, most recently with Maersk Oil Qatar where he was Marine Field Supervisor. The role included overseeing SPM, production hose, ROV and subsea field operations; and acting as point of contact for subsea operations, related audits and mobilisations. Additionally he has acted as a consultant, offshore client representative and has carried out dive system and marine spread audits.

He has experience of working for both oil company client and subsea contractor companies in various roles, ranging from IMCA-certified diving supervisor to superintendent and operations manager positions.



**Claudine Bleza** joined the IMCA secretariat in April as its second dedicated events administrator, replacing Anna Jackaman. Her primary role is co-ordination of the association's involvement in industry exhibitions and conferences, provision of relevant IMCA materials for members exhibiting at other events and management of IMCA social events, such as the annual charity ball and golf day.



### From the President

Last month we were brutally reminded about the risks which exist in our marine industry. I am referring to the tragic accident which occurred close to the Shetlands a few weeks ago resulting in the loss of eight lives and a vessel. Our thoughts go to the survivors and relatives left behind after this tragic accident.

A brand new vessel, an experienced operator, an apparently standard operation and still an accident can happen. This catastrophe should serve as a reminder to all of our members that in our safety efforts the identification of hazards is an everlasting activity which is never complete.

IMCA will concentrate on identifying any new areas within the industry where efforts can be directed. We will continue to focus on developing new industry guidelines as well as being the catalyst for creating dialogue between members to contribute to the health of the industry.

Our key focus areas for the year are to communicate better the principles we apply for self regulation, to continue our effort to promote more equitable terms between client and contractor and last, but not least, to contribute to closing the gap we, as an industry, will experience in the years to come concerning skills shortages.

IMCA is entering into a very busy term on the communication and promotion side. The reception at the Wellington in April was a great success, gathering a number of key industry officials for an informal get-together. For the first time IMCA is a supporter of and exhibitor at OTC (the Houston-based Offshore Technology Conference), an important step to further strengthen our position in this region. Our golf day and the midsummer charity ball are coming up during the next month and will be excellent opportunities for meeting other IMCA members and to exchange views on our industry in an informal and relaxed atmosphere.

**Knut Boe, Technip**  
IMCA President 2007

## News from IMCA's core activities - SEL and TCPC

# Competence in focus

Member questionnaire results highlight the need for competence assurance now, in a busy industry, more than ever, but show that there is yet more for IMCA to do

IMCA has just reported on its latest questionnaire on members' implementation of competence assurance and assessment schemes, with full analysis backed up by a set of recommendations and actions for the future.

The results confirm that IMCA members believe competence assurance and assessment to be an important tool for creating, sustaining and demonstrating to clients a competent and able pool of skilled offshore workers. The increasing technical complexity of members' activities, the need for high awareness of quality, safety and environmental issues and client-led demands for certification all mean that competence assurance and

assessment will remain a central part of members' business.

In-house competence schemes are well established, and a majority of IMCA members induct their staff into such schemes. However, the position is less clear for freelance personnel, where additional focus is required.

Responses from both contractors and personnel agencies highlight serious concerns that the administrative burdens imposed by the framework negatively impact on the take-up of competence schemes. This is important feedback that will be considered as part of the review already underway.

The challenges of finding skilled staff at the current time are considerable, but the temptation to rush or overlook formal competence assessment and assurance should be resisted.

As members seek to expand the areas from which they recruit, it is even more important to be able to demonstrate that structured training and career paths actually exist within our industry.

A robust competence scheme enables both employers and workers to follow a defined process which ensures that proper training, skill enhancing exposure and mentoring opportunities are available.

### News in brief

IMCA has commissioned the development of a glossy new brochure aimed at school and university students setting out the exciting range of career opportunities available to them in the offshore industry.

Two new IMCA safety posters are being developed, on the subject of working at height. Building on the existing DVD and pocket card, they provide a useful reminder of the steps workers can take to ensure their safety and that of others.

The latest IMCA careers case studies - covering surveying and ROV positions - are now being circulated in the IMCA careers information pack and are available for download at [www.imca-int.com/careers](http://www.imca-int.com/careers)

Direct links to members' recruitment web pages are now live at the same address. If you haven't already done so, please submit your link to [Adam.Hugo@imca-int.com](mailto:Adam.Hugo@imca-int.com)

### Working together to address skills shortages

Regular readers will be well aware that IMCA has put tackling recruitment and skills shortage issues at the top of its list of priorities for this year, with dedicated additional funding set aside.

IMCA's own careers information has been refreshed and continues to grow as the various committees identify the key roles in each industry sector and develop new guides to attract potential recruits.

However, this in particular is an issue on which working with a variety of organisations at various levels can help communicate with a wider audience and IMCA has dedicated itself to the task.

IMCA careers material has been provided to a range of universities, colleges and other training establishments around the world.

Among the variety of international bodies the secretariat is working with is OPITO, which although a UK-based organisation is widely known in other regions. This work particularly relates to the development of its careers portal [www.oilandgas4u.com](http://www.oilandgas4u.com) which now features a number of roles set out in the IMCA competence framework. As well as static information pages, visitors to the site can take a quiz to assess whether they have the skills and qualifications needed for each role. IMCA and OPITO have also joined forces to share images of people working offshore which will be vital to attracting young people into the industry.

Education and recruitment will also be in focus at the IMCA Midsummer Ball at Fyvie Castle on 8 June, where the nominated charity is the World Maritime University, established by IMO to serve as a centre of excellence for the global maritime community.

If you have links to an educational or other body with which IMCA could be working, please contact [Nick.Hough@imca-int.com](mailto:Nick.Hough@imca-int.com)

### Security of third-party transport

When travelling to a vessel, it is not uncommon to have to use a variety of means of transport - road, air and water - often not directly organised by either the individual or their company.

Problems can arise, however, so proper risk assessment, mitigation of any security threats and consideration of insurance and related issues is vital. This can be just as applicable close to home as it is in foreign parts.

The IMCA Security Task Force, which has already produced well-received guidance on travel security, threat risk assessment and verification of third-party personnel, is now looking to develop guidance on this subject.

The intention is to produce another practical guide and input will be welcome. Anyone wishing to join in the task force's work should contact [Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com](mailto:Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com)

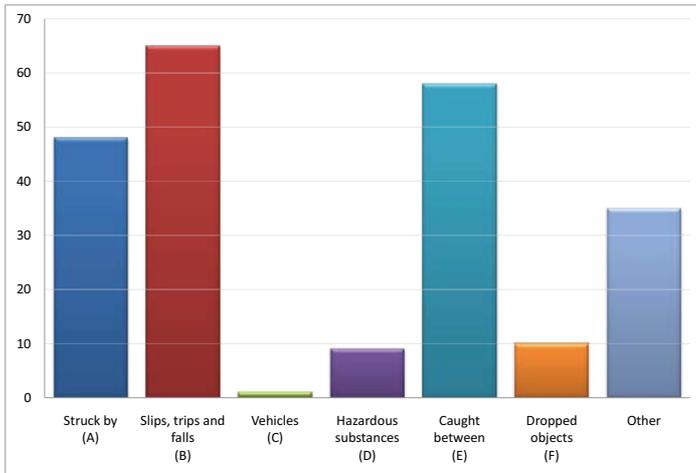
### After Anfield - what happens next?

In February of this year, IMCA held its hugely successful safety seminar at the Anfield home of Liverpool Football Club.

While delegates themselves benefited from the range of presentations and discussion sessions, members of the SEL committee were also listening out for how the committee's work programme could take forward the many ideas

discussed for further improving offshore safety.

New work items already include pocket cards such as 'taking safety home', guidance on the 'soft' skills of interpersonal relationships in the workplace, gathering of information on safety legislation in specific countries and working with the Marine Division on crane heave compensation incidents.



For the first time, the analysis of members' safety statistics has enabled identification of the key causes of incidents still to be addressed

## Safety statistics

As more members contribute to the annual exercise, IMCA deepens its analysis to move to the next stage of incident prevention and improved safety performance

As we go to press IMCA is putting the finishing touches to the tenth annual report on members' safety statistics. In recent years participation has grown rapidly and this year has reached a record 72 contributors - up by almost half on 2005 and reflecting the safety record of almost half of the association's contractor membership. IMCA would like to thank all those who have taken part but still wishes to encourage an even greater level of participation in future years.

The overall total recordable injury rate (TRIR) has fallen, as has the overall fatal accident rate, which was helped by the fact that no onshore fatalities were reported. The overall lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR) has fallen slightly, but broadly continues its flatline trend of recent years.

For the first time, further information has been collected on fatalities and the root causes of lost time incidents (LTIs), on which a summary graph is provided above. This shows that the most common root causes are 'slips, trips and falls' and 'caught between', with 'struck by' following a close third. Such analysis will enable IMCA's committees to focus their work on these issues, where there remains a big difference to be made.

The exercise again included collection of leading indicators of health, safety and environmental performance, with some interesting trends now beginning to emerge.

This is the second year for which the TRIR has been calculated, enabling members to benchmark against a broader set of statistics produced by regulators and other associations, particularly in the area of small injuries.

Based on these statistics, the SEL committee and IMCA more widely will be looking at how to remove the remaining obstacles faced as members aim for the zero-injury goal.

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## Regional news



### Americas Deepwater Section

At the latest meeting of the Americas Deepwater Section, held on 15 February, four guest presentations helped attract 40 member and guest participants. Joe Kelly of Deloitte Consulting spoke on skills shortages in the industry - the major topic being raised at meetings all around the world at present. Other presentations included the work of the Offshore Survey Division, DP incident reporting and liaison with the US National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee.

The next meeting will take place on 14 June in Houston.

One of the guests was David Parkes of the Diver Certification Board of Canada, who joined Hugh Williams (see picture above) to sign a memorandum of

understanding for the mutual recognition of offshore air diving supervisor certificates (see p11 for more details).

#### New SEL/TCPC format attracts participation

The Americas SEL/TCPC sub-group has updated its meeting format to focus on a series of specific themes. The May 2007 meeting, for example, is focusing on client communications and working together to improve safety performance. Guest speakers from a range of companies have been arranged and are attracting much interest from members. If you're not already on the sub-group distribution list, please contact the secretariat ([imca@imca-int.com](mailto:imca@imca-int.com)) or see the website for full details.

### Asia-Pacific Section

The next Asia-Pacific Section meeting is due to take place on 24 May in Singapore.

Building on the successful new meeting format, after a members-only session to start the morning, a range of clients and other guests will join the meeting for updates on current IMCA activities and discussion of safety issues.

The third session, open to both members and guests, features presentations on *Maritime R&D in Singapore* from the Maritime Port Authority, *ReCAAP ISC - Enhancing Regional Co-operations* and *The NOPSA enforcement model*, building on presentations and discussion with the Australian offshore regulator at recent meetings. Workshops on lifting operations and the pending revision of the *IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving* will follow, with a final feedback session to end the day.

Please contact [events@imca-int.com](mailto:events@imca-int.com) for more details

### Europe & Africa Section

IMCA held its first meeting in Africa as members and guests descended on Cape Town on 27 February.

In the morning, over thirty individuals gathered to discuss member business, with an overview of the section's role and updates on recent activities.

In the afternoon session the audience built to over sixty delegates for a series of presentations as follows:

- ◆ The section's chairman, Ian Stevenson of Technip and Hugh Williams opened with an introduction to IMCA and the role of the Europe & Africa Section, covering the association's structure, objectives, focus and recent achievements.
- ◆ Jane Bugler followed with an update on world-wide technical activities, including new work items for 2007.
- ◆ Alan Thomas of Cape Diving and a member of the South African Diving Council, made a presentation on proposed changes to the country's diving regulations.
- ◆ Craig Cook of SMIT discussed operational assurance auditing and the use of health and safety statistics within his company, outlining parts of its safety management system and how it was implemented in the field.
- ◆ Darren Brunton of KB Associates then gave a detailed presentation on *IMCA Diving Equipment Systems Inspection Guidance Notes (DESIGN)* auditing, covering the 'who', 'where', 'why', 'what' and 'when'.
- ◆ Guest presenter Sandro Borean of PetroSA gave the final presentation - an overview of the company's operational activities in South African waters, the wide range of contractors and vessels employed and some of their project-specific challenges that had been successfully met.

The next section meeting will take place on 5 September ahead of a lunchtime reception at Offshore Europe in Aberdeen.

### Middle East & India Section

The section held its second successful briefing seminar in conjunction with its April meeting for members.

A good audience was again attracted for presentations and a question-and-answer session covering IMCA, its role, activities and, in particular, the role and achievements of the Middle East & India Section.

A third such event is now being planned, possibly to take place in Qatar in October. Members are asked to submit suggestions for possible venues and relevant client and other non-member invitees.

#### Election underway to find a new Vice-Chairman

Sean Brunton has moved to a new role and company in the Middle East and has therefore tendered his resignation as vice-chairman. The secretariat has extended IMCA's thanks for the contribution he made during his time in the role.

An election is now underway to find a new vice-chairman. Nominations closed at the beginning of May, with nominees being contacted by the secretariat as we go to press. We hope to announce the results to members around the end of this month.

## Who to contact at IMCA:



**Hugh Williams**  
Chief Executive



**Jane Bugler**  
Technical Director



**Philip Wiggs**  
Technical Adviser



**Nick Hough**  
Technical Adviser



**Ian Giddings**  
Technical Adviser



**Paul Evans**  
Technical Adviser

**Vicki Graham**  
Certification Schemes Administrator  
for diving supervisors and LSTs

**Adam Hugo**  
Support Services Manager  
- subscriptions and member records  
- documents, websites and IT issues

**Nina Adams**  
Senior Administrator - publication sales

**Parul Patel**  
Administrator - seminars/committee meetings

**Claudine Bleza**  
Administrator - social events and exhibitions

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## Committee Members

To achieve its objectives and deliver its work programme, IMCA relies on elected member representatives who serve on the committees listed below as well as various individuals active on workgroups around the world.

### Overall Management Committee

#### IMCA President and OMC Chairman

Knut Boe, Technip

#### IMCA Vice-President

Johan Rasmussen, Acergy

Hugh Williams, Chief Executive

Jane Bugler, Technical Director

#### Regional Section Chairmen

##### Americas Deepwater

Roy Sijthoff, Helix Energy Solutions Group

##### Asia-Pacific

Andy Bolton, Technip Subsea 7 Asia Pacific

##### Europe & Africa

Ian Stevenson, Technip

##### Middle East & India

Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott

#### Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

**SEL:** Wallace Robertson, Helix ESG  
TBA

**TCPC:** John Greensmyth, Technip  
Mark Elder, Subsea 7

**Diving:** Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7  
Derek Beddows, Technip

**Marine:** Pete Somner, Technip  
Pete Fougere, Transocean

#### Offshore Survey:

Will Primavesi, Saipem  
Walter Steedman, Subsea 7

#### Remote Systems & ROV:

Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering  
Andrew Beveridge, Fugro-Rovtech

### SEL Core Committee

*Chairman:* Wallace Robertson, Helix ESG

*Vice-Chairman:* TBC

Norman Marwick, Acergy

Paola Santoli, Allseas

Dave Forsyth, Bibby Offshore

Jos van der Horst, Heerema Marine Contractors

Mat Schreurs, Heerema Marine Contractors

Finn Brodersen, Maersk Supply Service

Sal Ruffino, Saipem

Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7

Allan Hannah, Technip

Bram Sluiskes, Van Oord

Foeke Tulner, Workships Contractors

*Americas:* Wayne Seelbach, Helix ESG

*Asia-Pacific:* Des Power, Technip Subsea 7 Asia Pacific

*Middle East & India:* Mohamed Osman, Maridive

### TCPC Core Committee

*Chairman:* John Greensmyth, Technip

*Vice-Chairman:* Mark Elder, Subsea 7

Jennifer Cook, Acergy

Fiona McKenzie, Acergy

Els Geven, Allseas

Steve Sheppard, National Hyperbaric Centre

Darren Bown, Subsea 7

Gavin Smith, Subsea 7

Roy Hay, Technip

Andy Stewart, UK Project Support

*Americas:* Robert Keith, Oceaneering

*Asia-Pacific:* Vacancy

*Middle East & India:* Mohamed Omar, INW

### Diving Division Management Committee

*Chairman:* Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7

*Vice-Chairman:* Derek Beddows, Technip

Joar Gangenes, Acergy

Hans Berkhof, Bluestream

Alan Thomas, Cape Diving

Keith Noble, CUEL

Steve Nairn, Helix ESG

Jerry Starling, Integrated Subsea Services

Darren Brunton, KB Associates

David Smith, National Hyperbaric Centre

Norb Gorman, Oceaneering International

Calum Buchanan, RBG

*Americas:* Allan Palmer, Helix ESG

*Asia-Pacific:* RP Singh, Acergy Asia Middle East

*Middle East & India:* Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott

### Marine Division MC

*Chairman:* Pete Somner, Technip

*Vice-Chairman:* Pete Fougere, Transocean

Arnfinn Vika, Acergy

Alan Allred, Aker Marine Contractors, Inc.

Berend de Ruiter, Allseas

Anders Waage, DOF Management

Michiel Goedkoop, Heerema Marine Contractors

David Blencowe, Maersk Supply Service

Geir Karlsen, Subsea 7

Kjell Egil Helgøy, Teekay

*Americas:* Mark Canada, Transocean

*Asia-Pacific:* Andy Bolton, Technip Subsea 7 Asia Pacific

*Middle East & India:* Alan Adamson, MENAS

### Offshore Survey Division MC

*Chairman:* Will Primavesi, Saipem

*Vice-Chairman:* Walter Steedman, Subsea 7

Ray Morgan, Acergy

Stuart Reid, Andrews Survey

Perry Balls, DeepOcean

Ian McKenzie, Fugro Survey

Peter Thomas, Maritech

Brian Beard, Noordhoek Offshore

Martin Day, Subsea 7

*Americas:* Stephen Browne, Subsea 7

*Asia-Pacific:* Dave Scott, Fugro Survey Pte Ltd

*Middle East & India:* Darren Male, Fugro Survey Middle East

### Remote Systems & ROV Division MC

*Chairman:* Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering International

*Vice-Chairman:* Andrew Beveridge, Fugro-Rovtech

Colin Mackay, Acergy

Michel Hebert, Bluestream

Terje Thomassen, Geoconsult

John Davies, Global Marine Systems

Angus Kerr, Helix ESG

David Rhodes, Integrated Subsea Services

Espen Ingebretsen, Oceaneering International

Keith Robathan, Saipem

Neil Milne, Subsea 7

Dave Walker, Technip

*Americas:* Pat Mannina, Oceaneering International

*Asia-Pacific:* Neil Forbes, Technip Subsea 7 Asia Pacific

*Middle East & India:* Chris Blake, Fugro Survey Middle East

### Regional Section Vice-Chairmen

*Americas:* Tony Duncan, Acergy

*Asia-Pacific:* Mark Shepherd, Mermaid Maritime

*Europe & Africa:* Brian Leith, Acergy

*Middle East & India:* Vacancy

## International Contractors

**Aceryg**  
**Allseas Group**  
**Heerema Marine Contractors**  
**Helix Energy Solutions Group**  
**J Ray McDermott**  
**Saipem**  
**Subsea 7**  
**Technip**

## Contractors

Aceryg Asia Middle East  
Aker Marine Contractors AS  
Aker Marine Contractors, Inc.  
Algoasibi Diving & Marine Services  
Allied Marine & Equipment Sdn Bhd  
AlMansoori Production Services LLC  
Andrews Survey  
Aqua Diving Services  
Arabian Gulf Mech. Svcs & Ctrg Co.  
Atlantic Towing Ltd  
Bibby Offshore Ltd  
BJ Services Co (UK) Ltd  
Bluestream NL bv  
Bluewater Energy Services BV  
Boskalis Offshore  
Bourbon  
British Antarctic Survey  
BUE Marine Ltd  
C&C Technologies Inc.  
Cal Dive International Pte Ltd  
Cal Dive International Pte Ltd - ME  
Cape Diving  
CCC (Underwater Engineering) SAL  
CDMS Ltd  
Clough Oil & Gas  
CODERO  
Combined Diving Inspection Services  
CTC Marine Projects Ltd  
CUEL Ltd  
Dalgidj Private Company  
DeepOcean  
Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc  
DNT Offshore srl  
DOF Management AS  
Dolphin Drilling Ltd  
Dolphin Offshore Enterprises (India)  
Dulam International Ltd  
EDT Offshore  
EGS (Asia) Ltd  
PT Ekanuri Indra Pratama  
EMAS Offshore Pte Ltd  
Fairmount Marine bv  
Far Eastern Shipping Company  
Finstaship  
LLP FSDS  
Fugro Marine Services bv  
Fugro-Rovtech

Fugro Survey (India) Pvt Ltd  
Fugro Survey (Middle East) Ltd  
Fugro Survey (Singapore) Pte. Ltd  
Fugro Survey Ltd  
GB Diving BV  
Geo Century Ltd  
Geo Subsea Pty Ltd  
Geoconsult AS  
GeoLab srl  
Global Industries Asia Pacific  
Global Industries Ltd  
Global Marine Systems Ltd  
GOGAS Gulf Oil and Gas LLC  
Great Offshore Ltd  
Gulf Dredging & General Contracting  
Gulf Marine Services  
Gulf Offshore (North Sea) Ltd  
Gulmar Offshore Middle East LLC  
Hallin Marine  
Halul Offshore Services Company  
HEISCO  
Horizon Survey Company (FZC)  
Hull Support Services Ltd  
Huta Marine Works Ltd  
Integrated Subsea Services Ltd  
Intl Marine Works - Alexandria  
Intl Naval Works - Abu Dhabi  
IRSHAD  
Lamnalco Group  
PT Lancar Rejeki Berkat Jaya  
LD Travocean  
Louisiana Overseas Inc  
Maersk Supply Service  
Maridive & Oil Services (SAE)  
Maridive Offshore Projects  
Marine Consulting  
Marine Logistics Solutions (MarSol)  
Marine Survey & Services Intl  
Master Tech Diving Services  
Med Marine  
MENAS  
Mermaid Offshore Services Ltd  
Mohn Drilling AS  
Mutawa Marine Works Est  
Nexans Norway AS - Energy Division  
NICO Middle East Ltd  
Noordhoek Offshore BV  
Northern Marine Management Ltd  
NPCC Survey  
Ocean Works Asia Inc.  
Oceaneering International (UK)  
Oceaneering International Asia Pacific  
Oceaneering International Inc.  
Oceanteam 2000 Ltd  
Oceanteam Power & Umbilical Ltd  
Offshore Geo-Surveys Sdn Bhd  
Offshore Oil Eng. Co. Ltd (COOEC)  
Offshore Subsea Works Sdn Bhd

Offshore Technology Solutions Ltd  
OSM Ship Management AS  
Pacific Richfield Marine Pte Ltd  
PT Patra Dinamika  
Petroleum Marine Services Company  
PFCE Ocean Engineering Sdn Bhd  
Pride International  
Prosafe Offshore Ltd  
Rana Diving & Marine Contractor srl  
RBG Ltd  
Riise Underwater Engineering AS  
Rolv Berg Drive AS  
Sahara Petroleum Company  
Saipem sa - Saibos Division  
PT Samudera Biru Nusantara  
Sapura Diving Services Sdn Bhd  
Sarku Engineering Services Sdn Bhd  
SAROST SA  
SBM Offshore NV  
Seacor Marine (International) Ltd  
Seadrill Management AS  
Seahorse Services Co. Ltd  
Sealion Shipping Ltd  
SEAMEC  
Seaway Heavy Lifting Engineering BV  
Secunda Marine Services Ltd  
Siem Offshore AS  
SMIT  
SMIT Subsea  
SMIT Terminals Middle East LLC  
Solstad Shipping AS  
Submersible Television Surveys Ltd  
Subsea 7 Asia Pacific  
Subsea Petroleum Services  
Subtec Middle East Ltd  
Svitzer  
Swire Pacific Offshore Services  
Technip Offshore Contractors Inc.  
Technip Subsea 7 Asia Pacific  
Teekay Norway AS  
Tideway Marine & Offshore  
Timsah Shipbuilding Company  
TL Geohydrographics Sdn Bhd  
Total Marine Technology Pty Ltd  
Transocean  
TS Marine (Contracting) Ltd  
TS Marine Pty Ltd  
Underwater Services Company  
URS nv  
Van Oord  
Vastalux Sdn Bhd  
Vroon Offshore Services BV  
VTT Maritime  
PT Wintermar  
Workshops Contractors BV  
Zakher Marine International

## Suppliers

### Suppliers of equipment

ABB Ltd  
Advanced Marine  
Air Products Singapore Pte Ltd  
Analox Sensor Technology Ltd  
Ashtead Technology (SEA) Pte Ltd  
Bourbon  
Brunvoll AS  
Circle Technical Services Ltd  
Comanex SAS  
Converteam Ltd  
CUEL Ltd  
Cynergetix Pte Ltd  
Divex Ltd  
Dräger Safety, Germany  
Drass Galeazzi Underwater Technology  
Franklin Offshore International  
Frontier Offshore  
Global Gas Supplies Pte Ltd  
Great Offshore Ltd  
Hydra Marine (Pty) Ltd  
Hyperbaric Technology BV (Hytech)  
Kenz Figeo BV  
Kirby Morgan Dive Systems  
Kongsberg Maritime AS  
Kongsberg Maritime Ltd  
L-3 Communications  
Lexmar Engineering Pte Ltd  
Measurement Devices Ltd  
Modern Computing Services (MCS)  
Nautronix plc  
Navis Engineering Oy  
Offshore Joint Services  
Offshore Logistics (Asia Pacific)  
Pacific Commercial Diving Supply  
Perry Slingsby Systems, Inc.  
Perry Slingsby Systems Ltd  
PT Advanced Oil & Gas Consulting  
Rolls-Royce Oy Ab  
Rolv Berg Drive AS  
ROV Supply Pte Ltd  
Schilling Robotics LLC  
Sea and Land Technologies Pte Ltd  
Seaeeye Marine Ltd  
Sealion Shipping Ltd  
Seatools BV  
Serimax Ltd  
Sonardyne Asia Pte Ltd  
Sonardyne International Ltd  
Subsea Vision Ltd  
The Tritanium Company bv  
Unidive Marine Services Pte Ltd  
Unique System FZE  
Viking Offshore Services

### Suppliers of services

Abermed Ltd  
Advanced Marine  
PT Advanced Oil & Gas Consulting  
Air Products Singapore Pte Ltd  
Anglo-Eastern Group  
Anglo-Eastern Group (Asia-Pacific)  
Auto Dynamic Positioning Services  
Bachrach & Wood  
Blade Offshore Services Ltd  
C-MAR Services (UK) Ltd  
Construction Specialists Ltd (CSL)  
DOWC  
Electrical Power Engineering Ltd  
Falconer Bryan Pte Ltd  
Franklin Offshore International  
Frontier Offshore  
Global Gas Supplies Pte Ltd  
Global Maritime  
Goodrich, Riquelme y Asociados, AC  
Houlder Insurance Services Ltd  
Imes Ltd  
Independent Risk Solutions BV  
KB Associates Pte Ltd  
Lexmar Engineering Pte Ltd  
London Offshore Consultants Ltd

Marine Cybernetics  
 Modern Computing Services (MCS)  
 Nautronix plc  
 Navigare International Inc.  
 Noble Denton Consultants Ltd  
 Noble Denton Middle East Ltd  
 Noble Denton Singapore Pte Ltd  
 NUI AS  
 Offshore Commissioning Solutions  
 Offshore Joint Services  
 PAE Singapore Pte Ltd  
 Perry Slingsby Systems Ltd  
 Petroleum Development Consultants  
 Poseidon Maritime (UK) Ltd (PML)  
 Promarine Ltd  
 QinetiQ  
 Schilling Robotics LLC  
 Seasafe Company  
 Sebastian AS  
 Subsea Vision Ltd  
 The Tritanium Company bv  
 Velosi Certification Bureau Ltd  
 Viking Offshore Services  
 Wavespec Ltd

#### Training establishments

AI Safety Training Consultants (1995) Ltd  
 Aberdeen Skills & Enterprise Training  
 Ålesund University College  
 Banff & Buchan College  
 PT Barron International  
 Bergen University College - Diver Ed.  
 Bibby International Services (India)  
 Centre for Marine Simulation  
 De Moura Shipping Ltda  
 Delphinus Services - ROV Training  
 Divers Academy International  
 Divers Institute of Technology  
 Diving Diseases Research Centre  
 The DP Centre Singapore  
 Ecole Nationale de la Marine Marchande  
 Energy & Mining Training Solutions  
 Falck Nutech bv  
 Force Technology  
 Global Marine Systems - Subsea Training  
 Holland College - Georgetown Centre  
 Holland College - Marine Training Centre  
 Hydrolab-HydroCAT  
 IDESS Maritime Centre (Subic), Inc.  
 INPP  
 The Institute of ROVs  
 Interdive Services Limited  
 KBA Training Centre Pte Ltd  
 Kirby Morgan Dive Systems  
 Lowestoft College  
 Maritech Group  
 Maritime Institute Willem Barentsz  
 Maritime Training & Competence Solutions  
 MOG Industry Training Co. Ltd  
 National Hyperbaric Centre  
 National Oceanography Centre  
 National Polytechnic College of  
 Engineering and Oceanengineering  
 Netherlands Diving Centre  
 The Ocean Corporation  
 PetroVietnam Manpower Training College  
 Poseidon Maritime (UK) Ltd (PML)  
 Power & Generation Services  
 Professional Diving Academy  
 Professional Diving Centre  
 Satakunta University of Applied Sciences  
 PT SBS Indonesia  
 SEATAG Offshore  
 Seneca College  
 Ship Manoeuvring Simulator Centre  
 SMTC Global Inc.  
 Stord/Haugesund University College  
 SubNet Services Ltd  
 The Underwater Centre Fort William  
 The Underwater Centre Fremantle  
 The Underwater Centre (Tasmania)  
 Underwater Engineering Ltd  
 WA Maritime Training Centre - Fremantle  
 West Coast Commercial Diving School

#### Personnel agencies

Ace Diving Services CC  
 Advanced Offshore Contractors  
 Amberjack Oil & Gas Recruitment  
 Services bv  
 Aqua Omega Services Pvt Ltd  
 Dave Oliver Hydrographic Services  
 De Moura Shipping Ltda  
 DOOR International BV  
 Hydrosud Ltd  
 Maritech Group  
 Oceanscan Ltd  
 Offshore Marine Services Pty Ltd  
 Oilfield Medics UK Ltd  
 Petrolis  
 PR Offshore Services Ltd  
 SEATAG Offshore  
 SubNet Services Ltd  
 SubServPro  
 Technocean AS  
 Total Marine Services  
 UK Project Support Ltd  
 Underwater Engineering Ltd

#### Naval units

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

#### Corresponding Members

Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company  
 Agip Kazakhstan North Caspian Op. Co.  
 AISI  
 Azerbaijan International Operating Co.  
 Bapco - The Bahrain Petroleum Co.  
 BG Group  
 BHP Billiton  
 BHP Billiton (Americas)  
 BP America Production Company  
 BP Exploration Operating Company Ltd  
 BP West Java Ltd  
 Brunei Shell Petroleum Company  
 Cairn Energy India Pty Ltd  
 Chevron Shipping Co.  
 Chevron Thailand E&P Ltd  
 CNR International UK Ltd  
 ConocoPhillips China  
 ConocoPhillips Indonesia  
 ConocoPhillips (UK) Ltd  
 Dana Petroleum plc  
 Det Norske Veritas  
 Esso Australia Pty Ltd  
 GDF Production Nederland bv  
 Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company  
 Health & Safety Authority  
 Kuwait Oil Company  
 Maersk Oil Qatar AS  
 Mobil North Sea Ltd  
 Murphy Sarawak Oil Co. Ltd  
 Nederlandse Aardolie Maatschappij BV  
 Nexen Petroleum UK Ltd  
 Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd  
 Petro Canada - Terra Nova Project  
 Petrobras  
 Premier Oil Natuna Sea  
 PTT Exploration & Production plc  
 Sarawak Shell Berhad  
 Shell International E&P  
 Shell Petroleum Development Co. of  
 Nigeria  
 Shell Todd Oil Services Ltd  
 Star Energy (Kakap) Ltd  
 Talisman Energy (UK)  
 Total Exploration & Production  
 Total Austral (Argentina)  
 Total E&P Nederland BV  
 Total E&P UK plc  
 Wintershall Noordzee BV  
 Woodside Energy Ltd  
 Zakum Development Company

#### IMCA welcomes the following new members:

##### ◆ AI Safety Training Consultants 1995 Ltd

Since its formation in 1995, the company has been a leading provider of safety training to the offshore industry. Its training centres in Aberdeen (including a crane operator electronic training simulator) and Great Yarmouth provide safety training relating to crane operations and lifting activities, while training has been carried out for oil and gas operatives in all of the main regions of offshore activity.  
 Tel: +44 (0) 1493 443 883 Web: [www.a1safetytraining.co.uk](http://www.a1safetytraining.co.uk)

##### ◆ Aker Marine Contractors AS

##### ◆ Aker Marine Contractors, Inc.

A global provider of marine contracting services utilising advanced offshore construction vessels, this company particularly supports the Gulf of Mexico oil and gas industry. Market areas include concept development, engineering, execution, towing and installation of platforms, topsides, mooring systems and deepwater installations including structures, umbilicals, risers and flexible flowlines activities.  
 Tel: +1 713 272 4079 Web: [www.akerkvaerner.com](http://www.akerkvaerner.com)

##### ◆ BHP Billiton Petroleum (Americas), Inc.

##### ◆ Comanex SAS

##### ◆ Dräger Safety, Germany

The company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of personal protection and gas detection technology and a systems supplier of complete safety services. It has more than 90 years of experience in the project management, construction and manufacture of saturation diving systems for use in the offshore industry and developed its first deep-sea diving simulator as early as 1913.  
 Tel: +49 451 882 4671 Web: [www.draeger.com](http://www.draeger.com)

##### ◆ Health & Safety Authority

HSA is the national body in Ireland with responsibility for securing health and safety at work. The authority plays a leading role in the development of legislation and guidance relating to commercial diving. Its programme of work for 2007 includes developing new legislation and codes of practice, enforcement of regulations and provision of simple guidance and information.  
 Tel: +353 1 890 289 389 Web: [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

##### ◆ IDESS Maritime Centre (Subic), Inc.

##### ◆ Imes Ltd

##### ◆ KBA Training Centre Pte Ltd

The only establishment based in Asia providing all the IMCA-approved training courses. In addition to IMCA courses, KBA also provides NEBOSH, IOSH and other training in occupational safety and health. The company, with its training centre based in Loyang, Singapore, has trained personnel from around the world, with its full course schedule available online.  
 Tel: +65 6546 0939 Web: [www.kbassociates.org](http://www.kbassociates.org)

##### ◆ London Offshore Consultants Ltd

A provider of marine and engineering consultancy services for nearly thirty years, working in both the energy and shipping sectors. With an experienced, diverse workforce across a global network of 15 offices, LOC has expertise to design, engineer, manage and execute a variety of marine operations in roles such as marine surveyor, marine/diving adviser, onshore/offshore rep and expert witness.  
 Tel: +44 (0) 20 7264 3250 Web: [www.loc-group.com](http://www.loc-group.com)

##### ◆ Nexen Petroleum UK Ltd

##### ◆ Offshore Geo-Surveys Sdn Bhd

##### ◆ Perry Slingsby Systems, Inc.

##### ◆ Rana Diving & Marine Contractor srl

For more than thirty years, Rana has been supplying diving services for inspection, maintenance/repair and installation of underwater structures and pipelines both for major oil companies and civil contractors onshore and offshore around the world, with an enviable safety record. Rana's permanent staff includes highly qualified engineers, technicians, supervisors and divers.  
 Tel: +39 0544 590 222 Web: [www.ranadiving.it](http://www.ranadiving.it)

##### ◆ Sahara Petroleum Company

##### ◆ Seahorse Services Co. Ltd

##### ◆ SubServPro

##### ◆ TS Marine Pty Ltd

##### ◆ Underwater Engineering Ltd

#### Recent name changes

- ◆ Offshore Works Sdn Bhd is now *Offshore Subsea Works Sdn Bhd*
- ◆ Saibos sas is now *Saipem sa - Saibos Division*
- ◆ Satakunta Polytechnic is now *Satakunta University of Applied Sciences*
- ◆ Umax Ltd is now *Serimax Ltd*
- ◆ Svitzer/Wijmsmuller is now simply *Svitzer*

# You may have missed ...



This summary of recent IMCA documentation keeps all members updated on activities throughout IMCA. If you would like to receive a copy of any document, or for further information, please contact the secretariat.

## New publications:

- ◆ **Considerations about the use of hold-back vessels during DP diving operations** (IMCA M 185)
- ◆ **IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor and Life Support Technician Certification Schemes** (IMCA D 013 Rev. 3)
- ◆ **Guidelines for the shared use of vessel sensors for DP and survey operations** (IMCA S 010)

## Safety flashes:

- ◆ **Safety flash 01/07** - covering 2 incidents: Subsea chain lever hoist failure; Pipe under tension on a reel
- ◆ **Safety flash 02/07** - covering 3 incidents: Galley equipment broke free of fastenings during severe weather; Kirby Morgan safety bulletin - Helmet shell repair caution; Divex HSE alert - valve seat retainer
- ◆ **Safety flash 03/07** - covering 1 incident: Near-miss - hyperbaric fire extinguisher incident

## Information notes:

### Safety, Environment & Legislation (SEL)

**IMCA SEL 04/07** - Feedback sought: IMCA guidance on systems and methods of communication in lifting operations

05/07 Transportation worker identification credential (TWIC) - Update 2

### Training, Certification & Personnel Competence (TCPC)

**IMCA TCPC 06/07** - Diving supervisor certification: Mutual recognition agreements (updated)

07/07 Changes to UKOOA medical frequency

08/07 Transportation worker identification credential (TWIC) - Update 2

### Diving Division

**IMCA D 04/07** - Diving supervisor certification: Mutual recognition agreements (updated)

05/07 Diver and diving supervisor certification (updated)

06/07 Diver medical examinations: Mutual recognition agreements

### Marine Division

**IMCA M 08/07** - Transportation worker identification credential (TWIC) - Update 2

09/07 Nautical Institute certification of dynamic positioning operators - latest update

## IMCA's e-mail distribution system

IMCA now uses an updated system for distributing material to members. Make sure the following addresses are included in your 'safe/approved sender' lists in order for IMCA messages to get through to you every time:

### [information@imca-int.com](mailto:information@imca-int.com)

Information is provided in the e-mail or attachment which may be of interest to you, such as safety flashes, information notes, minutes of meetings or other messages. By reviewing the subject line or document itself you can determine if it is of interest, forward to any relevant colleagues and either read, put aside to read later or file as appropriate.

### [events@imca-int.com](mailto:events@imca-int.com)

A meeting or event is being held which *you* can participate in. These can range from major seminars and workshops through regional section and sub-group meetings to social events. Simply review the agenda or programme, note the date in your diary, circulate to colleagues if relevant and advise IMCA of your attendance plans.

### [elections@imca-int.com](mailto:elections@imca-int.com)

If you receive an e-mail from 'IMCA Elections', you have the opportunity to participate and help shape the association's committees or regional leadership. Depending on the stage the election has reached, you could stand yourself, if you wish to participate directly in IMCA's work, nominate somebody else who you feel could make a good contribution or vote for one or more individuals.

### [committees@imca-int.com](mailto:committees@imca-int.com)

Those active on IMCA committees or workgroups will also receive messages from this address. This helps to distinguish items requiring a response from those directly involved in a particular work item or committee, including confirmation of meetings, circulation of documents for review or approval and consultation on key topics.

If you aren't receiving documents that you think should have been sent to you, please contact the secretariat to check your representation and contact records so that we can keep you up to date:

[imca@imca-int.com](mailto:imca@imca-int.com)

## Diving Division

# IMCA acts on medical support needs

Diving Division seeks to address availability of doctors with the specialist experience and training required by the offshore diving industry

The IMCA Diving Division Management Committee recently discussed the availability of doctors with experience of the commercial diving industry and its unique medical problems, recognising that such support is diminishing.

Such cover was provided traditionally by doctors trained in naval diving, but over the years this source of expertise has almost disappeared. Competent civilian cover was achieved early in the development of the offshore oil and gas industry, but this was often on an ad-hoc basis. Another factor today is that medical training throughout the world is turning towards

increased specialisation, but while the training objectives for this tiny speciality have been agreed, it is difficult to achieve the delivery of such training in a hospital environment.

IMCA members undertaking both air and saturation diving operations need medical input in three specific areas:

- ◆ assessments of fitness to dive and, occasionally, to resume diving
- ◆ immediate treatment of all foreseeable diving illnesses and accidents
- ◆ advice on the physiology, toxicology and other preventive aspects of diving

Each of these requires different knowledge and different levels of skill.

To ensure the future availability of medical cover, particularly at the second skill level, IMCA is developing a questionnaire to be circulated to all diving contractor members to review current and future needs for competent medical support in each of the IMCA regions.

Please look out for this questionnaire and provide feedback to help the committee consider how best this issue can be addressed.

Further details available from [Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com](mailto:Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com)

## Diving news in brief

A new version of the guidance on *Underwater Air Lift Bags* (IMCA D 016) is nearly ready, with submission to the Overall Management Committee for publication expected soon.

Updating of the *IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving* (IMCA D 014), as announced in issue 42, is progressing well. A draft revision is already with the Diving Division Management Committee for review and is expected to be circulated to all diving contractor and supplier members shortly to gain their input. The updated text will then be distributed to oil companies and committees such as the OGP diving safety group prior to publication.

Review and updating of a number of other diving publications is also underway through the SMTT Committee. To contribute to the committee, please contact [Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com](mailto:Jane.Bugler@imca-int.com)

## Guide to concrete mattresses on the way

IMCA is currently finalising guidance on concrete mattresses, covering handling, deployment, installation, repositioning and decommissioning.

This document stemmed from a very informative presentation on the topic given by Derek Beddows of Technip at the 2005 IMCA annual seminar in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

The extensive guidance addresses the design and specification of

concrete mattresses, through load-out and mobilisation to deployment and decommissioning. The guidance provides useful advice on areas to be considered when working with concrete mattresses, as well as some helpful illustrations and photographs.

The draft guidance is well advanced, currently undergoing committee review, and is expected to be published shortly.

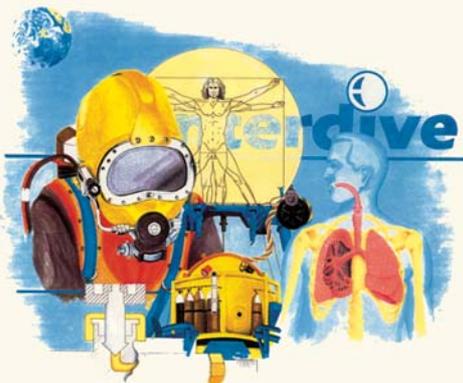
## Updates to recognised diving certification

IMCA has recently issued three documents to members in respect of the certification of diving personnel, each reflecting moves to enhance international recognition and thus ensure the flexibility and availability of the labour market:

- ◆ Diver training certificates - information note IMCA D 05/07 sets out the latest update to the list of recognised diver certificates, updating that included IMCA D 014 in the light of external changes
- ◆ Diving supervisors - IMCA has now signed agreements on mutual recognition of offshore diving supervisor certificates with ADAS (Australia) and DCBC (Canada) - see the updated IMCA D 04/07
- ◆ Diver medicals - IMCA is pleased to relay news on mutual recognition agreements for diver medical certificates as set out in information note IMCA D 06/07

## Interdive™ Services Ltd

OFFSHORE DIVING OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING



- ◆ 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)1752-558080 Fax: +44 (0)1752-569090 Mob: +44 (0)7748-694339  
E-mail: [diving@interdive.co.uk](mailto:diving@interdive.co.uk) Web: [www.interdive.co.uk](http://www.interdive.co.uk)

Interdive Services Ltd, Stoke Damerel Business Centre,  
3 & 3A Church Street, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 4DT, UK

## Marine Division

# IMCA delivering in the Americas

Americas Deepwater Section provides members with a forum to address the issues that matter in their region and feed back into IMCA's world-wide programme.

It's now almost five years since the Americas Deepwater Section was established and there's a new dynamism emerging.

While one of the initial roles was to communicate better with members about what IMCA was doing at the global level, a key aim was to facilitate new work and enable discussion on issues specific to the region.

Through the new quarterly meetings of the section as a whole, with presentations by guest speakers on topical issues, IMCA is firmly establishing itself in the region among members and a wider audience.

Membership is also starting to increase in the Americas. US-based Helix Energy Solutions Group and J Ray McDermott are both ICO members participating on IMCA's Council, with key players such as Global Industries and Oceaneering also deeply involved. Recent new members in all categories, such as Aker Marine Contractors, BHP Billiton and Chevron Shipping reflect the growing interest in the region.

IMCA's involvement as a supporting organization of OTC (see cover) is intended to build on these successes and to help introduce IMCA to an even wider audience.



### Marine focus

In particular, the section's Marine Division sub-group, now led by Mark Canada of Transocean, has reorganised and is now holding regular meetings to focus on key topics.

One of its initiatives was to lead the development of guidance on annual DP trials for drilling rigs, which is now underway.

The sub-group also contributes to global Marine Division work items, such as the current review of the key *Guidelines for the Design and Operation of Dynamically Positioned Vessels* (IMCA M 103). At the sub-group's 27 April meeting, the latest draft was tabled for review and useful feedback has been received.

### SIMOPs

The marine sub-group's current focus is the development of draft guidance on simultaneous operations (SIMOPs), where two or more DP vessels are working in close proximity to each other.

SIMOPs require an overall risk assessment, consideration of regulatory/company requirements and development of a site-specific plan. This all has to be done recognising the requirements of each vessel's operations and emergency response plans.

Members are invited to contribute to the SIMOPs guidance, by providing example procedures, decision matrices or other documents - contact [Ian.Giddings@imca-int.com](mailto:Ian.Giddings@imca-int.com) to get involved.

### DP incidents report due soon

The report on dynamic positioning system station-keeping incidents for 2005 is due for publication this month.

It sets out the analysis of 36 reported incidents from drilling, dive support, ROV support, well operations, flotel, pipelay and offshore loading vessels. As in previous years, each incident has been categorised as a major loss of position (LOPI), minor loss of position (LOP2) or lost time incident (LTI).

Within this year's report there are 15 LOPI, 6 LOP2 and 15 LTI incidents, with computers and thrusters continuing to

feature as significant initiating triggers for these events.

For future years, it is hoped to build on these reports by not only encouraging more reporting, but also by providing more feedback on the incidents.

One area in which this could take place is that of lessons learnt, which would be included in the report together with the initiating event and triggers.

IMCA is also looking at how other organisations, such as CHIRP (the Confidential Hazardous Incident Reporting Programme), handle reports and promulgate analysis.



### Marine chairman

Pete Somner has been re-elected, unopposed, as Chairman of the Marine Division Management Committee following his change of company.

He takes over the Technip seat previously filled by Steve Woodward on the committee, with Geir Karlsen co-opted as the new Subsea 7 representative.

### Lifting update

Lifting operations on vessels are fundamental to their working existence, ranging from light loads in and around the vessel to the staggeringly huge weights of topside modules. Not only that, but the moving decks of vessels, all of the dynamic and environmental forces that are imposed on a lift and the equipment and personnel operating it need to be considered. Lifting operations are one of the busiest and most complex areas of members' operations.

Both the equipment used and types of operation vary greatly, so producing IMCA guidance that is relevant to all members has not been an easy task. However, since issue 41, when the work of the Crane & Winch Operations Workgroup was introduced, detailed feedback has been incorporated and updated drafts reviewed. The guidance is due to be passed for approval shortly, after which the group will turn its attention to other work items.

The workgroup has benefited from broad participation, with some 34 individuals involved, representing companies engaged in a full range of offshore and subsea lifting activities.

A number of the workgroup's members are directly employed in lifting operations and, while they cannot always attend the meetings in person for operational reasons, their input via e-mail and telephone has been invaluable.

The workgroup has also enlisted the expertise of relevant non-members, including crane manufacturers, a test certification specialist and a wire rope consultant, to help ensure the resulting industry guidance is widely applicable, appropriate and useful for members.

For more details on the Crane & Winch Operations Workgroup, please contact [Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com](mailto:Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com)

## Offshore Survey Division

### Shared use of vessel sensors

Second IMCA document complements earlier DGPS guide to assist those involved in DP and survey operations

IMCA has just published *Guidelines for the Shared Use of Vessel Sensors for DP and Survey Operations* (IMCA S 010). Its purpose is to provide guidance in highlighting the risks associated with sharing a vessel's dynamic positioning systems for survey operations and on the development of procedures to mitigate such risks.

The guide briefly describes dynamic positioning classification and redundancy requirements, before identifying various risks associated with shared use, describing various operational configurations and documentation requirements before setting out considerations to be borne in mind by those developing procedures allowing for safe, secure and effective sharing arrangements to be implemented. An example risk assessment is included in the appendix.

The document's conclusions and recommendations section provides useful guidance that can be used at all levels where shared operations may be being considered.

The guidance (IMCA S 010) is being circulated now, with additional copies available for purchase (£10 to members/£25 to non-members - see [www.imca-int.com/publications](http://www.imca-int.com/publications)). Offshore Survey Division members can also download the guidance for free via the members-only website.

### IMCA at Ocean Business

IMCA members were out in force at the recent *Offshore Survey 07* conference held recently at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, UK.

A full and varied technical programme featured presentations by a number of IMCA committee representatives and other members, drawing much interest from all present.

Alongside the conference was the *Ocean Business 2007* exhibition, supported by IMCA. A variety of visitors came along to the IMCA stand, enabling association staff to speak with active members, those who might not previously have been directly involved and a number of others in the industry who were able to find out more about IMCA and its work.

### Survey professionals gather in Geilo

IMCA was represented at the prestigious Geilo seminar of Norwegian offshore survey professionals, held in February, by consultant Gordon Johnstone. He made a well-received presentation on deepwater acoustic positioning, which included emphasis on the role of acoustic positioning in the Ormen Lange project, as well as an outline of the forthcoming IMCA guidelines on deepwater acoustic positioning.

The IMCA Offshore Survey Division Management Committee is hoping to build upon the success of this presentation by contributing further technical papers at future events, helping to publicise the association's role and guidance among the wider industry in Norway.



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## Remote Systems & ROV Division

### ROV research proposals advancing

IMCA liaising with leading universities to take forward projects to benefit ROV operator members

The Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee, as part of its 2007 work programme, has identified a number of areas in which engineering research would be of potential benefit to ROV operating companies.

These include:

- ◆ Umbilical corrosion - operators have reported corrosion problems with deepwater umbilicals in particular, with research into causes and possible prevention needed
- ◆ Buoyancy - research into compact, variable buoyancy materials with low deterioration rates could help to reduce the overall weight and hence 'footprint' on the mother vessel and improve the

performance of ROVs in the future, particularly as the industry moves into ever deeper waters

- ◆ Composite materials - to address both weight and corrosion issues
- ◆ 'Environmentally friendly' hydraulic fluids

IMCA has written to a number of leading academic departments around the world as it seeks to identify an appropriate university or technical institution to conduct engineering research and development in one or more of these areas, with funding identified over a two-year period.

More details on the research proposals are available from [Nick.Hough@imca-int.com](mailto:Nick.Hough@imca-int.com)

### Digital video - two years of progress

In September 2005, IMCA published *Digital Video Offshore: A Review of Current and Future Technologies* (IMCA S 008/R 012).

The advent of digital video has brought with it a new era for the offshore industry. IMCA developed this guide for the benefit of offshore contractors and their clients to provide an understanding of digital video technology, the potential benefits available over analogue technology, practical applications and the development of industry standards.

With such technology developing at a fast pace, at the time of publication IMCA noted that it would be necessary to undertake regular reviews to ensure the document remained up-to-date.

Members of the original workgroup will therefore reconvene before the end of June to begin the review process.

Anybody wishing to submit feedback or to participate in the workgroup should contact [Nick.Hough@imca-int.com](mailto:Nick.Hough@imca-int.com)

### Annual ROV activity - trends for 2006

IMCA is currently compiling its annual report on ROV activity, building on the North Sea data collected since 1988.

For the second year running the exercise has been extended to include members' ROV operations world-wide, reporting over regions such as the Middle East, Mediterranean,

the USA, West Africa and the Asia-Pacific area.

It is also intended that the final report will include analysis of activity in four industry sectors - inspection, drill support, construction and cable-lay.

To contribute, please contact [Nick.Hough@imca-int.com](mailto:Nick.Hough@imca-int.com)



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## ROV Training



As an operator of more than 20 submersible systems, Global Marine has the training facilities and equipment to support its offshore personnel. Global Marine Subsea Training, offer IMCA aligned ROV training courses for new entrants into the industry as well as a certificate of competency scheme, and further training and development courses that takes new entrant ROV Pilot Technicians through to ROV Supervisors.

Global Marine set about establishing a Subsea Training division to instruct new and existing personnel in both the Oil & Gas and Cable Burial Industries. The ocean-going subsea equipment in their Portland Depot gives trainees the chance to interact and become familiar with major equipment suppliers. In addition, Global Marine has invested in a dedicated Sea Eye Falcon, Trojan Work Class ROV and Open Frame Sprint to give students that 'hands on' experience. Also available is a simulator for computer based training and scenario modelling.

All courses are designed to complete the standard set of competencies; additionally each element of the training can be modified or customized to meet specific customer requirements.

[www.globalmarinesystems.com](http://www.globalmarinesystems.com)

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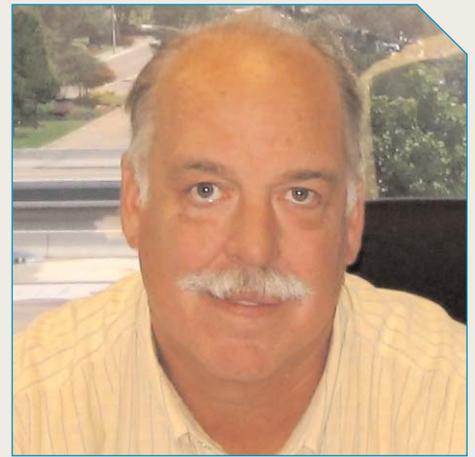
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## Spotlight on Roy Sijthoff

Roy Sijthoff is Senior Vice President - Deepwater Contracting of Helix Energy Solutions Group and has served as Chairman of the Americas Deepwater Section and a member of the Overall Management Committee since 2003. In this article, he discusses his 'day job' and provides a personal insight into the work the section is currently undertaking on behalf of members.



### Please tell us a little about Helix Energy Solutions Group and its activities

Helix Energy Solutions Group Inc. is a leading marine contractor and operator of offshore oil and gas properties. The company seeks to align the interests of the producer and the contractor by investing in mature offshore oil and gas properties and proven undeveloped reserve plays where Helix Energy Solutions Group adds value by deploying vessels from its diverse contracting fleet. This unique integration of marine contracting and oil and gas operations is designed to add stability to revenues and earnings in an industry as cyclical as energy. In addition to our contracting and production services, we provide, through Helix RDS, extensive reservoir and well technology services to our external and internal customers.

### What does your current job involve?

Currently I am in charge of Helix's Deepwater Contracting business unit. We call it the deepwater group, but it really is all water depths because we still do a lot of work in water depths less than 2,000 ft. The deepwater group currently deploys two reeled pipelay vessels – Intrepid and Express – and in early 2008 we plan to add an S-lay vessel, Caesar, to our deepwater fleet. The Intrepid is the most active reeled pipelay vessel in the Gulf of Mexico, but with the addition of the Express and the Caesar our business is evolving rapidly into a global one.

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

Cliché would be hard work, but for me it has really been the people I have been blessed to work with. This includes the people I have worked for, with and those that have worked for me. Also the clients who have become friends over the years with whom we have been able to develop a partnership and trust. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you that I have had the pleasure to work with.

I am very big on communication. I believe that with good communication a lot can be resolved in an amicable way. This means listening, which is some times the hardest thing to do!

I would be negligent if I did not thank my family as well as they have been very supportive throughout my career.

### What are the key issues affecting the industry at the moment, particularly in your region?

Although our traditional region has been the Gulf of Mexico, we have made great leaps into the global market.

The one big challenge before us is people. We as an industry have not managed our succession process well. As an industry we are great at building equipment to meet our new challenges, but we have often forgotten about the people we need to manage and operate these mega machines we are building.

Another area of concern is safety. I believe we have made significant strides in improving safety offshore, but a major concern is maintaining this progress. We need to find ways to maintain safety awareness and that is going to be a continuous process requiring innovative techniques.

### What can be done about them?

We are doing much better now in attracting people to our exciting industry, I just hope it is not too late. They will probably make some of the same mistakes that we did (for those of you that have been doing this for a while), I just hope that we leave them with systems that will allow them to make them much safer (i.e. bring everyone home the way they came to the job).

Another major component is finding the mentors for these new to the industry employees.

As for keeping up safety awareness, I do not have any quick fixes. As I said previously this will be a continuous process.

### What can IMCA do about them?

Although not part of the original scope for IMCA, what we have created is a massive library of industry best practices and guidelines that will hopefully help those who follow and increase safety awareness to those new to the industry by passing on lessons learned.

### What are the benefits to the industry from collective work through IMCA?

IMCA has brought us together as an industry to help us collectively to improve by sharing best practices and also to be able share our problems. This has helped us as a community and improves the work place for our people.

### How do you see the future?

I believe the near term future is very bright. There are many challenges out there waiting for us and I believe these motivate us. Our industry is safer than it has ever been and, although not perfect, we are at least moving in the right direction.

Unfortunately, our business is very cyclical and we are now in one of the upward cycles. A downward cycle will come, but I just hope that it won't be a deep one. I think we as an industry are very wary of this and always have one eye open for the signs.



## Forthcoming events

24 May  
**IMCA Asia-Pacific Section**  
Singapore

8 June  
**Midsummer Charity Ball**  
Fyvie Castle, Aberdeen, UK

14 June  
**IMCA Americas**  
**Deepwater Section**  
Houston, USA

4-7 September  
Offshore Europe  
AECC, Aberdeen, UK  
*Visit IMCA on stand 851*

5 September  
**Europe & Africa Section**  
**Meeting & Lunch Reception**  
alongside Offshore Europe  
AECC, Aberdeen, UK

6-7 November  
**IMCA Annual Seminar:**  
**"New Frontiers in Marine**  
**Contracting"**  
Paris, France

For full details on forthcoming IMCA events, including downloadable brochures, online registration and an extended calendar, please visit:

[www.imca-int.com/events](http://www.imca-int.com/events)



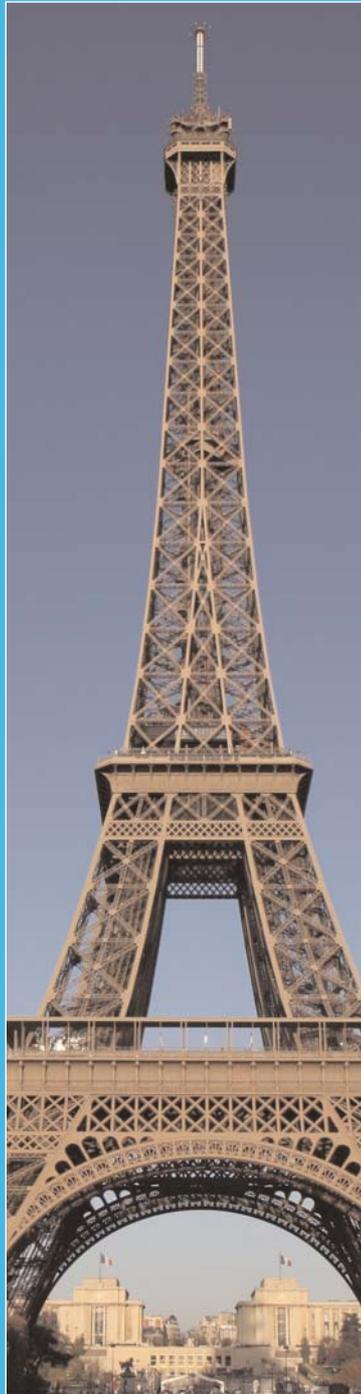
## Midsummer Charity Ball

This year's IMCA ball takes place on **8 June 2007** at a new and rather special venue - Fyvie Castle, near Aberdeen.

This National Trust for Scotland property set in stunning scenery will provide a magnificent and dramatic backdrop for a glamorous evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment, with the opportunity for ballgoers to tour the castle as the evening begins.

A record number of bookings has already been made and an excellent evening is expected. Don't miss out!

**Book now at [www.imca-int.com/events](http://www.imca-int.com/events)**



## Annual Seminar 2007

# New Frontiers in Marine Contracting

6-7 November 2007  
Paris, France

An interesting and varied programme for this year's annual seminar is being prepared, including:

### ◆ Presentations

- Keynote session on contracting issues
- Plenary sessions for all delegates
- Parallel sessions on marine and diving topics

### ◆ Workshops

- A variety of discussion sessions dedicated to key issues facing the industry

### ◆ Exhibition

- Supplier members of IMCA displaying their latest products and services

### ◆ Social events and networking opportunities

**Booking due to open during June**

Full details to come at [www.imca-int.com/events](http://www.imca-int.com/events)