The International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) is a leading trade association representing the vast majority of marine contractors and the associated supply chain in the offshore construction industry worldwide.

IMCA was formed in 1995 through the merger of the former Association of Offshore Diving Contractors (AODC, formed in 1972) and the Dynamically Positioned Vessel Owners Association (DPVOA, formed in 1989). Consequently, our operational roots and technical credentials are second to none in our industry.
Our mission is to improve performance in the marine contracting industry.

To achieve this, we leverage the expertise of our Members through conferences, seminars, and our large network of committees. We publish industry leading standards of technical and operating guidance in key areas of safety, quality, and offshore performance. We represent our Members in dialogue with other industry bodies, regulators, oil companies and renewable energy companies.

Our vision is to be the global authority in the marine contracting industry by championing improvements in industry performance and delivering authoritative technical practices.
Our Values

During our work we always focus on:

- Promoting and maintaining the highest standards of integrity and ethics
- Respect for safety and the marine environment
- Efficiency, by offering good value to our Members
- The collective best interests of our Members

Our value proposition is to influence our industry in key safety, technical, contractual, policy and regulatory matters. We focus on areas that are in the best-interest of the marine contracting industry.

Our reputation is of the highest standing. Our work, to which our Members contribute significantly, is well respected and sets high standards in the marine contracting industry.
IMCA & Its Work

We are an international trade association. Our Members operate in the offshore construction industry around the world. We exist for the benefit of our Members by promoting areas of common interest, such as health, safety, quality, environmental and technical standards.

We focus on adding value for our Members by improving business performance. All our activities are carried out in strict adherence to our Competition Law Compliance Policy.

We have always been at the forefront of producing industry standards and guidelines for a wide variety of marine operations to improve safety and business performance. Initially these focused on diving and dynamic positioning (DP) in line with our heritage, however our focus has since expanded significantly into many segments of our industry.

As a result, we have developed a well-respected library of industry leading documents which have become widely used and accepted. IMCA guidance is used globally across the offshore industry.

Adoption of our guidance also includes:
- Reference by the International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- Regulatory acceptance of IMCA, by for example: the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE)
- Reference to IMCA guidance by the International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (IOGP)
- Wide international recognition of the IMCA Diving Supervisor certification scheme

In addition to our strong technical drive, we are a communication platform for our Membership in promoting our industry with other organisations and regulators. In this respect we are highly engaged with the International Maritime Organization, oil company associations, and national regulators. We also provide a forum for our Members to meet and share professional ideas and opinions for the benefit of all.

Our work enables us to be a high-profile influencer in the industry improving performance and driving-up standards.
Structure

We operate through a committee structure which addresses many different areas of technical expertise. Membership on our committees is by election or nomination, and we have over thirty committees and workgroups in place all working towards improving specialist aspects of performance of our industry.

IMCA has as full-time Secretariat based in London, supported by consultants around the world. The Secretariat provides the management and administrative support to the Association’s business, including the document generation, review processes and publication. We leverage the knowledge and expertise of our Member companies, who are the best in the business.

- We share safety-related information across our Membership, helping to raise offshore safety standards towards a ‘zero incident and injury’ goal.
- We monitor national and international legislation and other industry developments to inform and promote our Members’ interests, and collate expert opinion from our Members to lobby regulators and other key decision makers.
- We liaise with client bodies and other third-party organisations to promote our Members’ interests and our body of technical knowledge.

Our global reach is organised into five geographic regions: Asia-Pacific, Europe & Africa, Middle East & India, North America, and South America.
Governance

IMCA has a modern and effective governance structure and programme. We follow a strict code of practice and operate in conjunction with our Articles of Association, Bye-laws and Competition Law Compliance Policy.

The Board
We are governed by The Board of Directors of IMCA Holdings Ltd and, in keeping with tradition, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of The Board are also given the honorary titles of President and Vice-President of the Association.

The Chief Executive is responsible for the day to day running of the Association and is accountable to The Board for overall performance of the Association and the Secretariat.

The Board provides strategic direction and leadership, monitors progress and ensures economic viability and legal compliance.

The Board sets Membership criteria and monitors compliance in line with our Articles of Association and Bye-laws.

Operations Committee
The Operations Committee informs, helps to co-ordinate and leads the operations of IMCA by overseeing the programme of work and delivery plans of all committees.

It comprises the Chairmen of all our technical and regional committees. Its Chairman also serves on The Board.

We have a modern and transparent governance programme
Membership

We have a Membership of some 800 companies operating in more than 60 countries.

Membership of IMCA is available to companies and organisations involved in offshore, marine and underwater engineering. There are various categories of Membership, covering global, international, and national contractors, suppliers, energy companies, regulators, NGOs and other related industry organisations.

Each Member joins one or more of our technical divisions (Diving, Marine, Offshore Survey, Remote Systems & ROV) according to its own areas of operation.

In addition to the global work of IMCA’s technical committees, each Member joins one of five regions: Asia-Pacific, Europe & Africa, Middle East & India, North America, South America.

Members are encouraged to participate in our regional meetings and events to network and engage in our wide range of activities.

Key benefits of Membership

- A forum for meeting with likeminded companies and industry professionals to discuss matters of common interest.
- A level playing field of technical standards for all Members, ensuring that contractors and their clients are aligned.
- Unlimited access to our comprehensive online library, based on our Members’ cumulative global experience, including regular updates, and with opportunities for contributing to the drafting and development process.
- Immediate access to all safety statistics, and our industry-wide Safety Flash alert system.
- A ‘single voice’ for lobbying on regulatory matters, with clients, governments and other organisations.
- Up-to-date certification in the key supervisory roles of Diving and Dynamic Positioning.
- IMCA’s approved certification schemes are highly sought after within our industry.
- Seminars and workshops on a wide range of specialist industry topics.

A leading voice for the offshore marine contracting industry.