

IMCA

The International Marine Contractors Association

Representing offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies

news letter
July 2002

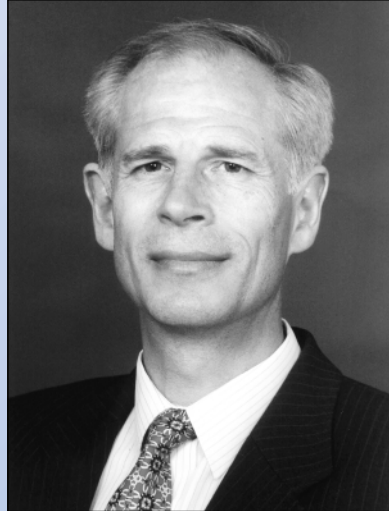
Issue 24

<i>News for all members</i>	2
<i>TCPC</i>	4
<i>Safety, Environment & Legislation</i>	5
<i>Regional News</i>	6
<i>ROV</i>	7
<i>Diving</i>	8
<i>Offshore Survey</i>	9
<i>Marine</i>	10
<i>Members' News</i>	11

IMCA welcomes new CEO

Hugh Williams has now taken over as Chief Executive from Tony Read who's retiring.

Hugh has wide experience of construction and marine operations. He has worked in marine contracting and consultancy with responsibilities in engineering, project management, business development and on the commercial side. His previous employers were Heerema Marine Contractors, and consultancies Global Maritime and Noble Denton. This followed training as a Chartered Civil Engineer at ports and harbours consultancy, Rendel Palmer and Tritton, with a period at the Thames Barrier site on the resident engineer's staff, which included diver training at Fort Bovisand.



"The role Hugh assumes at IMCA is a difficult post requiring a broad skill set, I am delighted to have him on board," says IMCA's President and Chairman John Smith of Subsea 7. "His appointment will provide a natural catalyst for a re-focus of IMCA's activities as we move into a new phase."

It's a role that Hugh is very much looking forward to: "With a membership of some 200 companies in more than 30 countries, we provide a single authoritative voice for our members to promote our common interests and to resolve industry-wide issues.

"We help to draft sound guidance based on the cumulative experience of our members and establish a level playing field in safety and quality issues in projects for our members and their clients.

"Our industry is changing rapidly into deeper water, new locations and harsher environments. At the same time technology moves on apace and health, safety and environmental expectations are especially high. In parallel, company mergers and new contracting styles abound. Each of these elements plays a part in the risk and reward of marine contracting relationships. I am looking forward to working with these significant challenges in our industry by contributing to its self-regulation."

One of Hugh's first tasks, with retiring Chief Executive Tony Read, has been a visit to the USA during OTC for talks regarding the establishment of a new IMCA Americas Deepwater Section (there are already Middle East & India and Asia-Pacific Sections.)

IMCA membership

Total membership is now double what it was when IMCA was created through the merger of AODC and DPVOA in 1995. Of the 200 companies now in IMCA membership, two thirds are based outside the UK. Like any trade association IMCA loses members through mergers and changes within the industry but we are pleased that despite much consolidation in the sector overall membership has continued to rise.

The Asia-Pacific Section continues to attract new participants but IMCA's membership is also growing in both the Americas and Europe. Any increase in numbers is very welcome in its own right, but one of the main benefits is improved safety and efficiency through the more widespread adoption of IMCA guidance based on members' shared experience and good practice.

Farewell Tony

At IMCA's Midsummer Charity Ball John Smith, President and Chairman of the Association, gave Tony Read, retiring Chief Executive, a silver salver and thanked him for his valuable contribution to the work of IMCA over the past five years. When Tony joined in early 1997, IMCA had 105 members, about half of them UK-based. Under Tony's leadership that figure has become significantly larger and more international (see p.1). Tony joined IMCA from the E&P Forum (now OGP – the international oil and gas producers' trade association) where he worked for 15 years as Deputy Executive Secretary/Technical Director.

Tony first became involved in the offshore industry when he joined the then UK energy ministry's Petroleum Engineering Division as head of Pollution Control with responsibilities in offshore discharges, contingency plans, decommissioning and well abandonment.

During his time at IMCA Tony oversaw the creation of the Asia-Pacific Section, the publication and promotion of IMCA codes of practice for offshore diving and ROVs, and improved contact with the membership through a website and electronic document distribution. John Smith especially acknowledged Tony's role in gaining wider recognition of the value of IMCA's guidance. Tony, you will be missed by many friends and colleagues in the offshore industry. We wish you the very best in your retirement.

Farewell IMCA - from Tony Read

Many readers will know the saying "The show is not over until the fat lady has sung". Hence the inscription 'Obesa cantavit' (translation from the Latin: The Fat Lady has sung) – on the splendid silver plate I was given by IMCA to mark my retirement. This was the shortest phrase I could think of which covered the ground. In my twenty years with oil industry trade associations my aim in briefing members has been to be accurate, brief and not too predictable.

I have much enjoyed my five years endeavouring to look after the interests of the marine contracting sector. I was taken on in 1997, along with Technical Director Jane Bugler, to bring together the previously separate marine (DPVOA) and diving/ROV (AODC) offices to make one body dedicated to promoting a focused agenda. The Offshore Survey Division was created in 1996 through incorporation of OSCA, initially without a chair or a committee. It's been gratifying since then to see membership expand to include twice as many members based outside the UK as within. Winning observer status at IMO was an important step and new sections in Asia-Pacific, and soon in the Americas, will further consolidate that internationalisation.

I have been convinced of the need for effective technical trade associations since I started in the offshore industry 25 years ago as the UK Department of Energy's first environmental regulator. I came to that job from metal mining, where typically for every tonne of metal produced, 100+ tonnes of waste is generated. In oil and gas activity, typically 95% of the hydrocarbon which passes the well head reaches the market, and most of the rest provides energy used in extraction and refining. Industry associations exist partly to put such technical matters into perspective.

Ironically, the main individuals at risk from discharges offshore are divers. After 17+ years dealing with the issue from a government and the operator trade association's perspective, it was not until I reached IMCA that I learned the diver's perspective.

One role of a secretariat is to watch issues develop, identify key decision makers and field respected experts to argue the members' case. Maybe the old AODC should have been more vigilant about oil based muds. But what issues must IMCA be vigilant over now?

One must be the possible inappropriate use of e-bidding (Dutch or 'reverse' auctions) in the awarding of contracts for the provision of complex services – potentially a tool to drive down contractors' margins. As Halliburton's Mel Fitzgerald said so well at Offshore Europe 2001 – "We cannot afford to allow the technologies we deliver, which are essential to unlocking the remaining wealth [in the N.Sea], to be commercialised as a commodity. We must forge new business relationships with operators and suppliers that will recognise what each party is delivering and provide fair compensation based on added value delivered."

I wish Hugh Williams and all members success in meeting this and other challenges. I would also convey my thanks to all my colleagues in member companies, on IMCA committees and in London for the pleasure of working with you over the past five years.

LOGIC event

The 4th Annual Oil & Gas Conference, entitled 'Paving the Way' was staged in Aberdeen by the LOGIC, PILOT and Progressing Partnership alliance on 22-23 May 2002. As a co-sponsor IMCA had a stand in the exhibition hall.

The event took place in the wake of the recent unannounced increase in tax on UK North Sea fields which considerably upset the industry. Any increase is bound to be unpopular, but the poor communication of this change clearly rankled among oil companies and contractors who had emphasised 'partnership' with government and civil servants for some years. Trust has been shattered and some of PILOT's 2010 targets will now be hard to achieve. Speakers and audience continuously returned to this theme while discussing other key areas such as the supply chain, contracting styles and safety.

Like many industries, offshore contractors have found efficiencies in their supply chain management. Better contracts, agreed by both parties, apply oil to the chain. A new document entitled *Code of Practice on Supply Chain Partnership* stipulates a modus operandi for all players on the UKCS and sets target dates for compliance.

Paul Blakely from Talisman Energy who represents the Step Change in Safety campaign championed this recurrent IMCA theme.

Break-out sessions, show-cases and workshops were all well attended at what was clearly a dynamic, multi-dimensional event.

Renewable energy offshore

The venue for the 'All Energy Opportunities' conference held on 28-29 May 2002 was chosen with care. The Aberdeen Conference and Exhibition Centre is where offshore shows are held, and the city now wants to be seen as the North Sea capital for offshore renewable energy. Aberdonians have a point, since the skills base clearly exists in this part of Scotland. IMCA co-sponsored this event and had a stand to promote marine contracting.

All the offshore renewable energy concepts require large amounts of input from marine contractors. In each case there will be surveys, marine operations (during transportation and installation), cable-laying and maintenance issues well into the future. Through all of this, marine safety will be high on the agenda.

Offshore wind-farms are now big business in Europe with several large projects under construction and 18 farms planned around English and Welsh coasts. Each of these will have 30 windmills, whilst Horns Rev, off Denmark, will have 80 installed in the first phase this year. Of course the rotor technology is well proven onshore, albeit with generally smaller machines. The first full scale alternative tidal, current and wave power generators are still in the trial stage with several tests planned for this year.

The contractors installing new wind-farms are a mixture of new players and inshore civil engineering and dredging companies. The bigger contractors, better known in the offshore oil & gas sector have not yet played a big part. Indeed, some conference speakers wanted to throw the gauntlet down to IMCA members to get more involved.

There is a huge energy resource at sea and harnessing it economically is getting closer to reality every day. Clearly this is a new arena for marine contracting and somewhere it faces an exciting future.

IMCA Overall Management Committee

President & Chairman: John Smith, Subsea 7

Chairman Diving: Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7

Chairman Marine: Hugo Bekker, Allseas Group

Chairman ROV: Kevin Kerins, Oceaneering International

Chairman Offshore Survey: Alf Parker, Subsea 7

Chairman SEL: Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Cont.

Chairman (retiring) TCPC: Terry Hirst, Stolt Offshore

Chairman (designate) TCPC: John Greensmyth,
Technip-Coflexip

Vice Chairman Diving: OC Andersen, Stolt Offshore AS

Vice Chairman Marine: Pete Somner, Subsea 7

Vice Chairman ROV: Dave Walker, Technip-Coflexip

Vice Chairman SEL: Mike O'Meara, Subsea 7

Vice Chairman TCPC: Brendan Kelly, Oceaneering Int.

Chairman, Middle East & India Section:

Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott Diving Div.

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Section: Andy Bolton,

Technip-Coflexip Oceania

IMCA Technical Director: Jane Bugler

IMCA Chief Executive: Hugh Williams

As Tony Read has so eloquently put it the "fat lady has sung" and Tony has enrolled as a mature student while Hugh Williams has taken up the mantle of IMCA's Chief Executive.



Tony struggled for some time with the establishment of an Americas Section and it's to his credit as he departs that the elections for office bearers are underway and by the next edition of IMCA News the IMCA Americas Deepwater Section will have had its inaugural meeting. Part of the resistance we have felt to setting up this section was due to a perception that IMCA was a North Sea Club. With the history of the industry and the majority of our ICOs this perception is perhaps not surprising but it is not the future.

The association has grown up in the North Sea and naturally has had a North Sea and perhaps a UK bias but the structure has evolved rather than been designed. Having reflected on this issue and in the face of globalisation across our industry IMCA's Council has concluded that it is necessary for us to amend the shape of our organisation for the future. We intend to retain the current committee structure but in addition to the new Americas Deepwater Section and the existing Asia-Pacific and Middle East & India Sections, IMCA will shortly create a Europe & Africa Section, giving the Association true global coverage.

With four geographic sections IMCA will be able to pick up specific geographical issues while the existing committees will continue to handle common technical topics. This structure should provide global coverage and balance as IMCA moves into a new era.

I'm sure all of you will join with me in bidding a fond farewell to Tony and a warm welcome to Hugh.

Members website now live

Regular readers will have seen frequent mention of the members-only website, where all current IMCA documentation (safety flashes, guidance and information notes and the latest minutes) is available for download along with extensive information on the role and work of the Association. You'll be pleased to know the site has gone live. All members should by now have received full details of how to obtain a username and password to log in. If you haven't, please e-mail Adam.Hugo@imca-int.com

Images wanted to bring words to life

IMCA continues to update and add to the careers information on its website, but the site needs graphic illustrations to enhance these web pages. We have some ideas/images but do you have better ones....?

Contact <Adam.Hugo@imca-int.com> if you can help.



Thank you Terry

Many of you will know that Terry Hirst is retiring, both as TCPC Chairman and from his company Stolt Offshore.

Commenting on his time with IMCA Terry says: "It's been a rewarding experience, especially working with the support and dedicated efforts of my committee, other IMCA committees, the OMC and the secretariat. I think the offshore industry is well served by IMCA, as demonstrated by the Competence Assurance and

Assessment Scheme guidelines and other publications that IMCA has developed over the years. While I am looking forward to time off in retirement I shall definitely miss my association with this work."

The TCPC core committee was formed in 1997 with Terry as its first chairman, a position he has held ever since. Under his guidance and direction the committee developed and published the IMCA Competence Assurance and Assessment Scheme at the beginning of 1999. Since then Terry and the committee have supported IMCA members through the implementation of the scheme within their companies by running a series of highly successful information sharing workshops.

IMCA wishes to thank Terry for his hard work and enthusiasm as TCPC Chairman and as a member of the Overall Management Committee. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

IMCA also welcomes John Greensmyth as the new TCPC Chairman. Look out for a full profile of him in the next issue of *IMCA News*.

TCPC Information Notes *published since Issue 23*

- TCPC 07/02 Recognition of professional qualifications in the European Union
- TCPC 08/02 IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme: Offshore Survey Division performance criteria
- TCPC 09/02 Seafarers working time
- TCPC 10/02 IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme: Additional Marine Division positions: Electrician and Electrical Technical Officer (ETO)/Electronic Radio Operator (ERO)/Instrument Technician
- TCPC 11/02 Guidance on completing the IMCA Record of Competence

TCPC Core Committee

Chairman (retiring): Terry Hirst, Stolt Offshore

Chairman (designate): John Greensmyth, Technip-Coflexip

Vice Chairman: Brendan Kelly, Oceaneering International

Lodewijk Wijngaard, Allseas

Ed Danson, Fugro-UDI

Donald Beezer, Global Marine Systems

Eric Law, Subsea 7

Mike Lloyd, Technip-Coflexip

Brian Robertson, Technip-Coflexip

Sarah Willetts, Thales GeoSolutions

Vicki Graham, IMCA Schemes Administrator

Secretary: Hugh Williams

TCPC workshop

Arrangements are proceeding for an event to be held on 13 November in Aberdeen. A full review of the IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme documentation is proposed; feedback is sought from all members on the documentation so that a draft revised text can be produced for discussion at the workshop.

If anyone has any comments they would like to make please send them to Jane Bugler <jane.bugler@imca-int.com>.

As previously, to guide discussion at the workshop, a questionnaire will be circulated before the work-

shop to find out what, if any, current implementation issues exist and to gain views on the scheme.

The meeting will open with a full plenary session with a presentation of feedback from the questionnaires. Further detailed discussion will then take place in four divisional groups.

Please put the date in your diary now!

Marine Training at ASET

With training and consultancy expertise available world-wide ASET is in an excellent position to meet local market demands. Our collaborative style of working with clients, our clear understanding of global training needs and our partnerships with industry leaders enables us to provide cost effective training and consultancy solutions to the marine, oil & gas and process related industries.

Amongst our highly successful training provision, we offer Marine Operations Training in:

- **Dynamic Positioning** (Validated to Nautical Institute Standards)
- **Offshore Stability and Ballast Control** (Complies with the UKOOA guidelines, the IMO requirements for the selection and training of ballast control operators and validated to Nautical Institute Standards.)
- **Jack-Up Operations of Self Elevating Platforms** (Provided by an alliance with Noble Denton)
- **Radiotelephony** (MCA approved and internationally recognised courses)
- **HV/LV Operations for Vessels** (Developed in close association and meets the syllabus set by IMCA)

For further information contact: Mr Sam Zacha, Sales & Marketing Manager, ASET.
T 01224 859614 F 01224 891505 E s.zacha@abcol.ac.uk www.aset-aberdeen.co.uk

Security, piracy and armed robbery

IMCA attends various International Maritime Organization committees, including that on ship design and equipment; the Legal Committee; and the Maritime Safety Committee, all of which cover an impressive range of topics.

The latter committee is perhaps the most wide-ranging and has established an inter-sessional working group dealing with maritime security, piracy and armed robbery on ships. It is telling to note that, although the number of acts of piracy and robbery fell last year by 101 incidents to 470, those figures mean the death of 17 crew members, the wounding of 42 more and another five gone missing. It translates to 16 ships hijacked, two ships missing and one lost. On four occasions attackers used explosive devices.

An IMCA SEL and Marine Division information note has been circulated to members regarding actions being taken by IMO to try and improve security; actions likely to result in more controls and regulation.

With security so much in focus IMCA also attended a presentation by a security firm which has specialists dealing with international marine security - for instance, with hostage situations in West African offshore oilfields; in dealing with the problems of offshore support vessels being hijacked or boarded as a means to access offshore installations; with communication difficulties in time of emergencies, such as loss of satellite coverage; and with various marine security issues worldwide. It is possible that this firm has advised some IMCA members already.

If members are interested in hearing what this firm has to offer, contact Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com, who can put you in touch. If enough members are interested, it might be possible to set up a group presentation at a suitable time and place.

SEL Information Notes *published since Issue 23*

- SEL 19/02 New Norwegian legislation
- SEL 20/02 Prevention and suppression of acts of terrorism against shipping
- SEL 21/02 Wreck removal convention
- SEL 22/02 New IMO publications
- SEL 23/02 Proposed EU directive on temporary workers: European Parliament developments
- SEL 24/02 UK Late Payment Act
- SEL 25/02 UK safety regulation developments
- SEL 26/02 Seafarers working time
- SEL 27/02 IMO maritime security conference
- SEL 28/02 Safety statistics for IMCA members, period 1 January-31 December 2001
- SEL 29/02 Revision of two EU directives: Machinery and Lifting

Working time

This issue has been reported extensively in previous newsletters. The implementation date for the seafarers working time regime under the ILO Convention, for ships flagged in EU states, was 1 July 2002. It is understood that the regime will also be applicable from that date to ships flagged in non-EU states which visit EU ports, under port state control regimes.

There is a requirement for documentation to be kept on board to record seafarers' working arrangements; hours of work and hours of rest. This applies to both marine crew and project personnel. The ILO Convention defines a seafarer as:

'any person defined as such by national laws or regulations or collective agreement who is employed or engaged in any capacity on board a seagoing ship to which this Convention applies'. IMO/ILO has published guidance on the recording of such hours. A copy of the order form is available on request from the IMCA office.

SEL Core Committee

Chairman: Chris van Beek, Heerema Marine Contractors

Vice Chairman: Mike O'Meara, Subsea 7

Wayne Seelbach, Cal Dive International

Richard Curtis, Diamond Offshore Drilling

David Rankin, Global Maritime
Mat Schreurs, Heerema Marine Contractors

Andy Cruickshanks, Promarine
Sal Ruffino, Saipem

Ken London, Stolt Offshore

Allan Hannah, Technip-Coflexip

Secretary: Hugh Williams

Safety seminar 2003

Following the successful safety seminar held last January, IMCA's Safety, Environment and Legislation core committee is now making plans for a similar event in 2003, this time at Newcastle United's football ground on 6 & 7 February.

One theme will be behaviour-based safety management and we plan to have a speaker outlining the background and development of thinking in this area. As with this year's event the committee is planning to devote part of the event to discussing various offshore incidents and the lessons learned from them.

If any member would like to give a presentation or has suggestions for these, please contact Phil Wiggs <Philip.Wiggs@imca-int.com>.

Safety statistics

The annual IMCA safety statistics were published recently in information note SEL 28/02. The overall lost time injury frequency rate was 2.97 per million hours worked. 32 IMCA contractor members contributed their data covering a total 54.5 million hours worked. The figure shows a continuation of the downward trend set by previous years and is in keeping with other published figures from the industry.

Middle East & India

Section members met in Abu Dhabi in late April. At the well attended meeting, the newly elected section chairman Steve MacMillan provided those present with an overview of the issues discussed during the IMCA Diving Division Management Committee and Overall Management Committee that he had attended earlier that month.

Members welcome the regular section meetings as they provide a useful opportunity to network together as well as to discuss and be updated on IMCA activities.

The next Middle East & India Section meeting will be held in Dubai on 23 September

Contact Charlie Rogerson,
<crogerson@ccc.co.ae>.

Middle East & India Section

Chairman: Steve MacMillan, J Ray
McDermott Diving Division
Hon. Secretary: Charlie Rogerson,
Consolidated Contractors Co.

Asia-Pacific



Hugh Williams (IMCA Chief Executive) and Andy Bolton (Asia-Pacific Section Chairman) seated with participants at the recent meeting in Jakarta.

With many members active in Indonesian waters, the section held its most recent quarterly meeting in Jakarta. Attendance at the 2-day event testified to the enthusiasm for IMCA in the region. A wide geographic spread and large number of countries were represented at a meeting that also attracted an exciting blend of members from all the IMCA technical divisions.

Indonesia has many established gas fields and some oil fields. Following some relaxation in the licensing requirements for operations in this country, contractors have recently renewed their interest in both shallow and deep water developments.

Regional working groups had drafted several guideline documents to try to facilitate minimum levels of safe operating practice for activities which, to some extent, are more relevant to Asia-Pacific than to operations elsewhere. These include guidelines for mobilising ROV spreads on to vessels of convenience, on the cross-hauling of diving bells and on the use of surface supplied mixed gas diving.

The ROV document struck an immediate chord with several diving companies present at the meeting who clearly saw a need for a parallel document covering the mobilisation of diving spreads onto vessels of convenience (particularly in the case of air diving). It is heartening to see that by having a self-sufficient section for the region, specific issues can be addressed and resolved in this way. Core issues from IMCA's TCPC and SEL committees were also discussed.

The meeting on the second day was to provide a high level overview of IMCA to clients operating in Indonesia and also to outline some of the activities being undertaken by IMCA both locally and internationally. Some nine oil and gas companies

Diving Diseases Research Centre TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Approved for:

HSE First Aid @ Work
IMCA Diver Medical Technician & renewal
IMCA A/LST

Other courses:

Inland / Inshore diving supervisor
Basic Chamber operator
Dive planning & risk assessing
Oxygen Administration
Gas mixing
Hyperbaric Medical Technicians

DDRC Undersea & Hyperbaric Training

Research Way, Tamar Science Park, Plymouth. PL6 8BU
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 209999 Fax: +44 (0) 1752 209115
E-mail: training@ddrc.org

Asia-Pacific Section

Chairman: Andy Bolton, Technip-Coflexip Oceania
Hon. Secretary: Vacant (election underway)

Remote Systems & ROV Division Management Committee

Chairman: Kevin Kerins,
Oceaneering International

Vice-Chairman: Dave Walker,
Technip-Coflexip

Bob Gillespie, Fugro-UDI
Peter Howson, Global Marine
Systems

Andrew Beveridge, Rovtech
Keith Robathan, Sonsub
Colin Mackay, Stolt Offshore
Paul Brain, Subsea 7
Karl Erik Selvig, Subsea 7
Norway

Alan Edwards, Thales GeoSolutions

Secretary: Hugh Williams

ROV mobilisation

An Asia-Pacific Section working group recently developed draft guidelines on ROV mobilisation, unique events that need to be planned in a comprehensive manner. To aid this process the draft document considers many issues and presents them in the form of a checklist. ROV systems vary greatly from small observation ROVs to large and complex trenching ROVs and their needs vary significantly. It is intended that those using the document will identify the sections that are pertinent to their particular requirements. The purpose of the document is to enable all personnel to be aware of the possible requirements in preparing and mobilising an ROV system and its crew onto a vessel. It is hoped that the guidelines will be published shortly.

NORSOK standard for ROV services

The Norwegian standards organisation (NORSOK) is now finalising its work on a new standard for ROV services, which it hopes to publish later this year. The standard covers the requirements for personnel, equipment and systems for ROV operations in the petroleum industry. IMCA members participated in a workshop held last year to develop text for the standard and IMCA has continued to provide comments on evolving draft text.

Remote Systems & ROV Division Information Notes


published since Issue 23

R 05/02 2001 Diving & ROV statistics for the North Sea

were represented, many from the majors like BP and ExxonMobil. It was apparent from the active feedback which followed that most of these clients are keen to use IMCA documents (if they are not already doing so!) and promote IMCA as a means to safeguarding their assets and personnel throughout their marine operations. Indeed, they would probably have liked IMCA to go further in some areas than is permitted in the natural scope of a trade association.


A number of actions came from this meeting which the Asia-Pacific Section will pursue over the next few months. It was felt, both from the clients' and contractors' perspectives that more meetings of this type would be beneficial to furthering their common goals.

The next Asia-Pacific Section meeting is to be held in Singapore on 31 October to coincide with the biannual Offshore South East Asia (OSEA) conference.



SubServ^{Ltd.}

Competence Assurance




OPITO
The National Training Organisation
for Oil and Gas Extraction


SubServ provides and manages cost-effective, proven competence assurance schemes for leading ROV and cable companies world-wide

Among our many successful services to the industry, we offer

- Training courses** for ROV & Survey/Inspection personnel, *including Safety with High Voltage.*
- ROV & Survey/Inspection **Competence Assurance** schemes and scheme management service.
- Fully Comprehensive Range of Assessor Courses** including *C&G D32/D33, International Assessor and Industry Equivalent.*



IMCA
member
company



ISOQAR
QUALITY ASSURED FIRM
ISO 9001

UKAS
QUALITY MANAGEMENT
026

Certificate number 2356/00.....

For further information, please contact SubServ at : Ocean House, 59 Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4BH, United Kingdom.
Tel +44 (0) 1539 797400. Fax +44 (0) 1539 797448
Email: subserv@subserv.com Website: www.subserv.com

Americas and Europe & Africa

With IMCA's membership broadening globally and to reflect IMCA's international role, the Association is currently in the midst of a restructuring exercise. IMCA has had a Middle East & India Section for a number of years and formed an Asia-Pacific Section 3 years ago. IMCA is now setting up an IMCA Americas Deepwater Section and proposes to start a Europe & Africa Section to match the other three.

The sections are intended to enable members active in the different regions to tackle issues/common concerns, to provide a vehicle for dialogue with major clients and to provide a forum for discussion and networking. Further details regarding the sections will be circulated in the next few months.

For more information contact Hugh Williams <hugh.williams@imca-int.com>.

Diving seminar

IMCA is now finalising a packed agenda for its second annual joint Diving and Marine seminar on 5 November. After a joint plenary session separate diving-specific sessions will include a paper on FMEAs for dive systems, an outline of research into the mechanisms of underwater explosions and a medical provider's view of how to implement *DMAC 28* covering medical care for divers in saturation. There will also be updates on current IMCA work including diving in contaminated waters and hyperbaric lifeboat thermal testing. An overview of IMCA's completed study of the age and experience profile of divers which included data for the North Sea, Mediterranean, Middle East, India, Asia-Pacific and N. America will also be given. After this the programme includes a session offering a choice of workshops.

A full programme and registration forms will be available shortly.

New rules

A revised edition of IMCA's *Offshore Diving Supervisor & Life Support Technician Certification Scheme (D 013 Rev 1)* was issued in June. It reflects recent changes to exam procedures and Norwegian regulations as well as the IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme. Key changes now mean that prior to IMCA exams: Air diving supervisor must log at least 200 supervised panel hours offshore on at least 100 surface dives over no less than 60 days working as a trainee air supervisor. Bell diving supervisor must log at least 350 supervised panel hours offshore on at least 50 bell runs over no less than 90 days working as a trainee bell supervisor. Bell supervisor qualified as air supervisor under the scheme for at least 2 years and supervising not less than 100 offshore air dives must log at least 150 supervised panel hours offshore on a minimum of 20 bell runs over at least 45 days working as a trainee bell diving supervisor.

Diving Division Management Committee

Chairman: Alan Forsyth, Subsea 7
Vice-Chairman: OC Andersen, Stolt Offshore AS

John Rabone, Interdive
Anthony Barnes, J Ray McDermott Diving Div.
Bjørn Kahrs, Norwegian State Diving School
Martin Fraser, Oceaneering International
Andy Cruickshanks, Promarine
Georges Arnoux, Stolt Offshore
Derek Beddows, Technip-Coflexip

Asia-Pacific Section:

Daryl Brighthouse, Marine & Offshore Group

Chairman, Middle East & India Section:

Steve MacMillan, J Ray McDermott Diving Div.

Hon Sec., Middle East & India Section: Charlie Rogerson, Consolidated Contractors Co.

Secretary: Hugh Williams

The new rules apply from 1 August 2002. Any enquiries regarding these changes should be made to the Schemes Administrator, Vicki Graham, <vicki@imca-int.com >

Diving Information Notes published since Issue 23

- D 09/02 2001 Diving and ROV statistics for the North Sea
- D 10/02 Medical examination of divers: Middle East & India
- D 11/02 Approval of doctors for medical examination of divers: India
- D 12/02 Fraudulent use of AODC Bell Diving Supervisor certificate
- D 13/02 IMCA Offshore Diving Supervisor and Life Support Technician Certification Schemes: Update of *IMCA D 013*
- D 14/02 IMCA-recognised diver training certificates
- D 15/02 Repair of cracked weld using wet welding: India
- D 16/02 Diving in waters contaminated by drill mud/cuttings

Chain lever hoists

Used extensively in underwater construction the design characteristics of chain lever hoists allow ease of transportation to site and minimum set-up. Unlike the cumbersome

chain hoist, the lever hoist may very usefully be used in any operating position. However, there is a history of failures in the use of this equipment, in the harsh environments of underwater and topside.

IMCA has now produced new guidance – *IMCA D 028 The use of chain lever hoists in the offshore sub-sea environment* covering the selection of equipment including environmental and operational factors, equipment specification, equipment storage and control, and cleaning and maintenance.



INPP - Commercial Diving Training Certification Centre
 Post : Institut National de Plongée Professionnelle
 Entrée n°3, Port de la Pointe Rouge
 13008 Marseille - FRANCE
 Under the authority of the French government

Diving Courses - Skill Courses

- Scuba / Surface supplied
- Surface supplied Top Up
- Mixed gas closed bell

French government Certificates approved HSE

recognized IMCA, IDSA

IMCA Courses

- Diver Medic + refresher
- Air / Bell Diving Supervisor
- Assistant life Support Technician



SUB / ROV Courses

- Submarine Pilots
- Surface controller
- ROV pilot / technician

NDT Courses

- COFREND SUB - visual testing

Member

- EDTC, IMCA, IDSA

All courses on INPP site - English language

MG Closed bell and diver medic courses in one package

Phone : (33) 496 140 940 - Fax : (33) 491 738 301
Email : info@inpp.org http://www.inpp.org

Requirements for graduate surveyors

Over recent years Offshore Survey Division members of IMCA have been concerned that graduate recruits from survey courses may lack the expected level of knowledge upon completing their university course and that knowledge acquired from different courses can vary considerably.

This has forced companies to provide further training to ensure that staff surveyors have some basic skills, in addition to any necessary company- and job-specific training.

To help IMCA member companies and the universities from which they recruit, IMCA's Offshore Survey Division has developed a document setting out academic requirements to provide guidelines for the areas where IMCA would expect a graduate surveyor to have knowledge upon completing an undergraduate or postgraduate surveying course. This identifies 15 different topics ranging from IT skills and databases through oceanography to surface positioning systems, acoustics, the marine survey industry and project management.

It is hoped this material will help universities focus on 'customer requirements' when revising and developing existing courses. Copies of the document have been distributed to the heads of relevant university departments.

Additional copies are available at £5 for IMCA members.

Offshore Survey Division Management Committee

Chairman: Alf Parker, Subsea 7

Andrew McNeill, Fugro-UDI
 Dave Roberts, Fugro-UDI
 Ray Morgan, Stolt Offshore
 Oddvar Misund, Stolt Offshore AS
 Martin Day, Subsea 7
 Walter Steedman, Subsea 7
 Will Primavesi, Thales GeoSolutions

Secretary: Hugh Williams

Performance criteria

Offshore Survey Division has now published performance criteria, for use with the offshore survey competence scheme, in IMCA information note *S 05/02* (and *TCPC 08/02*). As well as setting out the performance criteria for the ten 'safety critical' offshore survey positions, identified when the IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment scheme was launched in 1999, six further offshore survey positions have now been added to the scheme

and competences for these positions developed. The additional positions are three covering the inspection engineer position and three covering data processors.

As well as setting out the performance criteria tables, the information note also includes an outline for the proposed practical operation for the scheme and how personnel can progress within the scheme from one position to another. It sets out an example of a new recruit entering the scheme at the normal entry level of Surveyor Grade II, and proposes which competences are essential for progression within that grade and possible timescales for achieving these. It also sets out a possible mechanism by which a grade II surveyor would progress to the next more senior position.

Offshore Survey Information

Notes *published since Issue 23*

S 06/02 Enhanced performance standard for GPS

S 07/02 IMCA Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme: Offshore Survey Division performance criteria

Midsummer charity ball

On 14 June IMCA held its annual midsummer charity ball at Ardoe House Hotel in Aberdeen. The weather was typically Scottish - cold, wet and windy - not reflecting the time of year or title of the event, but this did not appear to dampen anyone's enjoyment.

After the substantial buffet dinner, John Smith presented Tony Read with an inscribed silver salver to mark his retirement and to thank him for his five years at the helm of IMCA. This was followed by Willie Allan who gave an amusing after dinner speech while Frank Robb entertained the guests with topical songs.

As well as dancing to the enjoyable live band, those who liked a flutter were able to gamble in the casino provided by the local Round Table - with all the proceeds (over £1000) going to the IMO's Seafarers Memorial Trust Fund.

Interdive™ Services

OFFSHORE DIVING OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING

- HSE Approved courses
- IMCA Trainee Air, Bell Supv & ALST courses
- IMCA Diver assessment
- Personnel & Equipment
- Offshore Medic
- DSV Audits
- ROV Surveys
- Risk Assessments
- NPD Leadership training



WEBSITE: www.interdive.co.uk

- IMCA Diver Medic & renewal courses
- HSE First Aid or Advanced Medical Skills
- Electronics courses
- ROV Pilot/Technician
- CSWIP 3.4U Inspection
- RYA & MCA Courses
- Overseas or In-house Training

Tel: +44 (0) 1752-558080 Fax +44(0) 1752-569090 Mob: 07771-626602 E-mail: Diving@interdive.co.uk

Post: Interdive Services UK, Units 3/3A, Stoke Damerel Business Centre
 Church Street, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon, PL3 4DT, Great Britain

IMCA issues guidance on FMEAs

A Failure Modes and Effects Analysis is a systematic review of systems to whatever level of detail required to demonstrate that no single failure will cause an undesired event. FMEAs can be applied to any item, system or process that could fail. It is a planned response to Murphy's Law - Everything that can fail, shall fail.

The new 64-page publication *IMCA M 166, Guidance on Failure Modes & Effects Analyses (FMEAs)*, includes an executive summary offering a simple 'what, why, when, how' format to give the reader a relatively quick overview of the main issues surrounding an FMEA. More detailed information is then provided in the main part of the document. Sixteen frequently asked questions (FAQs) guide readers through a range of issues associated with FMEAs and a tailored process flow sheet provides an overview of the processes involved in carrying out an FMEA.

"Experience shows that we can add to Murphy's Law '...and it will usually fail at the worst possible moment!'," explains IMCA's Chief Executive Hugh Williams. "Consequently, during the design of a system or product the maker must always think in terms of what could go wrong with the system or process; how badly might it go wrong; and what needs to be done to prevent failures."

IMCA believes FMEAs are so important that at the 11th Marine/Diving Seminar this autumn there will be a presentation on 'FMEAs for Dive Systems' along with a workshop examining FMEAs and what should they cover.

Additional copies of IMCA M 166 are available to members at £30.

11th annual marine/diving seminar

The programme for the next event (with a parallel one day event on offshore diving) to be held in Aberdeen, 5-6 November, is now finalised and will be distributed shortly.

This year's theme is 'learning from experience'. Day one includes a keynote address by John Smith, IMCA's President (setting out his view of marine contracting), followed by other presentations on DP operations offshore Mexico, the Havule project (a DP verification study), getting DP rigs working offshore Angola, an update on DP incidents and marine risk assessment guidance. Afternoon workshops include sharing good practice internationally and FMEAs (see above).

Day 2 starts with talks on pipelaying (including S-lay and flexible pipelay offshore Brazil) to be followed by others on acoustic problems - solutions for deep water operations, marine communications - application of new technologies and on well servicing.

Workshops on the second afternoon include acoustic systems for deepwater, marine communications - how to utilise new technology to aid training and operations and DP for survey purposes as well as a workshop where the topic will be selected by delegates.

It is hoped that the seminar will once again attract and bring together a wide range of offshore personnel to discuss issues of mutual interest. As with previous station keeping seminars a social programme has been planned, including a reception at the Aberdeen Maritime Museum.

For booking, please use the programme registration form. Full details are also available at < www.imca-int.com/seminar/ >

Marine Division Management Committee (election underway)

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

Chris Jenman, Global Maritime
Michiel Goedkoop, Heerema Marine Contractors
Kjell Egil Helgøy, Navion
John Gorrie, Noble Denton Europe
Onofrio D'Onghia, Saipem
Arnfinn Vika, Stolt Offshore
Steve Woodward, Technip-Coflexip
Mike Easton, Transocean

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Section: Andy Bolton, Technip-Coflexip Oceania
Secretary: Hugh Williams

Marine inspections

IMCA has published new guidance (*IMCA M 167*) on using the Common Marine Inspection Document (CMID) *IMCA M 149 Issue 3*. This does not describe any one particular type of vessel. Instead it details an inspection audit for a generic vessel (e.g. one used for platform supply, anchor handling, stand-by or dive support) covering elements common to all these vessels. It provides a helpful guide to anyone contemplating such an inspection (both as inspector or inspected).

Users of the CMID might have noticed that with relatively small changes and by removing some questions, the document could be used as a guide for ISM audits. To that end, a supplement is being developed for use when an ISM audit is to be undertaken. This has been tested by a number of inspectors and feedback has been positive. This should be published shortly.

Copies of both IMCA M 149 (CMID) and the guidance on its use (IMCA M 167) are available to members at £15 per document. CMID is also available as a CD-ROM.

Marine Information Notes published since Issue 23

- M 20/02 Preventing acts of terrorism against shipping
- M 21/02 Guidelines for the installation of shipborne automatic identification systems (AIS)
- M 22/02 Enhanced performance standard for GLONASS
- M 23/02 Wreck removal convention
- M 24/02 New IMO publications
- M 25/02 HV training
- M 26/02 FPSOs and FSUs: Full listings
- M 27/02 Floating production systems, a briefing paper
- M 28/02 DP training centres
- M 29/02 Competence Assurance & Assessment Scheme: Additional Marine Division positions (Electrical)
- M 30/02 IMO maritime security conference

New members

IMCA welcomes:

- EDT Towing & Salvage Co. Ltd
- Seabulk Offshore
- Southampton Oceanography Centre
- SubServPro Ltd
- US Minerals Management Service

Name changes

Please note:

- Halliburton Subsea and DSND Subsea have joined forces to become *Subsea 7*
- Smit Octo Marine/Smit Pentow Marine is now simply *Smit Terminals*
- Transocean Sedco Forex is now simply *Transocean*

Interdive

Interdive Services relocated in March 2002. Their new address and contact details are as follows.

Units 3 & 3A, Stoke Damerel Business Centre, Church Street, Stoke, Plymouth PL3 4DT, UK

Tel: +44(0) 1752 558080
 Fax: +44(0) 1752 569090
 E-mail: diving@interdive.co.uk

Apologies to Interdive for incorrect information printed in *Issue 23*.

US Minerals Management Service

An agency of the US Government's Department of the Interior, with primary responsibilities to manage mineral resources located on the US Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Administers the OCS competitive leasing program and oversees the safe and environmentally sound exploration and production of the USA's offshore natural gas, oil and other mineral resources.

Contact: Dr Charles E Smith,
 381 Elder Street, MS 4021,
 Herndon VA 20170-4817, USA
 Tel: +1 703 787 1561
 Fax: +1 703 787 1549
 Website: www.mms.gov

Seabulk Offshore

The largest division in the Seabulk International Inc organisation of marine support and transportation businesses, serving a global market in both hemispheres. The diversified fleet of modern and well-maintained vessels is manned and managed by a team of experienced mariners and offshore experts

Contact: Bryn D Jones,
 PO Box 32387, Dubai,
 United Arab Emirates
 Tel: +971 4 334 4533
 Fax: +971 4 337 1537

TL Geohydrographics Sdn Bhd

Established in 1991 to provide positioning, marine geophysical survey and construction support services to the offshore energy industries. Maintains five survey vessels (classed ABS, BV, LRS and NKK) all ISM Code certified and managed under a QMS regime certified to ISO 9001. Has offices in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Indonesia and Australia. Operates in the Indian and Asia-Pacific regions including Japan, Bass Straits, Australia and Guam.

Contact: Ong Hock Teck,
 18th Floor, Tower 1, Faber Towers,
 Jalan Desa Bahagia, Taman Desa,
 Off Jalan Klan Lama, 58100
 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Tel: +60 3 7625 7777
 Fax: +60 3 7981 1770

MAXIMUM GLOBAL SUPPORT. MINIMUM STRESS.
 The United States of America, Brazil, Canada, United Kingdom

www.c-mar.com

Marine & HR Support • Project Engineering • Subsea
 Teleinformatics • Vessel Management

C-MAR
 GROUP

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 do not automatically reflect policies or positions of IMCA itself.

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

International Contractors (ICO)

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

Contractors

Abu Dhabi Petroleum Ports Op. Co
 Algosabi Diving & Marine Services
 Allied Marine & Equipment
 Aqua Diving Services
 Bakri Navigation Company
 BJ Services Co (UK)
 Bluewater Energy Services
 British Antarctic Survey
 Brøvig
 BUE Marine
 Cal Dive International
 Canyon Offshore International Corp.
 Cns Subsea
 CODERO
 Consolidated Contractors Co
 Covus Corporation
 Diamond Offshore Drilling (UK)
 Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc
 Dolphin Drilling
 Dolphin Offshore Ent. (India)
 Dulam International
 EDT Towage & Salvage Co.
 Fraser Diving International
 Fugro Survey (Middle East)
 Fugro Survey (Singapore)
 Fugro-UDI
 Ganesh Benzoplast
 GB Diving
 Global Industries Asia Pacific
 Global Marine Systems
 Global Santa Fe Corp.
 Gulf Dredging & Gen. Contracting
 Hallin Marine Systems
 Halul Offshore Services Co
 Impresub
 Int. Naval Works – Abu Dhabi
 Int. Naval Works – Alexandria
 International Oilfield Services
 J Ray McDermott Diving Division
 Keliston Marine (Far East)
 Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repairyard
 Company
 Louisiana Overseas Inc
 Maridive & Oil Services
 Master Tech Diving Services
 Mermaid Maritime
 Mohn Drilling
 Mutawa Marine Works
 Navion
 Noordhoek Offshore
 Northern Marine Management

Oceaneering International
 Ocean Works Asia
 PT Patra Dinamika
 Pride International
 Prosafe Offshore
 Rasmussen Maritime Services
 Rovtech
 PT Samudera Biru Nusantara
 Sapura Diving Services
 Sarku Engineering Services
 SAROST
 SBM Production Contractors
 Seabulk Offshore
 Seaway Heavy Lifting Engineering
 Seaweld Engineering Services
 Secunda Marine Services
 Smedvig Offshore
 Smit Terminals
 Smit Vessel Management Services
 Sonsub
 Stolt Offshore AS
 Subsea 7 Asia-Pacific
 Subsea 7 Norway
 Subtec
 Tamboritha Consultants
 Technip-Coflexip Norge
 Technip-Coflexip Oceania
 Thales GeoSolutions (North Sea)
 Thales GeoSolutions (Singapore)
 Tideway Marine & Offshore
 TL Geohydrographics
 Torch
 Transocean
 Underwater Services Company
 Van Oord ACZ
 Wijsmuller International Towage
 Workshops Contractors

Naval Diving Units

Royal Saudi Navy Forces
 Salvage & Mooring Organisation
 Superintendent of Diving

Suppliers

ABB
 Advanced Marine
 Alstom T&D
 Auto Dynamic Positioning Services
 Brunvoll
 C-Mar Services (UK)
 Core Technical Services
 Divex
 GeoAcoustics
 Global Maritime
 Houlder Insurance Services
 Hydrovision
 JP Kenny Caledonia
 Kongsberg Simrad
 Lexmar Engineering
 Lips Thrusters Drunen
 Martin Associates

Nautronix
 Noble Denton Europe
 NUI
 Ocean Fleets
 Pacific Commercial Diving Supply
 PAE Singapore
 Perry Slingsby Systems
 Poseidon Maritime (UK)
 Promarine
 QinetiQ
 Rolls-Royce Oy
 SB Construction & Maritime Serv.
 Seatools
 Sonardyne
 Southern Oceanics
 Thales Navigation
 Unique System LLC
 Wavespec

Training Establishments & Personnel Agencies

2 Recruit
 AB Hydrographics
 Aberdeen Skills & Ent. Training
 Ålesund University College
 Centre for Marine Simulation
 College of Oceaneering
 Diving Diseases Research Centre
 DOOR
 Dynamic Positioning Centre
 Fort Bovisand Diver Training
 Hydrosud
 INPP
 Institute of ROV
 Interdive Services
 Lowestoft College
 Marine & Offshore Group Int.
 Maritiem Trainingscentrum
 Maritime Inst Willem Barentsz
 National Hyperbaric Centre
 Netherlands Diving Centre
 Norwegian State Diving School
 Petrolis
 Petrovietnam Manpower Training
 College
 Power & Generation Services
 PR Offshore Services
 ResQ Haugesund
 Rumic
 Satakunta Polytechnic
 Ship Manoeuvring Simulator Centre
 Southampton Oceanography Centre
 Stenmar Engineering
 SubServ
 SubServPro
 Technocean
 UK Project Support
 Underwater Centre Fremantle
 WA Maritime Training Centre
 - Fremantle

Corresponding Members

AISI
 Bahrain Petroleum Company
 BG Group
 BP Exploration Operating Co.
 Cairn Energy India
 Det Norske Veritas
 Health & Safety Executive
 Japan Vietnam Petroleum Company
 NAM Offshore Business Unit
 Oil & Natural Gas Corporation
 Petro Canada - Terra Nova Project
 Petrobras
 Phillips Petroleum Company (UK)
 Premier Oil Natuna Sea
 Royal Association of Netherlands
 Shipowners
 Sable Offshore Energy Inc.
 Shell Petr. Dev. Co. of Nigeria
 Shell UK Exploration & Production
 Talisman Energy (UK)
 Total Austral (Argentina)
 TotalFinaElf E&P
 TotalFinaElf E&P Nederland
 TotalFinaElf Exploration UK
 US Minerals Management Service
 Zakum Development Co