



## MINUTES

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OFFSHORE LIAISON (EPOL) GROUP

**DATE:** Tuesday 25 September 2018  
**LOCATION:** *CNRI Ltd, St Magnus House, Guild Street,  
Aberdeen AB11 6NJ*

**CHAIR/MINUTES:** Rob McRobb and Len Braun

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sandra Henderson(CNR)	Alison Jansch (Apache)
Rob Inglis (CNR)	Chris Shawcross (Bluewater)
Paul Young (HSE)	Pieter Dofferhoff (Bluewater)
Shirley Daniel (Equinor)	Craig Robertson (BP)
Edith Mcleod(IADC)	Chaz Simpson
John Duncan (Total)	(Deepwater/Transocean)
Richard Cox (Noble Drilling)	Colin Patterson (Teekay)
Glenn Pinsent (Bristow)	Sinead Watson (TAQA)
Andrew Taylor (BEIS)	James Low (Petrofac)
Bill Hamilton (Noble Drilling)	Hannah Curd (Shell)
Rob Bly (BP)	Wendy Aden (Spirit Energy)
Natalie Coupar (Oil & Gas UK)	Rob McRobb (Police Scotland)
Alan Gorham (Big Partnership)	Len Braun (Police Scotland)
Heather MacLeod (Floatel International)	Glenn Bland (Police Scotland)
Karen Mackay (ConocoPhillips)	
Louise Thomson (Wood)	
Alix Thom (Oil & Gas UK)	
Stephen Golightly (Petrofac)	
Christopher Sherwin (Chrysaor)	

#### 1. WELCOME AND DOMESTIC ISSUES

Rob Inglis welcomed everyone to TAQA and outlined the domestic issues.

**2. OPENING OF MEETING AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair formally opened the meeting and welcomed those who were new to the group.

**3. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the following:-

Rebecca Heginbotham-Blount (Norfolk Constabulary)  
Pete Lawson (MCA)  
Lynn de Boer (UKO&G Chaplaincy)  
Colin Sellar (Subsea7)  
Julie Christie (Babcock)  
Christopher Mackie (Bluewater)  
Emma Russell (INEOS)  
Derek Hart (IADC)

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 7 June 2018 were approved.

**5. MEDIA SUB GROUP UPDATE**

Natalie Coupar (Oil & Gas UK) and Alan Gorham (Big Partnership) delivered a presentation on the Vuelio – EPOL Media Sharing Platform. The project has now reached a point where the software has been fully developed to the specifications set by the EPOL media subgroup and the problems identified during testing have been resolved. The Group was asked to consider approval for a soft launch of the software to allow for familiarisation, training and exercising to be delivered to member companies. It was identified that the renewal of the annual licence for the software is due in May 2019 and this would allow six months to deliver the full rollout, when a final decision could be made by the Group whether or not to adopt the software and to continue with or terminate the licence.

The dedication, time and effort given by Sian Mutch (TAQA) in producing a user guide for the use of the EPOL Media Sharing Platform was acknowledged.

**6. EPOL EVACUATION KITBAG SCHEME**

The Chair provided details of the annual review and subscription rates for the EPOL Evacuation Kitbag scheme.

**7. GUIDANCE FOR OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY –  
FLARE FIREARMS PROCEDURE DOCUMENT**

Chief Inspector Glen Bland, Police Scotland spoke about the recently completed guidance document. He confirmed Police Scotland were happy to add their name to the document.

**Task - Len Braun took a task to publish the guidance document on the EPOL Website and to email a copy of it to EPOL members. (Complete).**

**8. MCA UPDATE**

Len Braun provided the following update to the Group as Pete Lowson was unable to attend the meeting. Thank you to all who have submitted Installation Summary Sheets to Pete. Members who have yet to submit Summary Sheets are urged to do so as they are proving to be useful and popular documents.

The MCA often have to ask installations if their fuel systems are pressure or gravity fed. In many cases, the responses are inaccurate and suggest they don't have gravity fed fuel systems when they actually do. Members are asked to look into this and ensure anyone likely to answer the telephone call from the MCA is aware of the correct response to the question.

**8 HSE UDATE**

Paul Young provided the following update to the Group:

- The HSE have concluded the transition of the safety cases for the 2015 Regulations.
- The HSE have started looking at Decommissioning and Dismantling. A virtual group has been set up to look at this area.
- The HSE is also looking at the use of walk-to-work vessels in the Southern North Sea

**9 BEIS UPDATE**

Andrew Taylor advised the Group the NCP exercise response is expected to be published by the end of October. He also confirmed the Temporary SOSRep is still in place and is likely to be so until the end of the year.

**10 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS UPDATE**

There was no update from IADC.

## 11 OIL & GAS UK UPDATE

Alix Thom spoke to the Group about Media reports of Trade Unions balloting their members for strike action offshore with regards to ongoing pay disputes.

Alix explained the processes to be followed by the Unions. As per previous disputes, Oil & Gas UK will be arranging workshops and checklists for OIMs in the event of industrial action.

## 12 POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE

The Chair referred to the minutes of the December 2017 and March 2018 meetings regarding the updated guidance for the NHS Grampian Reception Facilities. He confirmed he had again contacted NHS Grampian regarding a proposed familiarisation tour of the premises. A response had been received indicating that no firm date had been set yet for a visit to the Boardroom area adjacent to the Rotunda door. Michael McKenzie, NHS Grampian has made a couple of minor amendments to the EPOL document – NHS Grampian arrangements for Company Representatives attending at ARI during an offshore incident and added two site maps to the guidance.

**Task – The amended guidance document with maps to be published on the EPOL website and circulated to EPOL members. (Completed)**

The Chair advised the Group that whilst delivering talks to OIMs at both the OIM Legislation and Refresher courses a regular question asked relates to the possible restraining of persons and the administration of medication to persons who present with mental health symptoms offshore. He is still seeking clarity on the legal position for crew who are asked to assist the Medic with the question of restraint. The question has been referred to the Procurator Fiscal for guidance. It is anticipated the answer will be received prior to the December EPOL meeting.

## 13 INFORMATION SHARING/ OPEN SPACE

General discussion took place regarding the matter of oil spill response exercises and the ability/willingness of the Group to share learning experiences. BEIS clarified they were happy to engage in any future dialogue either through EPOL or the Oil Spill Response Forum. It was agreed that this matter would be carried forward to the next meeting when it was hoped that Fay Tough from the Scottish Government Resilience Department would be in attendance and delivering a presentation on this area of her role.

## 14 DATES AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday 5 December 2018 at Apache, Caledonia House, Prime Four Business Park, Kingswells at 9 am for 9.30 start.**

**15 AOCB**

The Chair advised the Group of an approach from Serica, who have acquired assets in the Northern North Sea, for EPOL membership. The proposal was considered by the Group and approved.