



MINUTES

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OFFSHORE LIAISON (EPOL) GROUP

DATE: Wednesday 7 March 2018
LOCATION: *Subsea 7, East Campus, Prospect Road,
Arnhall Business Park, Westhill AB32 6FE*

CHAIR/MINUTES: Rob McRobb and Len Braun

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Colin Sellar (Subsea7)	Andrew Taylor (BEIS)
Steve Collins (Chrysaor)	Andrew Park (Total)
John Duncan (Maersk Oil)	Wendy Aden (Spirit Energy)
Harriet Arnott (ConocoPhillips)	Lynne McLeod (Ineos)
Sharon Robertson (Wood)	Karen Anderson (Repsol Sinopec)
Alison Jansch (Apache)	Julie Christie (Babcock)
Pete Lawson (MCA)	Sheila Tait (BP)
Heather MacLeod (Floatel Int)	Tommy Clark (BP)
Edith McLeod (IADC)	Gordon Bradley (Petrofac)
Rob Inglis (CNR)	Rob McRobb (Police Scotland)
Eddie Nicol (Noble Drilling)	Len Braun (Police Scotland)
Gary Hunt (TAQA)	
Alix Thom (Oil & Gas UK)	
Gwen Thomson (Bristow)	
Glenn Pinsent (Bristow)	
Chris Leitch (Marathon)	
Sinead Watson (TAQA)	

1. WELCOME AND DOMESTIC ISSUES

Colin Sellar welcomed everyone to Subsea 7 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:-

Callum Chesshire (EnQuest)	Rebecca Heginbotham-Blount (Norfolk Constabulary)
Shirley Daniel (Statoil)	Michelle Chrystal (CHC)
Jennifer Poole (Perenco)	Mark Brosnan (CHC)
Peter Ratcliffe (Perenco)	Hannah Curd (Shell)
Gary Spark (Police Scotland)	Ian Greenwood (Shell)
Ruth Evans (Marathon)	Colin Walker (BP)
Derek Hart (IADC)	Sharon Wilson (Technip)
Gordon Craig (UKO&GC)	
Lynne de Boer (UKO&GC)	
Nick Bailey (HSE)	

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 6 December 2017 were approved.

5. MEDIA SUB GROUP UPDATE

Gordon Bradley advised the Group that during the last test of the Vuelio media platform a new issue was identified, in that when multi incidents were open at the same time everyone who was logged in to the separate incidents were able to view all the information in all the incidents. Those logged into to a specific incident should only be able to view the information for that incident. The company have now addressed the issue and it will be further tested at an exercise to be held on 15 March 2018. It should then be ready for roll out by Oil and Gas UK.

6. HYPERBARIC EVACUATION - ONSHORE RESPONSE

Colin Sellar delivered a presentation to the Group on Hyperbaric Emergency and Decompression with an overview of the vessel, equipment and processes implemented by Subsea 7.

A copy of Colin's presentation slides and the hyperbaric video link were circulated to members of the Group following the meeting.

7. MCA UPDATE

The Chair updated the Group on the topic of OPITO representation at future EPOL meetings carried forward from the previous meetings. He highlighted the results of the poll of members on the topic.

As the results were inconclusive the chair tasked Len Braun to circulate the anonymised responses to the Group and request further replies for and against the proposal by 31 March. Completed.

Pete Lowson provided the following update:

Incident Summary Sheet (ISS): as discussed at previous meetings, the MCA would benefit from a summary sheet on each installation, similar to a 'fast facts' document. Pete circulated a draft template prior to the meeting and requested comments. Some areas were discussed. It was agreed for feedback to be gathered until 30 March at which point Pete will collate any comments and circulate to members for operators to complete. Gordon Bradley asked if this was a requirement given the use of 'must' in the template. Pete explained that it was not mandatory but was recommended and very useful for MCA and Police.

Action all: feedback comments to Pete by 30 March.

Action Pete: collate feedback and circulate final document for completion.

Pete reminded the group that all Commercial Air Transport helicopter operators should be approached for all medical evacuations (MEDEVAC), other than those obviously requiring a SAR helicopter. Most occasions come to SAR for genuine reasons but there are still some which would be better suited to commercial aircraft.

The Topside Medical Forum is considering the creation of a single form to assist operators in requesting assistance from a helicopter operator with regards to medevacs. An initial draft has been circulated for comment though the helicopter operators still need to assess if such a form would be suitable.

The Mental Health subgroup of the Topside Medical Forum has no updates however a draft document will hopefully be in circulation by the end of April. Pete will circulate to the group at the appropriate time.

As per previous meetings, Pete commented that there was still very few exercises being run with the involvement of HMCG. He encouraged all operators who were planning meaningful exercises, to speak to him if they would like CG involvement. This would also include the option of sending a MICO to Marine House. Pete additionally invited any operator to come for MICO training at the CGOC, which had proved very valuable to a number of companies recently.

Following an identified learning from the Bruce evacuation, BP offered to draft a form for use by an ERT or HMCG in establishing facilities and space for evacuees during an emergency evacuation. BP agreed to pass this form to Pete as soon as possible. The document can then be circulated to the wider group for comment.

Action BP: to pass the draft form to Pete for comment.

Pete highlighted an incident recently where a SAR helicopter in the Southern North Sea evacuated personnel off an installation due to generator problems. He did highlight that as previously discussed, SAR helicopter use for welfare reasons was not suitable although on this occasion, the situation merited the response.

8 HSE UPDATE

Nick Bailey was unable to attend the meeting.

9 BEIS UPDATE

Andrew Taylor provided the following update to the Group. "The UK tested its National Contingency Plan for response to a significant pollution incident from an offshore installation with Exercise Shen on 27-28 February. The exercise involved Nexen, MCA, OPRED, Scottish Environment Group and staff from the Norwegian Coastal Administration as well as testing media cells. One of the main objectives was to test the NORBRIT agreement. BEIS are currently consolidating the evaluation reports and it is expected the final exercise report will be published during summer 2018.

OPRED will continue to improve how it captures lessons learned as well as the positives from SOSREP exercises and will look to share these with the wider industry through the Oil Spill Response Forum (OSRF). Some initial findings were provided to the OSRF meeting on 1 March."

10 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS UPDATE

IADC had nothing to update at the meeting.

11 OIL & GAS UK UPDATE

Alix Thom spoke about the following new appointments at Oil and Gas UK. Matthew Abraham is the new Director of the Supply Chain and Health, Safety and Environment Team. Gareth Wynn has been appointed to the post of Director of the Stakeholder and Communications Team. Recruiting of a new HSE Manager is also ongoing.

Alix also spoke about a recent press release issued by the RMT Union as part of their SOS 2020 campaign for ending employment barriers to more jobs and training for UK seafarers and offshore workers. On 26 February 2018 the Union took its campaign to Aberdeen, part of which took the form of a protest outside Oil and Gas UK's offices by 13 Union members and a National Officer. Those present distributed leaflets to passers-by whilst speaking about saving offshore jobs.

12 POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE

The Chair provided the following update for Police Scotland.

At the December 2017 EPOL meeting the updated guidance for the NHS Grampian Reception Facilities was highlighted. As part of that discussion Group members considered the benefit of arranging a visit to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary to familiarise themselves with the current rooms and locations of facilities in the event of an offshore major incident. The NHS Grampian Corporate Communications Manager, Mike McKenzie is to produce a map of the facilities for use with the guidance document. The hospital leadership team are keen to facilitate a visit and will consider how many attendees they can accommodate.

A couple of calls were recently received about separate thefts that occurred on offshore installations. The Chair then highlighted what practical advice could be offered to Operators about crime prevention, the provision of posters and support for OIMs when such incidents occur.

Gary Spark, the new Inspector with responsibility for the Energy Industry Liaison Unit and the Emergency Planning Unit is now in post. Due to other commitments he was unable to attend the meeting. He will be introduced to the Group at a future meeting.

The Chair and Inspector Spark will be attending the upcoming meeting of the UK Police Offshore Energy Group on 29 March 2018 and will update EPOL members at our June meeting should there be any items relevant to the oil and gas industry.

The chair advised the Group of ongoing discussions with the industry about firearms licensing procedures in relation to firearms held offshore. He also confirmed that representatives of the Police Scotland National Firearms Licensing Unit would attend a future Oil and Gas UK forum group meeting as part of these discussions.

13 INFORMATION SHARING/ OPEN SPACE

14 DATES AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7 June 2018 venue TAQA.

15 AOCB

None.