IADC to be honored as industry pioneer

IADC NW Europe HSE Case Template rollout

Gert-Jan Windhorst, Noble Drilling, gives a presentation on the work done by IADC North Sea Chapter for the Northwest Europe HSE Case template. IADC received recognition by all sides of the industry for its work on the HSE Case template.

IADC received recognition by all sides of industry in The Netherlands for its proactive approach to HSE at the recent official rollout of the North West European HSE Case template.

At the request of State Supervision of Mines in The Netherlands and the invitation of NOGEP A, the Dutch oil industry association, IADC provided the invited audience with an overview of the collaborative work undertaken within the IADC North Sea Chapter. Gert-Jan Windhorst of Noble Drilling, the IADC champion for this project, gave an excellent presentation on the development, use and proposed further enhancements to the document used by the drilling contractors in producing HSE cases to satisfy the various North Sea regulatory regimes.

In addition to government inspectors, HSE and drilling personnel from all operating companies together with drilling and service contractors attended the presentation. It was encouraging to hear so many compliments from production personnel in support of the work of the IADC North Sea Chapter in producing this template.

For more information, please contact Dominic Cattini, +44 1895 621889 (dominic.cattini@iadc.org).

IADC to be honored as industry pioneer

IADC will be inducted into the Offshore Energy Center’s Hall of Fame in September under the category Health, Safety & Environment: Development of Offshore Safety Programs. The Hall of Fame is housed on the Ocean Star.

New North Sea Chapter Treasurer

John Downing with Cooper Cameron (UK) Ltd is the new UK North Sea Chapter Treasurer. He replaced John Wilson.

Working Time Regulations Offshore UK

On 1 August 2003, the Horizontal Amending Directive (HAD) is scheduled to be implemented into the latest revision of the UK Working Time Regulations, subject to Parliamentary acceptance. For the past 18 months, IADC has been instrumental in lobbying the UK Government and working with various other industry associations to ensure that the amendments to the regulations are both workable and not onerous in terms of operational economics and effectiveness.

The UK Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is sympathetic with industry’s views regarding a 52-week reference period for calculating working and rest time. But in view of increased media and trade union interest, they feel that industry must compromise on annual leave. Having agreed a 52-week reference period, the DTI now expects industry to accept an extra two weeks of annual leave for their employees. However, employees can no longer have this leave bought up or compensated by their employer, as in the past. This will undoubtedly be a cause of potential disagreement with employees, some of whom may experience a reduction in their overall wages. The consequence of increased annual leave entitlement will mean that instead of the customary 13 tours of duty offshore companies will now have to budget and plan based on twelve tours of duty.

Fine-tuning of the final content is currently ongoing with the DTI. IADC and other industry associations are actively pursuing further improvements before the regulations are laid before Parliament, but indications are that this legislation will be tabled by negative resolution. The regulations will become law unless more than one MP objects to the contents within 30 days of their being tabled.

IADC is working closely with other industry associations to develop a set of guidance notes to accompany the amended regulations. To ensure that the industry guidelines are broadly acceptable, previous onshore guidelines developed by the DTI and accepted by the unions, are being modified to reflect the agreed amendments for offshore application.

This is an ongoing task involving IADC, its members in the North Sea Chapter and other industry associations working collaboratively. For more information, contact Brian T Petty, 202-293-0670 (brian.petty@iadc.org), or Dominic Cattini, +44 1895 621889 (dominic.cattini@iadc.org).