JRC 2nd Training course for Offshore Competent Authorities

Inspections of Offshore Installations

A theoretical and practical approach

7th – 9th November 2017
Zagreb – Pula, Croatia

Rationale and Agenda

The European Commission’s science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre
Rationale

Directive 2013/30/EU (or Offshore Safety Directive) requires Member States to appoint an independent and adequately resourced Competent Authority, responsible for overseeing compliance with the safety requirements imposed by the Directive itself on operators and owners.

The functions, responsibilities and competencies required by a Competent Authority to perform oversight activities to the highest level are numerous, and have both general and detailed assignments. Adequate training should be in place to ensure that Competent Authority personnel possess all competencies required to effectively perform their functions.

According to Articles 8 and 9, one of the major requirements of the Offshore Safety Directive concerns the capability of the Competent Authority to oversee compliance by operators and owners through inspections of offshore installations. This would include having enough capacity to assess the level of safety and environmental protection of offshore operations and installations, as well as having the power to prohibit the continued operation of any installation, if the outcome of an inspection suggests that such action is pertinent.

The performance of on-site inspections is fundamental in the examination of components, processes and human behaviour and must be carried out according to established operating procedures. Inspections should also be focused on the evaluation of the reliability and integrity of all safety and environmental critical elements and systems. To facilitate this, annual plans for inspections shall also be developed and regularly reviewed.

To enhance the capacity of Competent Authorities to respond to the above challenges, the European Commission (Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC)), in collaboration with the Croatian Hydrocarbon Agency, the oil company INAgip d.o.o., and the Integrated drilling & well services co. CROSCO Ltd., are organizing the training course "Inspections of Offshore Installations – A theoretical and practical approach". The training coordinator will be Mr. Arthur van Dalen, former Senior Inspector at the Dutch State Supervision of Mines.

The event will be a further training course for the benefit of Member States' competent authorities, after the successful course on the "Assessment of reports on major hazards: A focus on the technical aspects of the assessment", held in Ispra in October 2016.

The purpose of the training course is to improve participants' knowledge on the overall inspection workflow in order to enhance competent authorities' capability to oversee the compliance of operators and owners of offshore installations with the EU Offshore Safety Directive.
The course will cover all different aspects related to inspections of offshore installations, from their planning, to their performance, analysis of results and final reporting. The course will include a general session on the profession of an inspector offered by Velders & Novak, an interactive session dedicated to modern inspection techniques and remote witnessing offered by DNV GL, and a session devoted to well control on drilling rigs organised by The Well Academy.

The training course includes a two-day theoretical session in Zagreb, followed by two parallel full-day practical sessions on the IVANA A-K production platforms in the Adriatic Sea (operated by INAgip d.o.o.) and the jack-up rig LABIN, docked at Pula’s harbour (owned by CROSCO). In case of bad weather, all participants will attend the practical session on the jack-up rig LABIN.

Objectives of the training course

The main objectives of the training course are the following:

✓ To present and describe the technical, procedural and administrative elements required by a Competent Authority in a complete inspection workflow, from the planning to the performance and to the follow-up of an offshore inspection;
✓ To train participants on the advantages and disadvantages of the different approaches which may be adopted in the performance of an inspection;
✓ To illustrate the differences between the activity of an Independent Verifier and that of the inspectors, on drilling rigs and production platforms;
✓ To learn about inspection techniques and their application through interactive, collaborative and practical sessions working in groups on specific case studies.
Agenda

Day 1: 7th November 2017

08.30-09:00 – Registration

SESSION I – Welcome and Introduction to the Training course

09:00-09:15 Welcome by the European Commission (Stefano Tarantola, JRC)
09:15-09:25 Welcome by the Croatian Hydrocarbon Agency (Barbara Dorić, CHA)
09:25-09:35 Presentation of the Croatian competent authority (Vlatka Vaniček, CHA)
09:35-09:45 Objectives of the course and outline of the agenda (Arthur van Dalen)
09:45-10:00 Introduction of the participants

SESSION II – An Introduction to Inspections of Offshore Installations (Chair: Vlatka Vaniček, CHA)

10:05-10:20 General requirements of Directive 2013/30/EU (Arthur van Dalen)
10:20-10:45 Risk management in the oil and gas industry (Arthur van Dalen)
10:45-11:00 Coffee/Tea break
11:00-13:00 Good inspectors, good inspections and better compliance (Rob Velders)
Group Exercise
13:00-14:00 Lunch break (buffet)
14:00-14:45 Inspections by Competent Authorities vs. Independent Verification (Arthur van Dalen)
14:45-15:30 Definition of the Inspection, Inspection Plan and Objectives of an Inspection (Arthur van Dalen)
Position of RoMH, site work resulting from the assessment
Preparation and Planning of the Inspection, pre-visit to the operator’s offices onshore
15:30-15:45 Coffee/Tea break
15:45-16:30 Actual Inspection on the Platform (Arthur van Dalen)
Human Interaction during an Inspection
Observations of Inspections and Feedback from OIM
Evaluation of the Inspection at the Inspector’s Office
Reporting and Follow-up Action

SESSION III – Group Exercise: Inspection of Safety and Environmental Critical Elements

16:30-18:00 Group exercise and feedback from working groups (Arthur van Dalen)

18:00 – End of Day 1

20:00 – Social Dinner (offered by JRC)
Day 2: 8th November 2017

08:30-08:45 – Recap session

SESSION IV – DNV GL’s European perspective on Independent Verification (Chair: Arthur Van Dalen)

08:45-10:15 Practical and theoretical topics from an IVB perspective (Andrea Spessa)
10:15-10:30 In-service verification in Europe: synergies and differences in comparing UK, DK and NL (Andrea Spessa)
10:30-10:45 Coffee/Tea break
10:45-11:15 Live and interactive session on remote witnessing (Rob Bekz)
11:15-11:30 Recap of the session (Arthur van Dalen)

SESSION V – Well Control Readiness on the Rig (Chair: Stefano Tarantola)

11:30–12:30 Basics about well control (Nico van Spijker)
   Well control readiness of a rig and crew (Nico van Spijker)
   Equipment, competence, procedures, drills, testing of well control equipment during operations and use of equipment
   Examples of Macondo and Hercules blow-outs
12:30-13:30 Lunch break (buffet)
13:30-14:30 Continue well control readiness of a rig and crew (Nico van Spijker)
   Lessons learned
14:30-15:30 Introduction and Preparation for site visit to IVANA-complex (INAgip d.o.o. and Arthur van Dalen)
   Introduction and Preparation for site visit to LABIN (CROSCO and Peter Wilke)
15:30–15:45 Coffee/Tea break

Conclusions

15:45-16:00 Way Forward and Wrap-up session

16:15 – Transfer to Pula

19:45 – Foreseen arrival to Hotel Park Plaza Histria in Pula
Day 3: 9th November 2017

Visit to the IVANA A-K complex and LABIN jack-up

**GROUP A – Visit to IVANA A-K platforms (only in case of good weather conditions)**

07:00  Departure from Hotel Park Plaza Histria
07:30  Departure from Pula Harbour by boat
09:00  Arrival to IVANA A-K, safety Induction (*INAgip d.o.o.*)
09:30  Breakfast on IVANA-A offered by *INAgip d.o.o.*
10:00  Practical session (*Arthur van Dalen*)
12:00  Debriefing and discussions (*Arthur van Dalen*)
12:30  Lunch on IVANA A-K offered by *INAgip d.o.o.*
13:30  Departure from IVANA A-K

**GROUP B – Visit to LABIN**

08:30  Departure from Hotel Park Plaza Histria
09:00  Arrival to LABIN
09:00  Safety Induction (*CROSCO*)
09:30  Practical session including group exercise (*Peter Wilke*)
13:00  End of the practical session
13:30  Lunch in Pula

15:00 – Transfer to Zagreb

18:30 – Foreseen arrival at Hotel International, Zagreb
JRC Mission

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre’s mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.