Rationale

The Offshore Safety Directive (2013/30/EU) was published in 2013 with the aim of establishing minimum requirements for major accident prevention in offshore oil and gas operations and for limiting the consequences should such events occur.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 41, Member States were obliged to complete the process of transposition of the Directive at national level by July 2015, and their appointed Competent Authorities for offshore safety were required to start applying in practice the provisions in their daily operations.

Particularly in relation to existing installations – all laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with the OSD had to be implemented by July 19th, 2018 at the latest, as specified in the transitional provisions of Article 42.

This workshop – supported by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Energy (ENER) and organized by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC) - is the first workshop to be held following the deadline of July 19th, 2018, and it will cover the main Competent Authority requirements introduced with the Directive to guarantee high levels of safety and environmental protection in the EU waters.

The workshop will represent an opportunity for Member States to share and review their experiences and practices in the development of their Competent Authority’s arrangements. The workshop also aims at stimulating interactions and discussions between participants on the major difficulties encountered and the main challenges to be faced in the future in relation to the requirements of the Offshore Safety Directive.

The topics for this workshop have been selected from suggestions from EUOAG members, with the key requests being:-

- An exploration of good practice concerning the role of Competent Authorities with respect to well operations and combined operations;
- A technical session on well workovers;
- Consideration of how Competent Authorities will need to respond to the changing nature of the offshore hydrocarbon industry, such as ageing infrastructure, life extension, decommissioning and changes in operators;
- Sharing good and best practice on how Competent Authorities have addressed their documentary requirements/responsibilities under the OSD.

**Objectives of the workshop**

The main objectives of the workshop are the following:

- To explore the current arrangements followed by the Member States concerning well operations and combined operations, and to identify good Competent Authority practises;
- To highlight and discuss the main challenges that Competent Authorities will face as the European offshore industry changes in the future e.g. on asset integrity, lifetime extension, and decommissioning;
- To share information on the arrangements in place for the preparation of Competent Authority documentation;
- To gather knowledge of the current practices and processes followed by the Competent Authorities for carrying out the main regulatory functions, and to review experiences in implementing the Competent Authority requirements of the Offshore Directive;
- Presentations and small group exercises will be organised on the topics above.

**Participation**

The event is open to the EUOAG Members and to the Representatives of Third Countries, the Industrial Associations and the Unions at the EUOAG, and to all Member States' authorities involved in the implementation of the requirements of the Directive at the national level.
Draft Agenda

1st Day: 26th November 2018

Morning: Transfer of participants from the Milan Malpensa / Linate Airport(s) to the JRC Conference Centre

13.00 Light Lunch & Registration

14.00 Start of the workshop

Welcome and opening of the Workshop

14.00 Welcome by the JRC and domestic arrangements

14.05 Objectives and structure of the workshop

14.10 Brief delegate introductions

SESSION I – Overall experiences of Competent Authority arrangements

14.15 Experience of setting up a Competent Authority from scratch – CHA Croatia

14.30 Experience of adapting an existing offshore regulator body to the OSD Competent Authority model – MISE Italy

14.45 The Industry view of how the EU Competent Authorities are working - IOGP (tbc)

15.00 The view of Europe’s offshore workers on how the EU Competent Authorities are working – IndustriAll (tbc)

15.15 Group Exercise (split into 3 groups), to identify what has worked well, what hasn’t worked well, what has been easy, what has been hard, challenges for the future etc.

16.00 Feedback from each group plus plenary discussion.

16.30 Coffee/Tea break

SESSION II – Well Operations and Workovers

16.45 Technical Session on Well Workovers

   Introductory Presentation

   How the industry faces these issues

   Plenary Discussion

18:00 Transfer to Hotels

20.00 Workshop Dinner for delegates
2nd Day: 27th November 2018

8:00 Transfer from Hotel to Conference Centre

30 mins Tour of JRC Visitors' Centre [TBC]

09.00 Recap from previous day

SESSION II cont'd – Well Operations and Workovers

09.15 Introduction to the Group exercise – Steve Walker

60 mins Group Exercise: Well Operation Notifications. To be developed, but to cover:

a) Exploration and agreement on the type of activities which come within the scope of a “well operation”

b) Sharing experiences of how Competent Authorities respond to such notifications, in order to identify good/best practices

c) Discussion and agreement on the type of information which Competent Authorities should expect in a Well Operation Notification, and how to link the notification with the relevant RoMHS

d) Identification of appropriate responses following Competent Authority scrutiny of a Well Operation Notification

e) Independent verification issues relating to well operations

30 mins Feedback from workgroups and plenary discussion

11.00 Coffee/Tea break

11.15 Group Exercise – Well Operation Weekly Reports. To be developed to provide an opportunity to share Competent Authorities' experiences and practises of handling weekly reports and to identify good/best practices.

11.40 Feedback from workgroups and plenary discussion

SESSION III – How can Competent Authorities respond to future changes in the offshore industry?

12.00 Overview of anticipated changes/challenges in Europe’s offshore hydrocarbon industry. Presentation by DG ENER

12.30 Competent Authority response to ageing assets – session covering the Competent Authority’s role in ensuring asset integrity of ageing assets and lifetime extension. 40 minute presentation + 20 minute plenary discussion

13.30 Lunch break (buffet)

14.30 Competent authority response to decommissioning and well abandonment – session covering the Competent Authority’s role in responding to decommissioning. 40 minutes presentation + 20 minutes discussion

15.30 Competent Authority response to changes in installation ownership – session covering how Competent Authorities can respond to the “traditional” major oil companies disinvesting in offshore Europe and being replaced by smaller, newer companies. 40 minute presentation +20 minute plenary discussion.

16.30 Coffee/Tea break
SESSION IV – Combined Operations

16.45 Introduction to Group exercise – Steve Walker

17.00 Group Exercise – Competent Authority Notifications. To be developed, but to cover:
   a) Exploration and agreement on the type of activities which come within the scope of a “combined operation”
   b) Sharing experiences of how Competent Authorities respond to such notifications, in order to identify good/best practices
   c) Discussion and agreement on the type of information which Competent Authorities should expect in a Combined Operation Notification, and how to link the notification with the relevant RoMHs
   d) Identification of appropriate responses following Competent Authority scrutiny of a Combined Operation Notification

18.00 Feedback from workgroups and plenary discussion

18:30 Transfer to Hotels

20.00 Workshop Dinner for delegates

3rd Day: 28th November 2018

8:30 Transfer from Hotel to Conference Centre

SESSION V - Competent Authority Documentation

09.00 Summary of OSD documentary requirements and introduction to the Group exercise – Steve Walker

09.10 Group Exercise (split into 3 groups) on documentary requirements. To be developed, but along the lines of each group considering a number of anonymized Competent Authority documents such as Annual Plans, Strategies & Policy Statements, Guidance, and providing views of best practice.

10.15 Coffee/Tea break

10.30 Group feedback and general discussion

Conclusions

11.30 Wrap-up session and workshop conclusions

12:00 – End of the workshop

12:15 – Transfers to the airport