



# The IMCA Message

August 2008

IMCA is the international trade association representing offshore, marine and underwater engineering companies

It seeks to:

- strive for the highest possible standards with a balance of risk and cost in: health and safety; technology; quality and efficiency; environmental awareness and protection;
- achieve and sustain self-regulation in the industry;
- ease the free movement of equipment and personnel globally;
- achieve equitable contracting regimes;
- provide the framework for training, certification, competence and recruitment to support and sustain the industry globally;
- resolve industry issues; and
- promote co-operation across the industry.

Members include pipelay, heavy lift, diving, remotely operated vehicle, survey and offshore construction contractors, plus various contractors operating specialist marine equipment.

IMCA has two core activities in which all members participate:

- Competence & Training includes a comprehensive framework devoted to promoting safety by defining and encouraging training and competence in key safety-related positions.
- Safety, Environment & Legislation (SEL) includes monitoring national and international regulatory bodies, circulation of relevant information to members and advancement of industry positions where necessary

Members join in one or more technical divisions relevant to their own activities:

- Diving
- Marine
- Offshore Survey
- Remote Systems & ROV

IMCA works with a global focus, but also has regional sections covering the key offshore areas: Asia-Pacific, Central & South America, Europe & Africa, Middle East & India and North America.

IMCA has published substantial and comprehensive good practice guidance on marine operations based on its members' experience in a range of related areas. More details on specific activities are set out on these factsheets.

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## Interests

IMCA represents the collective interests of the members in offshore and related activities, including, for example:

- ◆ Marine operations
- ◆ Diving
- ◆ Remote controlled systems including ROVs
- ◆ Offshore survey/positioning systems.

## Interfaces

IMCA promotes close co-operation by interfacing with:

- ◆ Oil & gas and other offshore operators
- ◆ Governments and other regulatory bodies
- ◆ Other trade associations.

## Objectives

The main objectives will be to promote members' common interests, including to:

- ◆ Strive for the highest possible standards with a balance of risk and cost, in: health and safety; technology, quality and efficiency; environmental awareness and protection
- ◆ Achieve and sustain self-regulation in the industry
- ◆ Ease the free movement of equipment and personnel globally
- ◆ Achieve equitable contracting regimes
- ◆ Provide the framework for training, certification, competence and recruitment to support and sustain the industry globally
- ◆ Resolve industry issues
- ◆ Promote co-operation across the industry.

## Means to Deliver Objectives

IMCA has a number of committees and work areas. Each of these also has its own objectives, set at the beginning of each year and listed on the website. To deliver the Association's and the committees' objectives, IMCA will:

- ◆ Ensure endorsement of and continually improve IMCA guidelines
- ◆ Ensure endorsement of and continually develop IMCA competence schemes
- ◆ Publish global codes of practice, guidance notes, industry briefings, discussion papers and other media
- ◆ Promote the use of common and practical industry good practice
- ◆ Promote standard contracts to foster the ideals set by the industry and improve relations, increase efficiency and reduce overall cost
- ◆ Monitor legislation affecting the industry
- ◆ Provide a forum for discussion
- ◆ Hold meetings, workshops and seminars at various levels and in various locations
- ◆ Ensure the needs of members are adequately and properly addressed
- ◆ Encourage research and development of new technology
- ◆ Provide a single voice to speak on behalf of members where there is a common interest.

## Member Undertakings

- ◆ Members are actively encouraged to take part in the affairs of IMCA
- ◆ Members agree to further the aims and objectives of IMCA and to promote self regulation
- ◆ Members are actively encouraged to adopt the safety/technical/good operational practice guidelines produced by IMCA, but a trade association cannot make this mandatory and IMCA cannot make adoption of standard contracts mandatory
- ◆ Members in the ICO and CO categories agree to be audited against IMCA's safety/technical/good operational practice guidelines where required by a client contract
- ◆ Members shall not use IMCA for illegal or illegitimate purposes, or bring IMCA into disrepute.

International Marine  
Contractors Association

[www.imca-int.com](http://www.imca-int.com)