

Minutes of a meeting of the Association's Marine Renewable Energy Marine Renewable Energy Committee
held on 25 February 2026 from 11:00-14:00 UTC at IMCA London Office and Online.

MREC Committee

Alan MacLeay(AML) (Chair)	Subsea	
Antony Milligan(AMI)	Scottish Power	
Aseem Dhingra(ADH)	DNV	
Beate Hildenbrand(BHI)	G+	
Charlotte Hjort(CHJ)	Maersk Oil	
Fritz Wiedermann(FWI)	Van Oord	
Gareth Potts(GPO)	RWE	
Kerrie Foster(KFO)	Workboat Association	
Maarten de Wit(MDW)	Ampelmann Operations B.V.	
Norman Skillen(NSK)	Jan De Nul	
Paul Young(PYO)	HSE	
Peter Lowson(PLO)	MCA	
Ruurd Boersma(RBO)	Acta Marine Offshore Services B.V.	IMCA
Sebastian Janssen(SJA)	Boskalis Offshore	Rhys Jones
Sophie Wilcox(SWI)	Ijuba	Richard Purser
Steve Myers(SMY) (VChair)	North Star Renewables	Jamie Chestnut
Thomas Jahnsen(TJA)	Vattenfall	Argiro Bell

1 Competition Law Compliance Policy

The IMCA Competition Law Compliance Policy, which had been circulated with the meeting agenda, was drawn to the attention of all present.

2 Welcome and Attendance

The chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded, with the latest meeting attendance now as follows:

Table 1 Record of Attendance

Name	Company	12 Sept 25	02 Dec 25	25 Feb 26
Alan MacLeay (Chair)	Subsea	Attended	Attended	Attended
Antony Milligan	Scottish Power	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Aseem Dhingra	DNV	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Beate Hildenbrand	G+	Attended	Attended	Attended
Charlotte Hjort	Maersk Oil	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Fritz Wiedermann	Van Oord	Attended	Apologies	Apologies
Gareth Potts	RWE	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies
Kerrie Foster	WB Association	Attended	Attended	Attended

Maarten de Wit	Ampelmann	Attended	Attended	Attended
Norman Skillen	Jan De Nul	Attended	Attended	Attended
Paul Young	HSE	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Peter Lowson	MCA	Attended	Apologies	Apologies
Ruurd Boersma	Acta MOS B.V.	Apologies	Apologies	Attended
Sebastian Janssen	Boskalis O	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Sophie Wilcox	Ijuboa	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies
Steve Myers	N. Star Renewables	Attended	Attended	Attended
Thomas Jahnsen	Vattenfall	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3.1 Approval of the minutes

The minutes were agreed from the previous and will be duly signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were not covered by existing agenda items.

3.3 Committee Leadership Transition and Role Changes:

RJO informed the committee that he will transition to a new role within IMCA focusing on competence and training. Richard Purser will assume responsibility for the committee secretariat and technical leadership.

RJO will remain involved during the transition period to ensure continuity

3.4 IMCA Organisational Update

An overview of the developing 2030 strategy was presented. Key themes include:

- Technical excellence
- Workforce competence
- Sustainability and energy transition
- Continued focus and investment in offshore wind and renewables

A governance review is underway to streamline committee structures, reduce duplication and clarify action tracking responsibilities. Recommendations will be presented to the IMCA Board.

4 USV Incident Reporting

The committee addressed the lack of standardized incident reporting and competence frameworks for unmanned surface vessels (USVs) and remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), with input from Anthony Milligan, Kerrie, Richard Persa, and others, and agreed to pursue industry-wide guidance and reporting mechanisms.

AMI and KFO described challenges in auditing USV operators, noting a trend toward lower competence standards due to commercial pressures and the lack of an internationally recognised framework.

KFO and PYO discussed the role of the MAIB in investigating incidents and the challenges in making reports public, highlighting the need for clear processes and industry transparency.

The Committee discussed the lack of incident reporting for the USV industry, RPU stated that there is already a mechanism in place for DP Incident reporting, the MASS Committee will investigate implementing a similar scheme.

5 Walk to Work Safety Improvement Program and Working Group Formation

5.1 Working Group Formation

The committee agreed to progress Phase 2 of the Walk to Work safety improvement programme. Richard Purser will lead the technical work, supported by broad industry participation including contractors, developers, OEMs, regulators and classification societies. Stakeholders referenced include G+, PITO, GWO, MTS, DNV and Lloyd's Register.

An open invitation remains for additional participants to ensure balanced representation.

5.2 Scope and Key Focus Areas

Phase 2 will address:

- Operator competence
- Assurance processes
- Incident reporting
- Technical standards
- Human factors
- Integration of new technologies (e.g. Zed Bridge systems)

The group agreed to adopt a continuous improvement approach, prioritising highest-risk areas first

5.3 Incident Reporting

Members highlighted the absence of a dedicated W2W incident reporting mechanism.

It was agreed that improved data capture is required to generate actionable statistics to inform:

- Training improvements
- Technical modifications
- Risk management processes

6 Review and Revision of C018 Guidance and Related Competency Standards

The committee agreed that a formal revision of C018 guidance is required

6.1 Key Issues Identified

- Ongoing confusion among developers
- Lack of clarity regarding equivalencies
- Need for clearer matrices and communication tools
- Alignment with site-specific requirements
- Alignment with international standards

AMI and other developers volunteered to contribute to the revision process

6.2 Consultation

While broad consultation is desirable, the committee agreed to proceed with active contributors and avoid delays caused by waiting for universal feedback.

Consultation with ICC and relevant international bodies will be considered to ensure global applicability.

6.3 Competence Concerns

Concerns were raised regarding:

- Commercial pressure leading to reduced competence thresholds
- Lack of internationally recognised competence framework
- Audit challenges for USV operators

AMI will gather evidence regarding competence trends and auditing practices.

7 DP Operations and Guidance for Offshore Wind

The committee discussed the applicability of existing IMCA DP guidance to offshore wind operations

7.1 Operational Differences

Members noted differences from oil and gas operations, including:

- Frequency of DP setup
- Nature of proximity risks
- Jacking operations near new structures
- Vessel size and advancing technology

RPU stated that all IMCA guidance is applicable to all areas of offshore activity, as documents are revised new missions will be accounted for.

8 Equipment Reliability, Maintenance, and Industry Standards:

Members observed increasing equipment breakdown rates in offshore wind projects, attributed to:

- Longer, more intensive project cycles
- High equipment utilisation
- Design standards derived from oil and gas practices

Discussion points included:

- Importance of proactive maintenance planning
- Negotiation of maintenance windows with clients
- Fabrication quality and supervision during build

- Human factors and repetitive operational pressures

Concerns may be raised with the Lifting & Rigging and Marine Committees for broader review

9 Helicopter Operations, Rescue, and Offshore Personnel Weight Limits

9.1 Rescue Arrangements

Recent prohibition notices relating to helicopter rescue arrangements were highlighted. Performance standards must keep pace with:

- Increased offshore activity
- Helicopter operations in higher sea states

9.2 124 kg Weight Limit

The OEUK 124 kg offshore personnel weight limit was discussed, including:

- Basis in rescue equipment limitations
- Impacts of PPE
- Operational complexities in renewables

International developments (Norway and Netherlands) were noted.

Data presented indicates no significant upward trend in worker weight, and industry adaptation appears positive.

10 First Aid and Medical Needs Assessment for Offshore Operations:

Clarification was provided regarding division of responsibilities:

- Vessels must meet IMO/STCW requirements for crew
- Enhanced medical provision required for wind farm operations is the responsibility of the wind farm duty holder

Clear contractual arrangements and risk assessments are essential

11 International Regulatory Engagement

The committee reviewed engagement in:

- Poland
- Taiwan
- Japan
- Australia

Key challenges identified:

- GPS jamming in the Baltic
- Cabotage and competence gaps in Japan
- Language barriers
- Varying regulatory maturity

Plans include workshops in Japan and continued dialogue in Australia

12 Partner Updates

12.1 G+

Upcoming stakeholder forum involving multiple regulators.

Publications in development on blades, severe weather and vessel management

12.2 HSE

Marine OPS inspection guide progressing through publication

12.3 Work Boat Association

- Daughter craft regulatory work
- Mooring and lines-under-tension safety campaign
- Planned CTV-focused event in September

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Cross-Committee Coordination

Richard Purser emphasised that the matter should be addressed across relevant IMCA committees to ensure consistency Summary of Action Items.

Action	Responsible	Target
Circulate summary of Denmark diving accident report and attempt to obtain remaining reports	AML	Next Meeting
MASS Committee to investigate USV incident reporting scheme	RPU	Next Meeting
Seek feedback on committee membership balance and representation	AML	Next Meeting
Kick start Phase 2 W2W guidance	RPU	Q2
Follow up with MAIB regarding public reporting of USV incidents	KFO	Next Meeting
Clarify and gather evidence regarding the trend of decreasing competence in USV operations.	AMI	Next Meeting
Consult DP/Marine committee on inclusion of wind Farm Missions within existing guidance	RPU	Next Meeting
HSE Committee to follow up with weight limits for Heli ops	RPU	Next Meeting

14 Date of Next Meetings

Week of 22nd June TBA

 Alan Macleay (May 14, 2026 11:58:00 GMT+1)	Alan MacLeay	14/05/2026
Signed as a true record	Name	Date

Minutes of a meeting MRES February 2026

Draft

Final Audit Report

2026-05-14

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