

Minutes of a meeting of the Association's Lifting & Rigging Management Committee held on 8 October 2025 from 13:30 GMT at IMCA HQ and via videoconference

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 both those in person and those joining via Teams. A quick round the table was carried out for the benefit of the new team members.

Asia Pacific Representation: The committee heard how moving forward Heerema would only have one representative within the committee and that Tom Dillerop would step down, due to limited Asian perspective in recent years. An action was assigned to seek a new representative from another company in the region.

Attendance and Deputies: It was emphasized that if a member cannot attend due to work commitments, someone else from their organization should stand in, and guests or deputies are welcome to ensure representation. As Saipem's new representative has not attended or sent apologies for absence after joining the group, IMCA shall get in touch with him and inform him about LRMC attendance policy.

Apologies for absence were recorded, with the latest meeting attendance now as follows:

Name	Company	Dec 2024	Mar 2025	Jun 2025	Sep 2025
Laura Lombardi (Chair)	Usha Martin Italia	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended
Jack Spaan (Vice Chair)	Boskalis	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Caspar Berends	TechnipFMC	N/A	N/A	N/A	Attended
Henk-Jan Bakkenes	Heerema	Substitute	Substitute	Attended	Attended
Maarten Loman	Van Oord	Absent	Apologies	Absent	Absent
Arjo van Putten	NOV	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Robin van Nieuwkerk	Huisman	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Richard Knight	McDermott	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Robert Askins	Global Maritime	Attended	Attended	Attended	Absent
Sara Fletcher	Subsea 7	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Jesper Halberg	Cadeler	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Tom Dillerop	Heerema (Asia Pacific)	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Absent
Marco Pedroso	SBM (South America)	Apologies	Apologies	Attended	Apologies
Peter Wolf	Siemens Gamesa	Apologies	Substitute	Absent	Absent
Michael Roberts	DNV (North America)	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Massimiliano Scarpellini	Saipem	N/A	N/A	Absent	Absent

Legend:

☒ Attended
 ☒ Part-Time
 ☒ S Substitute
 ☒ Apologies
 ☒ Absent
 ☒ N/A

Also present or joining via videoconference were:

Mark Ford	IMCA	Secretariat
Jennifer Evans	IMCA	Secretariat Lead
Argiro Bell	IMCA	Technical Administrator

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

3.1 Approval of the minutes

The minutes and actions of the last meeting were agreed and were duly signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

Document Review Actions: The committee confirmed that most actions from the previous meeting were completed, including document reviews and meetings with external parties such as Lloyds, and set actions to review and comment on the floating crane document.

3.2 Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda

Following the discussion on the LR006 Terminology Changes Caspar raised questions about new terminology in LR006, specifically the shift from 'safe working load' to 'working load limit' and 'maximum rated capacity,' with the committee confirming these changes are in the draft and discussing potential confusion and the need for further discussion in the LR006 working group.

4 Lessons learnt – Safety related

The committee were offered the opportunity to share safety-related material and incidents involving lifting and rigging.

5 Work Programme

5.1 2025 Objective Update

An update was given on the progress of the 2025 objectives:

1. Complete the revision to IMCA LR-008 – Guidance on the manufacture and safe use of cable-laid slings and grommets by August 2025 – **COMPLETED, released May 2025**
2. Complete the revision to IMCA LR-002 – Crane specification document by June 2025 – **On target**
3. Plan and hold a successful lifting and rigging seminar – October, London – **On target**
4. Working Group to develop a new guidance document on pulling eyes – TBD – **Only two volunteers to date**
5. Working Group to revise LR 006 – Guidelines for Lifting Operations – April 2025- **To commence November 2025**

5.2 2026 Objective Ideas

Ideas were discussed for the committees 2026 objectives:

1. Working Group to develop a new guidance document on pulling eyes – **Q2 start?**

2. Working Group to revise LR 006 – Guidelines for Lifting Operations – April 2025 – Lifting terminology, lift categorisation, Human Operational Performance etc. – **Q4 2025 start – Q2 2026 complete**
3. Assist with the South America Regional committee with the translation a proof checking of LRMC documents

Pulling Eyes Document: A draft document on pulling eyes for large diameter wire ropes was circulated, with the committee agreeing to review its scope, consider existing standards, and encourage more volunteers to participate in the working group.

Translation of Key Documents for South America: The committee, with input from Laura, Jack, and Caspar, discussed ongoing efforts to translate key lifting and rigging documents into Portuguese for Brazil, identified the need for technical review of translations, and planned to involve local experts for validation. **Translation Process:** The South American Regional Committee is translating key marine and lifting documents into Portuguese, with Marco leading the effort and a list of priority documents provided by Laura and Jack. **Quality Assurance:** Caspar recommended back-translation to English as a quality check, and the committee agreed to have technical experts, including Marco and others from the South American committee, review the translations to ensure technical accuracy.

It is also essential to make clear that the translation version shall be informative only and the master document shall remain the English version.

ROV Document Consistency: Caspar suggested reviewing both LR010 and LR011, which relate to ROV testing and certification, at the same time to ensure consistency, and the committee agreed to coordinate with the ROV committee for cross-verification.

Wire Rope Inspection, Discard Criteria, and New Technologies: Caspar, Jack, and other committee members discussed the inclusion of advanced vision systems and AI in wire rope inspection, the need for updated discard criteria, and the potential for informative guidance documents to address evolving inspection technologies. **Vision Systems and AI:** Caspar raised the possibility of including vision systems in LR004, and Jack described recent inspections using advanced cameras, noting the need for cautious interpretation of results and the potential for AI to improve future inspections. **Updating Discard Criteria:** The committee debated whether to update LR004 or create a standalone informative guidance document on discard criteria, ultimately agreeing to reference new technologies and gather feedback from the upcoming seminar. **Practical Challenges:** Members discussed the variability in inspection practices, the limitations of current standards, and the importance of collecting more operational data to inform future updates.

Continuous Professional Development and Learning Management System: Discussed in 6.0. Should a lifting plan CPD be included in 2026 objectives?

5.3 Lifting Seminar 2025

The team discussed the numbers registered for tomorrow's LR Seminar on "Offshore Ropes Fundamentals Technical Workshop – Bringing offshore rope experts and developing experts together. The committee, led by Jennifer and supported by other members, finalized preparations for the upcoming lifting and rigging seminar, including participant assignments, workshop topics, and logistics, and planned to gather input for future objectives and seminar topics.

5.4 Document revision status

The Committee members reviewed progress on key documents such as LR002, discussed terminology changes, and planned the initiation of new working groups and document reviews, including actions for the pulling eyes document and ROV-related documents.

Name	Guidance Refs	Latest Revision	Latest Update	Latest Version	Status Reason
Crane specification document	IMCA LR002, IMCA M171	25/03/2019	25/03/2019	2.0	Final comments
Guidance on open parachute type underwater air lift bags	IMCA D016, IMCA LR007	31/01/2022	30/11/2023	5.1	Current
Guidance on the manufacture and safe use of cable-laid slings and grommets	IMCA LR008, IMCA M179	15/04/2025	15/04/2025	2.0	Current
Guidance on the selection, safe use and inspection of high performance fibre slings used for engineered lifts	IMCA LR009, IMCA M237	31/08/2020	26/02/2024	1.1	Current
Guidelines for lifting operations	IMCA D060, IMCA HSSE019, IMCA LR006, IMCA M187	31/08/2022	20/06/2023	2.1	Nov 25
Recommended practice for remotely operated vehicle load testing and inspection	IMCA LR010, IMCA R021	31/08/2024	15/08/2024	1.3	ROV Cttee reviewing
Recommended practice for the examination of steel wire rope through magnetic rope testing (MRT)	IMCA HSS023, IMCA LR004, IMCA M197	29/02/2024	30/07/2024	2.0	Does it need reviewing? 2026
Recommended practice on the use of chain lever hoists in the offshore subsea environment	IMCA D028, IMCA LR005	30/06/2023	30/05/2024	3.1	Current
Recommended practice on wire rope integrity management for vessels in the offshore industry	IMCA HSS022, IMCA LR001, IMCA M194	01/10/2023	04/10/2023	4.0	Does it need reviewing 2026
The initial and periodic examination, testing and certification of ROV launch and recovery systems	IMCA LR011, IMCA R011	30/09/2021	30/11/2023	2.1	Current
Guidance on pulling eyes	IMCA LRXXX				New

5.5 LR002 Crane Specification Comment Review

The workgroup updated the committee on the crane specification review and the final comments were resolved at the end of the meeting.

5.6 LRMC document downloads

Apologies were given as new download figures are still not available.

6 General discussion & new technology

The committee discussed the development of a learning management system for continuous professional development (CPD) in lift planning, addressing the lack of standardized training and the need for refresher modules for engineers and field staff.

CPD for Lift Planning: The committee considered developing CPD modules for lift planning, noting the absence of global certification or standardized training and the need to support both experienced and new staff.

Learning Management System Implementation: Plans were discussed to roll out a learning management system that would include training modules, document uploads, and refresher content, with the aim of preventing skill fade and supporting competence.

Industry Practices: Jack and Caspar highlighted that most companies do not have dedicated lift planners, and lift planning is typically handled by engineers or field staff, reinforcing the need for accessible, standardized training.

7 Involvement with Other Organisations

7.1 BSI/ISO/EN matters

The committee were updated as follows:

- CEN/TC 168 agreed to: activate the NWIP for EN 1492-4:2004+A1:2008 Textile slings — Safety — Part 4: Lifting slings for general-purpose and engineered lifting operations made from synthetic man-made fibre ropes to develop a hEN at CEN level. (Doc in meeting papers)
- New Work Item Proposal - Amendment for EN 13852-1 - several minor errors and incorrect references in the standard which were not considered as editorial comments and thus not accepted by the publication proofing team. These minor errors and incorrect references were unfortunately not detected prior to FV.
- BS 7121 Series - As the series has been developed over many years, there has been drift between the various parts and there now arises an opportunity to 'reset' the series – to bring the general guidance (Part 1) up to date and to include the learning from the industry best practice guidance that has been developed for specific equipment, and to subsequently review the existing equipment specific parts to refine and improve, whilst following a to-be-developed standardised structure
- ISO/FDIS 4306-1 (Ed 5) – Cranes - Vocabulary
- FDIS for approval (see meeting papers)
- ISO/PWI 7296-1 - Cranes — Graphical symbols — Part 1: General - NWIP for approval (see meeting papers)

ISO and EN Amendments: The committee reviewed recent amendments to standards such as ISO 138521, discussed minor errors and the need for further review, and noted ongoing work on offshore crane standards. Arjo agreeing to contact Maru Hartman to discuss the errors further.

Jennifer was going to confirm which committee she had been added to for ISO/BS, in preparation for Marks retirement in 2026.

7.2 LEEA

No further updates. MOU in place on reciprocal event promotion.

7.3 OMHEC

It was noted that the last OMHEC meeting was on Monday 7th April 2025, via Teams.

Minutes from the meeting are in the meeting papers.

The next OMHEC meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th November 2025 via Teams. Mark/Jennifer will attend via Teams and the committee members were asked if they had any points to raise with OMHEC then to forward them to Mark/Jennifer.

7.4 API – Update from Matt McClean of McDermott

The API continues to develop 2CIM – Crane Integrity Management next meeting is 22 October 2025. Please contact Elton Patram at PatramE@api.org if interested in participating.

This afternoon API has sent out the ballot for reaffirming API Spec 2C. If passed this will allow the spec's validity to be extended for another 5 years.

7.5 Centre of Offshore Safety (COS) Lifting Subcommittee

Since we last spoke COS conducted their 2nd Quarter meeting on April 10th. The main focus from that meeting was a review of 15 learning from Incidents (LFI) that were submitted from events in 2024. Unfortunately, Matt McClean had a conflict and was not able to attend. However, the LFI's are being consolidated into COS Safety Shares. Matt will share once they come out.

Their 3rd quarter meeting was replaced with a lifting summit hosted on 11 September. This was a free in person event that focused on lifting safety. This was the second time COS hosted this event. Based on the success they plan to host it every other year.

Presentations were shared by Shell, BSEE, Corbit, Gulf Crane and Versabar.

The meeting featured presentations and discussions centered around lifting operations, incident case studies, and safety practices, with emphasis on psychological safety, communication, and meticulous lifting planning. Key takeaways included the importance of thorough documentation, understanding equipment limitations, importance of FAT testing, and fostering a culture where safety and teamwork are integrated into operational execution.

Q4 Meeting date has not been set yet.

7.6 DNV

Mike Roberts provided the following update to the committee.

DNV-ST-E273 2.7-3 Portable offshore units. Presently undergoing general update with focus on materials, alignment with other DNV standards and update of references. This was expected to go to external hearing in Q4 of 2024 but this has been delayed. As of October 2025, it is still delayed with no indication when it will go to external hearing.

DNV-ST-E281 Transportation and installation aids . Funding has been received to produce this standard and work on development is ongoing. Hearing date not provided – in last meeting it was advised that it could be ready for external hearing towards the end of 2025 but this will slip. Note, it is likely that it will be given a different document number.

DNV-RP-N202 Motion compensating systems. No change since last meeting. This was issued in June 2024. Previously it was mentioned that that there will be a roundtable with the JIP participants involved in the development of the RP with this originally scheduled for the end of January 2025 but this has been delayed. The author would like to know if there is any feedback to the RP from IMCA members – technical comments or how it has been received.

DNV-OS-E303 Offshore Fibre Ropes. An update has been made (formatted to align with other standards and updated with clarifications) but this has yet to be checked, approved and published G+ Renewables

7.7 G+ Renewables

No further updates

7.8 ABS

New revision of the Guide for the Certification of Lifting Appliances released May 2025. Located in Meeting Papers folder.

7.9 Other organisations

Step Change in Safety

Q3 - quarter's theme of "Safe Lifting, Working at Height, and Preventing Dropped Objects"

Q4 – well being and work environment

Cargo Carrying Unit Master Links Knowledge Share

In response to an in-service failure of a Tote Tank Master Link, Step Change in Safety issued a summary High Value Learning in July 2024. An industry knowledge share session was held in December 2024, and a subsequent Industry survey was conducted in order to develop a set of Recommendations to Duty Holders based upon the currently available guidance and data (document in meeting paper).

8 Any other business

The committee were requested to check the committee webpage and provide a photo if required.

9 Summary of action items

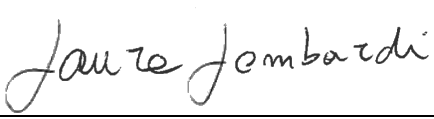
Action	Responsible	Target
Asia Pacific Committee Representation: Identify and propose a new representative from Asia Pacific to replace the outgoing member.	Jennifer Evans, Rhys Jones	Dec. 25
Send reminder to Saipem of the attendance policy	Jennifer	Nov 2025
LR006 Terminology Discussion: Discuss and resolve terminology concerns (e.g., safe working load vs. working load limit) within the LR006 working group.	LRMC Members, Caspar, Jack	2026
Crane Specification Document Finalization: Finish reviewing and incorporating the last comments into the crane specification document and set up the first LR006 working group meeting.	WG & Jennifer	Nov 25
Pulling Eyes Guidance Document Review: Review Mark's draft of the pulling eyes guidance document and assess committee participation interest.	LRMC Members & Jennifer	Q1 2026
Translation of Lifting and Rigging Documents: Assist with the review and validation of Portuguese translations of key lifting and rigging documents for technical accuracy.	Marco, South American Committee	Dec 25
Wire Rope Inspection Technology Update: Consider including vision system technology for steel wire rope examination in LR004 or related documents and interpret results with caution.	LRMC Members	2026
Discard Criteria Guidance: Develop informative guidance on rope discard criteria and reference it back to LR001, and consider adding this to 2026 objectives	LRMC Members, Jennifer	2026
ROV Document Consistency Check: Verify that LR011 is reviewed for consistency alongside LR010 by the ROV committee before publication.	Jennifer & ROV Committee	Dec 25
ISO/BS committees: Jennifer to confirm which committees and workgroups she is currently assigned to and expand to cover all of Marks.	Jennifer & Mark	March 2026
Establish a working group to produce a new guidance document on pulling eyes	Jennifer Evans	Awaiting availability
Meeting schedule: Look for alternative December date which does not collide with Subsea LR conference, if too many meeting declines	Jennifer	Nov 25
2026 face to face meeting. Email LRMC for alternative locations, and preferred date for 2026. This is due to no LR Seminar in 2026, so open to suggestions	LRMC Members, Jennifer	Q1 2026

10 Date and location of next meetings

- Q4 Wednesday 3rd December – Teams. Subject to change, due to Subsea Conference

2026 Prospective Dates – Subject to change

- Q1 Wednesday 4th March 2026
- Q2 Wednesday 3rd June 2026
- Q3 Wednesday 9th Sept 2026
- Q4 Wednesday 2nd December 2026

	Laura Lombardi	04/12/2025
Signed as a true record	Name	Date






LRMC minutes 20251008 - sent for sign

Final Audit Report

2025-12-04

Created:	2025-12-04
By:	Jennifer Evans (jennifer.evans@imca-int.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA7ZGGzfXEPQoeV_KHRPOOJEK350FI8VqJ

"LRMC minutes 20251008 - sent for sign" History

-  Document created by Jennifer Evans (jennifer.evans@imca-int.com)
2025-12-04 - 11:08:18 AM GMT
-  Document emailed to Laura Lombardi (laura.lombardi@ushamartin.it) for signature
2025-12-04 - 11:08:22 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by Laura Lombardi (laura.lombardi@ushamartin.it)
2025-12-04 - 11:28:51 AM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Laura Lombardi (laura.lombardi@ushamartin.it)
Signature Date: 2025-12-04 - 11:29:43 AM GMT - Time Source: server
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