

Minutes of a meeting of the Association’s Security Committee held on 14 January 2026 from 1300 GMT via videoconference

1 Welcome and attendance

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

Name	Company	Feb 2025	Jun-25	Sep-25	Jan-26
Nicolas Krmic	Subsea 7	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Rolinda van Zanten	Van Oord Offshore	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Pieter Matthee	Heerema Marine Contractors	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Anton van Heiningen	Heerema Marine Contractors	Attended	Apologies	Apologies	Absent
Diane Khatun	IOGP	Apologies	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Russell Pegg	OCIMF	Apologies	Attended	Apologies	Apologies
Bernard Rouault	Saipem	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Gaëlle Serquin-Peyraud	SBM Offshore	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended
Dag Snemyr	Siem Offshore	Apologies	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Bjorn Holstad	Solstad Shipping	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Gary Ritchie	Subsea 7	Attended	Apologies	Apologies	Attended
Ryan Hutton	TechnipFMC	N/A	N/A	N/A	Attended

Legend:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Part-Time	S Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Apologies	Absent	N/A
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Also present or joining via videoconference were:

Margaret Fitzgerald	IMCA
Nick Hough	IMCA
Adrian Philips	IMCA

1.1 Committee representation

Nick Hough welcomed Ryan Hutton of TechnipFMC as the newest member of the committee. Ryan and the other members of the committee introduced themselves.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 25 September were agreed and would be duly signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

3 IMCA update

Nick Hough gave an update on changes at IMCA, including the following:

- HSS Manager Adrian White had left IMCA in October; he would be replaced by Mark Holmes who would start on 19 January;
- Technical Director Jim Cullen had retired at the end of Q4 '25. There will be no new Technical Director. A new role, Head of Technical and Safety, was currently being recruited for;

- Rhys Jones, Technical Adviser in marine renewables amongst other matters, has become Head of Competence and Training;
- Work to further ensure that IMCA can continue to meet its members' needs in a changing world has led to and is still leading to, the recruitment of various other persons in a number of important support roles;

4 Maritime security and geopolitical issues

The Chair stimulated a discussion on the ongoing geopolitical uncertainty including the following:

- **Venezuela:** whilst few IMCA members have assets there, some plans may have been laid for local work; some of these plans were perforce on hold. Tensions remain high, with naval vessels nearby and the ongoing threat of tankers being seized. There was considerable uncertainty. Of more concern is possible “knock-on” effects on crew change security in nearby countries. Members noted that no special issues had been observed thus far in Guyana or in Trinidad;
- **Iran and the Middle east:** Uncertainty continued along with the unrest in Iran. The part to be played by Israel was not to be underestimated. A watching brief was to be maintained;
- **Israel/Gaza:** It was uncertain how much actual control Hamas has over Gaza. The ongoing troubles in Iran necessarily could have a serious “knock-on” effect in Gaza and elsewhere in the Middle east. Further points to note were:
 - Some crew or personnel may decline to work with or on projects that could have Israeli involvement. This could pose a crewing issue;
 - Contractors or even personnel who have worked on projects that could have Israeli involvement, may subsequently run into difficulties elsewhere, particularly in the Arab world. Vessel owners may run the risk of their vessels being identified as a potential targets in the Red Sea;
 - Turkiye does not allow into its waters, vessels that have done business with or operated in, Israeli waters;
 - Qatar does not permit business to be conducted at all with companies that have done business with or operated in, Israel.
- **Russia and Ukraine:** Members were conducting business safely in the Black Sea. Targeted (not random) drone attacks against Russian vessels had been observed. Floating sea mines were not seen as a serious threat any more. Members discussed the possible movement from one country to another, of the maritime security hub representing the western Black Sea. It was noted that drone attacks against installations had recently been observed for the first time in the northern part of the Caspian Sea.
 - In the Baltic, GNSS jamming and spoofing continued to be a problem for contractors operating there. NATO in certain cases encouraged reporting instances of GNSS jamming and spoofing.
 - Nick Hough noted that the Offshore Survey Committee were revising IMCA S 015 *Guidelines for GNSS positioning in the oil and gas industry* and that this revision would likely include expanded guidance on GNSS jamming and spoofing.
- **Taiwan:** Again not too much to report except for nearby movements of Chinese military assets. It was noted that it could be difficult getting people locally to treat the situation with the seriousness it deserved. Members discussed the importance of briefing and reassuring the crew. This was a universal to all areas and would be dealt with separately. See item 5.

- **Mozambique:** members observed that contract work would be/was restarting in this area, with the usual careful caveats with regard to local security;

4.1 Joint Industry Security Group update

There was nothing specific to report at this time. Russell Pegg was unable to attend this meeting, Nick Hough would check to see if there was any update.

5 Safe travel and work – reassuring field crew

Members discussed the need to get the “buy-in” of crew travelling to certain areas of the world that may be perceived as having higher levels of geopolitical uncertainty. A big part of this task was reassuring crew, by keeping them properly informed and remaining transparent.

From the previous minutes, the following points were reiterated as important:

- Significant and early engagement with crews, informing them with an honest, precise and detailed picture of the local situation, using workshops where open questions were permitted;
- Robust procedures;
- Trustworthy local support.

Members suggested that development of an Information Note of IMCA briefing on this topic as beneficial. Such a publication would have potential value as carrying IMCA’s authority as an impartial trade association. Members would share material on this subject with Nick Hough who would be able to collate a draft publication.

Action: Some committee members, Nick Hough

6 Technology security /cybersecurity

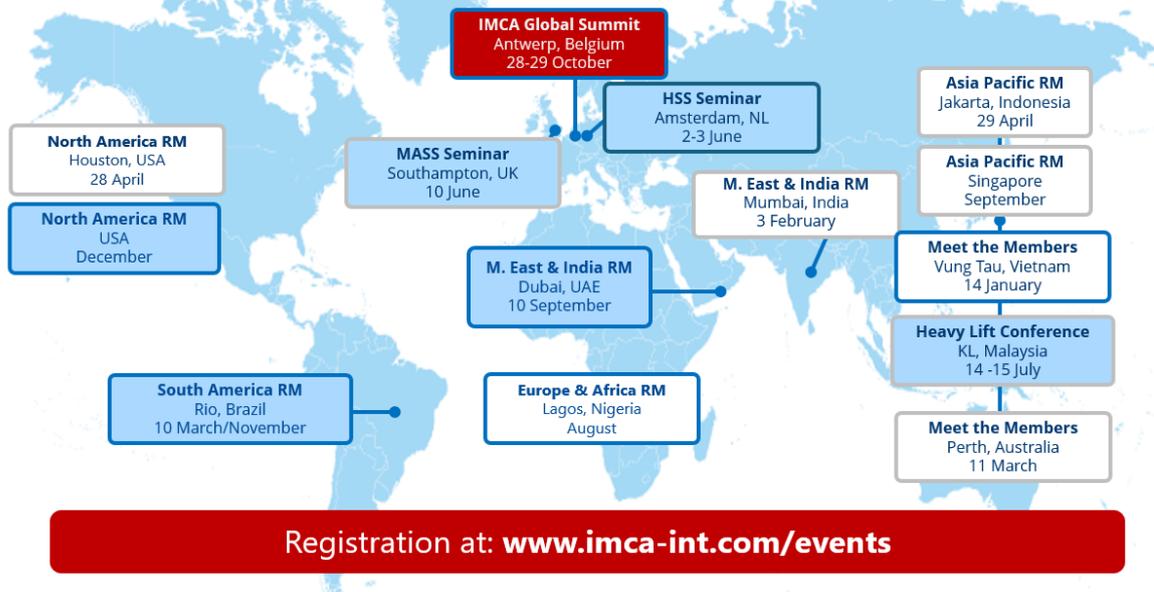
There was a brief discussion of GPS jamming and spoofing and drone attacks. It was noted that a speaker into this area of expertise may be beneficial at the forthcoming IMCA Health, safety and security seminar in Amsterdam on 2-3 June. Recent events and news update

7 Recent and forthcoming events

Nick Hough reported that the following events were coming up or had occurred:

- 14 Jan - Meet the members, Vung Tau, Vietnam
- 2 Feb – Middle East and India Regional meeting, Mumbai
- 10 March – South America Regional meeting, Rio de Janeiro
- 2-3 June – IMCA Health, Safety and Security Seminar, Amsterdam airport

Main IMCA events in 2026



7.1 Global Summit, Kuala Lumpur, November 2025

There had been a very successful IMCA “Global Summit” (annual seminar) held at the InterContinental Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 26-27 November 2025. There had been 430 attendees; members from 37 countries were represented. There were around 50 speakers, 16 sponsors, and 14 exhibitors. The IMCA Awards (Safety, Sustainability etc) had been made at a grand seminar dinner.

IMCA will hold the 2026 Global Summit on 28-29 October at “A Room with a Zoo” at Antwerp in Belgium. There will be a Gala Dinner & IMCA Awards. Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities are available. Contact events@imca-int.com.

7.2 Health, Safety and Security Seminar June 2-3 2026

There will be an HSS (Health, Safety and Security) Seminar at an Amsterdam venue still to be decided upon, 2-3 June 2026. There will be a Joint safety/security focus, with the first day mostly HSE (topics including learning from normal work, HOP, mental health at work) and the second day including maritime security. We have Ellie Shafik of Vanguard-Tech speaking; she will be able to bring a good security update. Other speakers are sought to make a strong lead on maritime security issues on day 2. Subjects could include drones, GPS spoofing and jamming, cyber-attacks, critical infrastructure security etc.

Members discussed the possibility of a presentation on reassuring crew travelling to what may be seen as higher risk areas, by keeping them properly informed and remaining transparent.

There will be round table workshops as well as presentations. The support of members of this committee both in attendance and potentially in assistance or in giving a presentation, would be most welcome.

8 Any other business

There was a discussion of Flag State security levels and how they differed between different Flag States.

9 Date and location of next meetings

Thursday 21 April from 1300 BST (time and date to be confirmed)

10 Summary of Action Items

Action	Responsible	Target
5. Share with Nick Hough, material on reassuring field crew travelling to and from areas of perceived higher risk, for preparation into a possible Information Note.	Committee members, Nick Hough	End Feb 2026

11 Date and Location of Next Meetings

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Signed as a true record

Name

Date