
Minutes of a meeting of Marine DP Committee held on 25 February 2025 from 11:00hrs UTC via videoconference

DP Committee

Graeme Lorenson	Subsea 7 (Chair)
Zack Clark	Kongsberg
Hans Brejaart	Boskalis
Wassim Kennou	Bourbon
Odd Tollefsen	Altera
Aleks Karlsen	DNV
Joey Fisher	M ₃ Marine
John de Hartog	Saipem
Camilla Costa	TechnipFMC
James Fortnum	Tidewater
Lars Skov Engdam	Maersk Training
Kevin Murphy	Valaris
Cinthya Lopes	SimWave
Mike Hensley	ABS
Craig Styles	BV Consulting
Jorma Koponen	ABB
Ben Hukins	Global Maritime
Alessio Lombardi	ABL
Renata Cortes	CBO
Peter Griffin	Transocean

IMCA

Richard Purser
Jennifer Evans
Mark Ford

1 Competition law compliance policy

The IMCA Competition Law Compliance Policy was acknowledged by attendees. Updates to internal guidance policies were discussed, and changes are expected in the coming year.

2 Welcome and attendance & Minutes of the previous meeting

- In the absence of the Chair (**Graeme Lorenson**), **Richard Purser** chaired the meeting.
- **New members welcomed:**
 - Benjamin Hukins (Global Maritime)
 - Alessio Lombardi (ABL)
 - Renato Cortes (CBO) (Not present)
 - Peter Griffin (Transocean) (Not present)

The **minutes from the December 2024 meeting were approved** without objections and will be signed by the Chair

Table 1 – Record of Attendance

Name	Company	27 Feb 24	23 April 24	21 Aug 24	18 Dec 24	This
Graeme Lorenson	Subsea 7 (Chair)	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Zack Clark	Kongsberg	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Sjors Robertz	Boskalis	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Wassim Kennou	Bourbon	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Apologies	Attended
Odd Tollefsen	Altera	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Aleks Karlsen	DNV	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies
Joey Fisher	M ₃ Marine	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
John de Hartog	Saipem	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Attended	Absent
Camilla Costa	TechnipFMC			Attended	Apologies	Attended
James Fortnum	Tidewater	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Klaus Movesen	Maersk Training			Absent	Attended	Absent
Kevin Murphy	Valaris	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Attended
Cinthya Lopes	SimWave	Apologies	Attended	Apologies	Attended	Absent
Mike Hensley	ABS	Attended	Attended	Attended	Apologies	Attended
Craig Styles	BV Consulting	Apologies	Attended	Attended	Attended	Attended
Jorma Koponen	ABB			Attended	Attended	Attended
Ben Hukins	Global Maritime					Attended
Alessio Lombardi	ABL					Attended
Renata Cortes	CBO					-
Peter Griffin	Transocean					-

The actions from the previous DP Committee meetings were reviewed and discussed. The minutes from the previous meeting held in August were approved and will be signed off.

3 Vice Chair

Joey Fisher (M3 Marine) volunteered for the Vice Chair role. No objections were raised, and the appointment was confirmed.

4 Work Program

4.1 Documentation

- Completed Publications:
 - M140 – Published in early 2025.
 - DP1 Document – Published.
 - M220 – No feedback received post-publication.
- 2025 Reviews Underway:
 - M103 – Requires final review before publication.

- M117 (Junior DPO roles) – Ongoing discussions on wording and training flexibility.
- M217 (High Voltage Safety) – Under review.
- M247 (DP Failure Modes) – Minor updates needed.
- M250 (Hybrid Systems in DP) – Requires substantial revision due to outdated content.
- M252 (DP System Guidance) – Updated last year but unpublished; further review required.
- **New Proposal:**
 - Development of a Joint Emergency Preparedness Document, integrating existing documents from DP, Marine, ROV, and Diving sectors.
 - Members agreed this initiative would consolidate best practices and improve safety guidelines

4.2 DP Event Reporting Scheme and Bulletin

- 2024 Summary: 217 reports submitted (highest ever recorded).
- 2025 YTD: 50 reports received, though many relate to incidents from 2024.
- M269 Annual Report released in early February.
- DP Bulletin #4 (2024) was delayed and will be published in March 2025.
- Discussion on leveraging increased reporting data:
 - Members suggested improved statistical analysis and reporting methods.
 - A new IT specialist will be hired to enhance data analysis capabilities

4.3 Practitioner Accreditation and CPD

- Accreditation Numbers:
 - 90 DP Practitioners
 - 38 DP Company Authorities
 - Ongoing review of questions
- CPD Program:
 - The DPO CPD app now has 8,675 registered users, with an average of 2,000 active users per month.
 - Revalidation process updates:
 - Year 1 candidates may complete Modules 1 & 2 consecutively.
 - A mandatory 4-month gap must be observed before starting Year 2 modules

4.4 Work with Other Organizations

- Discussions with MTS included mixed feedback on the " Joint Single Fault Tolerance " document. The document will be reorganised and simplified before anticipated publication Q2.
- Collaborations with IMO on STCW revisions were discussed, particularly the integration of DPO certification into Part A. Concerns over maintaining global standards and avoiding a "race to the bottom" were noted. IMCA reaffirmed its neutral stance.

Action: IMCA/Committee

5 Objectives for 2025

The committee discussed objectives, the below were shown to the committee:

- Information Notes

- DP Committee members must ensure IMCA accreditation
- DP Committee members to submit 5 reports.
- Conduct DP Conference - React to the outcomes from the DP Conference
- Update/review – of documents as per yearly cycle
- Joint Emergency Preparedness.

Business as usual, with no major changes apart from the new Emergency Preparedness Document

Action: Committee

6 M117 (Junior DPO Roles & Certification)

- Key issues discussed:
 - Shuttle Tanker Operators (North Sea) follow own DPO standards, which sometimes conflict with IMCA M117.
 - IMCA maintains guidelines requiring two certified DPOs during critical DP operations.
 - Some members argued this limits training opportunities for Junior DP Operators.
 - Others warned against creating loopholes that could lower safety standards.
- The consensus was to leave the wording on M117 as is

7 DP Conference & Upcoming Events

- DP Asia Conference – April 2-3, 2025
 - Topics: Competence, Training, DP Incidents, Digital Decision Support Tools, and ASOG Implementation.
 - IMCA Representatives: Richard Purser, Jennifer Evans, and Rhys Jones.
 - Industry presenters: Kongsberg, MTS, ABB, DNV, and more.
- 2025 DP Conference Planning – Istanbul 3rd & 4th June:
 - Proposed topics:
 - Emission Reduction Strategies (Closed Bus Ties, Alternative Fuels)
 - Safety Implications of New Technologies
 - Operational Challenges in Hybrid DP Systems

Action: Committee

8 Any other business

8.1 Thruster Failures

A discussion was conducted regarding a recent discovery from the Members Annual DP Trials test, in which an azimuth thruster was manipulated to operate in full azimuth, and the anticipated outcomes. It was observed that this was a replication of a mechanical failure of a solenoid valve that was set to the "full" position.

It was agreed to review IMCA Documentation in particular M247 with regards Thruster Failures.

8.2 IMCA Website

It was pointed out that there were some anomalies with regards accessing the new website, Members were encouraged to send in any issues so IT can investigate and fix.

9 Summary of action items

Action	Responsible	Target
Finalise M103 for publication	Committee/IMCA	June 2025
Complete M217, M247, M250, and M252 reviews	Committee/IMCA	December 2025
Publish Joint Emergency Preparedness Document	Committee/IMCA	December 2025
Investigate web issues	IMCA	Continuous

10 Date and location of next meetings

To be scheduled for early 22nd April 2025 via videoconference

DP Committee Chair

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Signed as a true record

Name

Date