

**Minutes** of a meeting of the Association’s Marine Renewable Energy Committee held on 17 May 2024 from 10:00 GMT 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. Apologies for absence were recorded, with the latest meeting attendance now as follows:

Name	Company	May 20:	Mmm-Y	Mmm-Y	This
Alan MacLeay	Seaway7	Attended	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charlotte Hjort	Maersk Supply	Attended			
Fritz Wiedermann	Van Oord	Attended			
Ruurd Boersma	Actamarine	Attended			
Sebastiaan Janssen	Boskalis	Attended			
Stephen Brady	Orsted	Attended			
Anthony Milligan	Scottish Power	Attended			
Aseem Dhingra	DNV	Attended			
Maarten de Wit	Ampelmann	Attended			

Legend: ☑ Attended ☑ Part-Time S Substitute ✉ Apologies Absent N/A

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

Name	Company	May -2024			
Fritz Wiedeman	VanOord	☑	☑	☑	☑
Billy Moss	BP	N/A	☑	☑	☑
Charlotte Hjort	Maersk Supply	S	☑	✉	☑

Also present or joining via videoconference were:

Rhys Jones	IMCA	Technical Advisor
Jim Cullen	IMCA	Technical Director
Mark Ford	IMCA	Marine & Quality Manager
Bill Chilton	IMCA	Diving Manager
Jennifer Evans	IMCA	Technical Advisor
David Slater	IMCA	Technical Advisor

## 3 Minutes of the previous meeting

### 3.1 Approval of the minutes

The minutes were agreed and were 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.

## 4 Confidential safety discussion

An unrecorded confidential discussion was held to facilitate the sharing of lessons learnt regarding safety incidents. This discussion followed Chatham house rules and adhered to IMCA competition law compliance policy.

## 5 IMCA update

Rhys Jones with contributions from Jim Cullen and Mark Ford provided an update of recent IMCA news and future events including

- IMCA Global Summit is to be held 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2024 in Utrecht. The provisional agenda is to include:
    - Introduction from IMCA
    - Keynote address day 1
    - Future trends in offshore energy markets
    - Panel debate & audience Q&A
    - Keynote address: Sustainability
    - Scope three: The next big challenge
    - Panel debate: Can our industry be truly sustainable?
    - Stream one: Sustainability:
    - Stream two: Vessels:
    - Sharing the findings: Workshops
    - IMCA Awards
  - Introduction from IMCA
  - Keynote address day 2
  - Future trends in offshore energy markets
  - Panel debate & audience Q&A
  - Keynote address: Sustainability
  - Scope three: The next big challenge
  - Panel debate: Can our industry be truly sustainable?
  - Stream one: Sustainability:
  - Stream two: Vessels:
  - Sharing the findings: Workshops
  - IMCA Awards
- IMCA DP Conference is to be held 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2024 in Amsterdam.
  - IMCA Rigging and Lifting Conference is to be held 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 in Amsterdam.
  - IMCA Underwater Ships Husbandry Seminar is to be held 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 in Singapore.

## 6 MREC Vice Chair Election

Rhys Jones outlined the process for the election of a new Chair for the committee. As per section 8.3 of the IMCA Bye-laws which states “Each committee will select amongst itself its Chair and Vice-Chair positions unless there are specific nomination requirements. The terms of both posts should be nominally three years, limited to two consecutive terms without a break, and ideally be staggered to avoid both post holders leaving their roles at the same time.”

The timeline for the election was agreed as follows;

- Nominations by: 26/07/2024
- Voting opens: 31/07/2024
- Voting closes: 21/08/2024

Action: Rhys Jones

## 7 Walk to Work Update & Guidance Revision

Rhys Jones provided an update on the revision of IMCA M254 and report on the joint workshop held with G+ to consider the wider requirements to further improve safety performance regarding the use of motion compensated gangways.

It was explained to the group that during the workshop participants were split into four groups and in separate breakout sessions covered all the topics listed below which were considered to provide a suitable structure to explore the various aspects of W2W safety;

- Design & Maintenance
- Procurement
- Procedures & Competence
- Emerging Issues

The 13 recommendations of the report from the workshop were presented (as detailed in both the report and on the meeting slide pack). Two further point of note were also highlighted;

- Access to IMCA documents is only possible through membership of the organisation. It was noted that many W2W providers are not members which limits the level of influence of the IMCA guidance document. This should be addressed so that any guidance document from IMCA is available. This could be achieved by Asset developers / owners specifying IMCA membership in their requirements.
- Prior to the workshop the incidents were reviewed against the two standards and it was found that the combined requirements should have avoided the majority of the events. This does suggest that there is potentially a lack of appropriate adoption. During the workshop there was a discussion about the level of awareness of the standards, and there were participants who did not know the IMCA guidance existed. It is therefore recommended that actions are taken to ensure there is sufficient knowledge of the standards, and their scope in the industry

The committee raised the following points for the working group to consider;

- IMCA document availability for non members
- Models for non member to access IMCA documentation

The committee requested updates of the working groups progress

Action: Rhys Jones

## 8 PLB's / AMRDs

Rhys Jones outlined the process for the final consultation and editing of IMCA 234

The timeline was agreed as follows;

- Comments by: 26/07/2024
- Final Draft: 02/08/2024

Action: Rhys Jones

Peter Lawson informed the committee that the MCA are also current looking at use of beacons.

## 9 Offshore Wind Welfare Facilities & HSE

The committee discussed the following comment received by an industry duty holder from the UK HSE

*Technicians are transferred from the **REDACTED** to a transition piece (TP). When the vessel separates from the TP the team will not have readily accessible welfare facilities such as toilets, washing facilities and facilities for rest and eating. At best reconnection of the gangway by the vessel may take several minutes and at worst the team may be isolated on the TP for several hours. In neither case is welfare provision readily accessible as required by the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015, regulation 15(11).*

## 10 Focal Group Updates

Rhys Jones provided a update of the current status, work programme and priorities of the following IMCA focal groups;

- East Asia
- US Atlantic Coast
- Floating Offshore Wind

## 11 Work programme

The committee was reminded of the 2024 Committee objectives;

- Review & revise IMCA M254 Guidelines for Walk to Work Operations
- Finalize & publish revised IMCA234 Autonomous Maritime Radio Devices
- Promote committee work by setting key objectives covering:
  - Media releases from activity of the group
  - Safety Flashes relevant to the group
  - External events attended on behalf of the group
- Developing global strategic relationships focusing on:
  - Regulators & enforcement agencies
  - Stakeholder partners
  - Leading stakeholders in emerging markets

## 12 Partner updates:

Partner update were provided by:

- Beate Hildenbrand on G+
- Kerrie Foster on the Workboat Association focused

**13 Any other business**

**13.1 Skills Passport:** Rhys Jones provided an update on the current status of the skills passport and formal developer / operator acceptance of IMCA C018.

**13.2 Vessel to Vessel E-Learning:** The committee discussed how to progress this work with the following possible partners;

- GWO
- RelyOnNutec
- Delta Safety Training

**13.3 GWO Limited Access Programme:** Rhys Jones highlighted Version 2 issued 02/05/2024

**13.4** The committee requested that People and Crewing be discussed as an agenda item for the next meeting.


Action: Rhys Jones

**14 Summary of action items**

Action	Responsible	Target
MREC Vice Chair Election	Rhys Jones	21/08/24
M254 Working Group	Rhys Jones	31/10/24
M234 Consultation	Rhys Jones	02/08/24
People & Crewing added to next MREC agenda	Rhys Jones	04/09/24

**15 Date and location of next meetings**

The next meeting was agreed for the 04/09/24 via Teams

 Alan MacLeay (Oct 21, 2024 10:12 GMT+1)	Alan MacLeay	21/10/2024
Signed as a true record	Name	Date






# 20240517 MREC-Minutes

Final Audit Report

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