IADC trainers shift into high gear

THE IADC TRAINING COMMITTEE has shifted into high gear and expanded its scope to encompass IMO standards, develop an IADC training record book, document crane-operator job requirements and lend assistance on Canadian training.

The committee’s work proves that even if the industry is 'down', it is certainly not out. Observed Committee Chairman Scot Rudolph of Transocean Offshore, “I do not accept the premise that because the industry is ‘down’, safety and training cannot improve and grow stronger....The only way to accomplish this goal will be for us as an industry to work together for the common good of the industry.”

Mr Rudolph is eyetoeye on this issue with many, including IADC Chairman Bernie W Stewart, R & B Falcon Drilling (US). In remarks presented at the 1999 IADC Health, Safety and Environment Conference, Mr Stewart said, “Whether oil price and the rig count are high or low, people are the backbone of this industry. This means that training, health, safety and environmental concerns should be the first thing on our scope in the morning and at the end of the day.”

The Training Committee’s highest priority is completion of the base Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs) for all rig positions. 2 subcommittees, one chaired by Wes Morgan of Rowan Companies and the second by Charles Watley of Sedco Forex, have hammered out first-draft KSAs for roustabout, floorman, derrickman, mechanic, electrician, motorman, assistant driller, driller and toolpusher. Still remaining are offshore installation manager, subsea engineer, dynamic-positioning operator, master, mate, boatswain, able seaman, steward and galley hand.

“The importance of these KSAs cannot be overstated,” Mr Rudolph observed. “Regulatory bodies are looking to IADC for industry ‘standards’ of practice. If we do not establish them, then other organizations will undoubtedly do it for us.”

STCW, CRANES

Meanwhile, the newly formed Standard for Training Certification and Watchkeeping Subcommittee, chaired by Casey Brooks of R&B Falcon, is considering developing an IADC Model Training Record Book for OIMs, barge supervisors, ballast control officers and maintenance supervisors.

John Vidrine of Hercules Offshore will head up a subcommittee charged with reviewing current qualifications, competencies, requirements and regulations for offshore crane operator. The review will aid in establishing objectives to train personnel to operate offshore cranes safely and efficiently.

CANADA

Meanwhile, the Qualifications, Safety Training and Certification Task Force has been meeting since November. The group is working with Petro-Canada and Canadian regulators in reviewing the 1991 Canadian document “Qualifications, Safety Training and Certification”.

Led by Mr Rudolph, the group met in Canada in February with another group that is reviewing the Canadian Marine Advisory Council’s “Marine Certification Regulations” to discuss common areas of concern and formulate an action plan. ■