Global HSE Case Guideline nears completion

IADC’s EUROPEAN OPERATIONS, led by director Dominic Cattini, took a major step forward this year in pushing the Global HSE Case Guideline to completion. A final draft was recently released for review, and the document is scheduled to be formally launched on 3 Oct at the IADC Drilling HSE Europe Conference & Exhibition in Amsterdam.

The global guideline builds on drilling contractors’ experiences with IADC’s North West European Guideline and incorporates principles of other international standards. The user-friendly document provides a Structured Hazard Identification and Control Process (SHIDAC), enabling contractors to develop an HSE Case to demonstrate internally the robustness of their management systems to control and manage risk. It also provides a basis to demonstrate similar controls to regulatory agencies and other external stakeholders.

A key benefit, Mr Cattini pointed out, is creating greater efficiency for drilling contractors when moving into jurisdictions that require an HSE/safety case.

A draft of the global document was released in February 2006 for drilling contractors to review, then released in March for review by other stakeholders, including government, operators, other industry associations and classification societies. IADC has received comments based on experience and use of the guidelines from drilling contractors, as well as extensive comments from governments around the world. All have been positive suggestions for further improvements, Mr Cattini said.

The final draft also includes an Australian annex that’s been reviewed by Australian drilling contractors and government. IADC is working closely with governments around the world to make sure the HSE Case Guidelines align with different nations. The document has been introduced to countries such as South Africa, Brazil, New Zealand and Cuba, where contact has been made by these governments to IADC regarding actual and pending legal requirements for HSE Cases.

The original North West European Guideline was produced by the IADC North Sea Chapter in cooperation with Transocean and Noble in 2002, then updated in 2004. The IADC HSE Case Reference Group was set up in early 2005 to direct the rewrite of the document. The group has been working under the coordination of Mr Cattini and Alan Spackman, IADC director of offshore technical and regulatory affairs.

IADC EUROPEAN OFFSHORE COMPETENCY PROGRAMME

The major item on next year’s agenda for European operations is the IADC European Offshore Competency Program.

In 2003, IADC was asked by the North Sea Offshore Authorities Forum (NSOAF) to develop a basic safety course for the North Sea region. Since then, the IADC European Working Group, made up of 12 drilling contractors as well as the Danish Shipowners’ Association and the Norwegian Rig Owners’ Association, has been working to develop a common standard for the region. The aim is to have a competency training program that drilling contractors throughout northwest Europe can use, Mr Cattini said.

In late 2005, an impasse was broken when NSOAF and all other North Sea industry associations accepted the structure, content and validity of the Basic Offshore Safety and Introduction to Emergency Response Training (BOSIET) course. That course is based on the International Maritime Organisation Standard for Training Competency and Watchkeeping structure.

Since then, the group has been developing a refresher course for the basic training as well as helicopter underwater escape training. Both courses were accepted by the European Working Group at its May 2006 meeting. Also at that meeting, the group embarked on 5 specialist courses that are nearing completion:

- Fire team training;
- Fire team leader training;
- Helicopter landing officer;
- Man overboard boat cockswain training;
- Helideck fire team.

By the end of 2007, IADC will have completed the competency program with all safety and specialist courses, including WellCAP, safety leadership training program and other optional courses that drilling contractors feel should be included as appropriate.