Safety continues to be the top industry priority. Every driller’s goal is to have zero incidents that harm personnel, or put facilities or the environment at risk. As a result of this mindset, safety performance in the last 30+ years has improved significantly, reflected by a downward trend in key performance indicators such as lost time incidents, fatalities and recordable incidents. Safety performance in the oil and gas industry will always remain under close scrutiny due to the nature of our business. A single significant safety incident, and/or a number of unrelated safety issues, or even perceived safety issues, have the potential to severely impact operations and the overall reputation of the industry and our ‘social license’ to drill.

Key Messages
- IADC members are committed to reaching and exceeding safety standards.
- IADC has maintained a database of incident data since 1962, through the IADC Incident Statistics Program. The program measures year-to-year data on drilling industry incidents. Information is shared by drilling contractors who opt-in to self-report their lost time incidents, recordable incidents, and fatalities. Data is broken out into onshore/offshore and by geographic region. While the information contained in the report is indicative of a selective group, and not inclusive of every drilling contractor, it does provide valuable data that shows a definitive downward trend for lost time incidents and industry fatalities.
  - In 2015, the year for which the latest data is available, 103 contractors participated in the ISP, representing a total of 500,564,926 million man-hours worked. Contractors striving for improvement by participating in the ISP program reported 1,511 recordable incidents, 431 lost time incidents (LTI) and 8 fatalities. [1]
  - The 2015 lost time incident rate improved to 0.18, a 21.74% improvement over the 2014 report of 0.23. The 2015 recordable incident rate improved to 0.60, a 20% improvement over 2014 report of 0.75. [1]
  - Oil and gas well drilling industry’s efforts toward safety have resulted in the industry’s occupational LTI Incidence rate to improve dramatically, from more than 14.00 in 1963 to 0.18 in 2015, a 77-fold improvement. [1]
- Industry continues to aggressively invest in a culture of safety. IADC members construct safety and training programs, and require their workforce to complete them, before any person is allowed out onto a rig. This commitment to training ensures that personnel have the training they need to competently perform their job duties.
- It is imperative that companies are able to demonstrate the credentials of their personnel. Ensuring that every person on a rig has the right education and knowledge to perform their job is a critical component toward achieving the goal of zero incidents and zero fatalities.
- Training programs provide the industry a tangible way to assess the knowledge and abilities of their personnel. IADC’s accreditation programs, like WellSharp, RigPass, Gateway and Competence Assurance, provide rigorous training and testing standards to the industry, and in many cases are recognized by regulators as the industry standard.

Resources