In the absence of DCS Subcommittee Chairman Nathan Moralez, BP, Co-chair Robert van Kuilenburg, Noble Corporation, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. After introductions, Mike Killalea, IADC, reviewed the facility and the IADC antitrust policy.

David Shackleton, IDS, led the discussion of the effort to update codes for the DDR Plus. Currently, the original 23 DDR codes are maintained, and the work group has added a significant number of subcodes
and sub-subcodes. The subcodes now include those from the Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors (CAODC). The CAODC system uses the original 23 codes on the DDR. (The reason is that during the early 1970s, IADC gave permission to CAODC to copy and use the IADC DDR.) CAODC subcodes apply only to onshore operations, because that constitutes the vast majority of drilling in Western Canada.

Codes from various drilling contractors who generously donated them have also been incorporated into the new coding system.

The current draft includes 450 subcodes and 223 sub-subcodes.

The planned DDR Plus schema will offer a choice between onshore or offshore, and the user will see only the codes applicable to that choice. The group also discussed differentiating between jackups and floaters, but no recommendation was reached.

Kevin Boston, Pason, noted that many operators require paper DDRs that are signed and stamped by the operator. This is often required for the contractor to be paid.

The group held a spirited discussion about formatting of the paper form, and the lack of much available space for additional codes.

Mr. Shackleton noted that code granularity is important to many, based on feedback he has received.

The major problem is that many firms have already assigned subcodes to their liking. However, a remapping might not be a large issue. In any event, said Mr. van Kuilenburg, IADC would publish its subcodes as a service to the industry, to provide guidance. A standard set of subcodes would allow apple-to-apple comparison of rigs. However, use of the codes will not be mandatory.

Ultimately, the IADC system could be used as an enabler for automation.

Mr. van Kuilenburg said the group should have two primary missions moving forward. First, to provide definitions of the main codes, and second, to provide the smallest sub-code list possible.

The SC wishes more input from drilling contractors. In response, IADC published a request for input in the August edition of its newsletter DrillBits.

The new draft will be published for comment, following some final touches by Mr. Shackleton’s work group.

Mr. van Kuilenburg reminded the group of the 9/10 ART Committee meeting and the 2018 IADC ART Conference, 9/11-12. Both events convene in Austin, Texas.

The next SC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 9/27, at IADC HQ in Houston.

There being no further business, Mr. van Kuilenburg adjourned the meeting.