

Highlights



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Project Safira: from data to action

Arab mathematicians translated the word *sūnya* (meaning “void, empty”) from Sanskrit as *ṣifr*, to represent the numeral 0. Italian Mathematician Fibonacci brought this to Europe, and through *safira* and *zevero*, it became the English ‘zero’. Now, with IOGP’s Project Safira, the original term has taken on a new meaning. It expresses the Association’s determination to put an end to upstream fatalities.

As Safety Committee Manager Mariana Carvalho explains: “In terms of safety objectives, most companies have ‘goal zero’, ‘do no harm’, or something similar – but in our heart of hearts, perhaps we have not always believed we could get there as a global industry. We want to make it happen, and that is why we have launched Project Safira. With the word Safira, we want to encourage a new way of thinking about our goal, and by running it as a project, we are committed to making it happen.”

Project Safira provides a single focus for four of IOGP’s current safety priorities:

- Process safety
- Aviation
- Land transportation
- Life-Saving Rules

“We selected the first three because those areas have been among the top causes of upstream fatalities during the past five years. The Life-Saving Rules tackle fatalities in activities such as working at height or confined space that we continue to see in our annual safety statistics. If over the past 10 years the revised 9 IOGP Life-Saving Rules had been followed, 376 lives may have been saved,” Mariana says.

Step by step

The impetus for Project Safira dates back to a review of 2015 fatalities compared to those in 2014. “We knew we had to do something to improve,” Mariana recalls. “IOGP’s Safety Committee had over the years produced a lot of good work, work that is helping the industry improve in safety, but we decided to simplify and focus our mission: to eliminate fatalities. But how?”

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"IOGP is fortunate in having Member Companies that voluntarily submit their safety data annually. It gives us a unique platform to understand industry-wide trends. Looking at the most recent 5-year period, (2011-2015), there had been on average 85 fatalities every year. But what if there had been no process safety events? Then we would have had 71 fatalities. And what if there had also not been any air transportation accidents? 61 fatalities. No vehicle crashes of workers being run over? 53 fatalities. And so on.

"This gave us the idea of a staircase. But instead of heading up to our aspiration, we wanted to head down, one step at a time, to a level where upstream fatalities don't occur. Along the way, we will do what it takes to ensure we don't backtrack. Nor will we miss any of the steps. And with each level of our descent, we'll apply what we learned from previous steps – and share that knowledge widely so that we can move down, together, as an industry," Mariana says.

As part of that effort, IOGP is widely promoting Project Safira among Association Members and beyond. Most recently, Mariana explained Project Safira objectives and achievements to the US Center for Offshore Safety's Sixth Annual Forum in Houston, Texas on 19 September.

Her audience included offshore industry operators, drilling contractors, service/supply companies, academia and regulators.

Feedback was virtually instantaneous and highly positive. One attendee described her session as "awesome" and also gave credit to the contribution the Data Subcommittee and its chair, Kirsty Walker. Another described Mariana as "one of the best speakers on the panel", with "a compelling message and a great call to action".

Safira is gaining momentum as part of the shared commitment among IOGP member companies to end fatalities in the workplace.

IMO members endorse diver safety proposals from IOGP & IMCA

Fifteen members of the UN's International Maritime Organization (IMO) have voted to approve joint IOGP and International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA) amendments to existing codes on diver safety. These amendments will harmonise the codes "with current industry practice". No national representatives opposed the amendments.

Specifically, the amendments relate to two IMO documents: *Code of Safety for Diving Systems* and *Guidelines and Specifications for Hyperbaric Evacuation systems*. In preparation for the Maritime Safety Committee's decisive meeting, both IOGP and IMCA carefully explained the reasons behind the proposed amendments. Leading those efforts were IMCA's former Policy & Regulatory Affairs Advisor, Eleni Antoniadou.

Joint papers submitted by IOGP and IMCA and a presentation at the meeting itself also 'contributed to the successful outcome' says IOGP Safety Director, Chris Hawkes. "Our amendments incorporate the great strides that the industry has made in the provision and use of diving and hyperbaric evacuation system safety issues since the existing code was issued almost 30 years ago," says Chris Hawkes, IOGP's Safety Director. "Now the challenge will be to maintain momentum with our suggested amendments. IMO's work on these will begin in 2020, with a target completion of 2021. During that time, IOGP and IMCA will submit to the relevant IMO subcommittee a full and detailed draft of the amendments we would like to see incorporated in the Organization's Diving instruments."

With that in mind, discussions are underway for a joint IOGP/IMCA workshop in early 2019 to elicit and exchange views on the amendments.



"Ultimately, what we want is the installation of suitable diving systems on all ships and floating structures engaged in saturation diving operations," Chris says.

IOGP joins the experts in Abidjan

The Abidjan Convention, which provides an overarching legal framework for all marine-related programmes (including upstream operations) in West, Central and Southern Africa, held an experts' workshop in Cote d'Ivoire's capital. The objective was to define a post-signature roadmap for the Convention's additional protocols to be adopted including the Offshore Oil and Gas Protocol.

IOGP Environment Director Wendy Brown was there, along with Clement Chazot of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI-WACAF), which the upstream industry funds. Other workshop participants included eight Abidjan contracting parties and NGOs.

"I went well-equipped with input from Member Companies' African affiliates" Wendy says. That meant we were prepared for a meeting that focused on four new protocols and a new policy covering:

- Integrated coastal zone management
- Sustainable mangrove management
- Pollution from land-based sources and activities
- Environmental norms and standards related to offshore oil and gas activities
- Integrated ocean management strategy

The main objective of the workshop was to develop for each new protocol an implementation action plan. The workshop also recognized the need to analyse the necessary synergies with other protocols at both national and sub-regional levels, Wendy says.

"It was extremely valuable that IOGP was represented there to provide the upstream industry's views on the Abidjan Convention



proposals. I think our presence was well appreciated, and it will ensure that we are fully in the loop as we move into the implementation phase.

It is clear that the ambition of this region is high, and we want to help them implement these new protocols in an effective but realistic way," Wendy says.

For more details, Members can review the documents uploaded to the Environment Regional Seas Subcommittee page on the IOGP Extranet.



B20 Argentina

IOGP Global Engagement Manager Olaf Martins represented the Association at the 5-6 October B20 Summit in Buenos Aires – the precursor to the G20 Summit of national leaders and state bankers on 30 November/1 December 2018. The G20 accounts for 85% of global output. The B20, which consists of nine task forces, enables business stakeholders to channel their ideas to the G20 players. Olaf served on the B20's Energy, Resource, Efficiency & Sustainability Task Force. See the next *Highlights* for details.

IOGP welcomes global skills body

The Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organisation (OPITO) is IOGP's newest Associate Member.

Every year, more than 250,000 people are trained to OPITO's rigorous standards. This occurs in 47 countries through a network of over 200 training centres. The aim is to build a sustainable, competent and safe oil and gas workforce.

From its headquarters in Aberdeen, Scotland, OPITO runs operation centres in four regions: the UK and Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Asia Pacific and the Americas. It is an industry-owned organisation that works with governments, national oil companies, operators and contractors.

Commenting on the Association's new link with OPITO, Executive Director Gordon Ballard said: "Just as IOGP is the global voice of the upstream industry, OPITO is the industry's international focal point for skills, training and workforce development. It's good to have them on board."

OPITO's Member Representative is Chief Executive Officer John McDonald.



Meetings Calendar

October 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Environment Com	1-2
Metocean Com	2
Process Safety SC	4
EU Marine & Environment SC ☎	5
Standards - Instrumentation & Automation SC	8
Environment - Hydrocarbons BAT Environment Support TF	11
Standards - Material and Corrosion SC	16-17
EU Com	16-17
Standards - Offshore Structures Specifications TF 🎧	22
Geomatics Com	23-24
Standards - Electrical Standards SC	23-25
Standards - Information Standards SC 🎧	24
Subsea Com	30-31
Standards - Operators Preferred Standards TF 📞	30

Meeting types are abbreviated as follows:

Committee (Com) Skype (S)
 Subcommittee (SC) Task Force (TF)
 Teleconference (☎) Webex (🎧)
 Working Group (WG)

EGM to air crucial upstream issues

A series of four panel discussions will be a highlight of IOGP's Extraordinary General Meeting in Warsaw, Poland on 14-15 November.

Interspersed with other business – including presentations from host company PGNiG and a distinguished external speaker as well as votes on the Association's 2019 Business Plan and budget – these panel sessions will involve attendees in discussions on four crucial topics:

- Getting the most out of standardisation
- Outreach and implementation: work with regulators and the promotion of IOGP products
- Learning lessons from shared industry data
- Climate change: IOGP's role in mitigation and adaptation

Each panel will consist of standing committee chairs and secretariat personnel and a moderator to encourage participation by all attendees.

Instead of formal Committee poster sessions (as in recent meetings) extended breaks will provide ample time for those attending to view the posters at leisure – and to network with other members.

To coincide with the celebration of Poland's century of independence the week of IOGP's meeting, PGNiG will entertain participants to a special dinner in an historic venue on the evening of 14 November.

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