



International Marine Contractors Association

# Safe Diving Operations Worldwide – IMCA's Role

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# IMCA is ....



## **The International Marine Contractors Association**

### **IMCA – contractors trade association established to**

- represent the collective interests of its members
- interface with oil and gas operators, governments and regulatory bodies

### **Main areas**

- Health, safety and environment
- Legislation affecting our industry
- Training, competence and recruitment

# IMCA basics



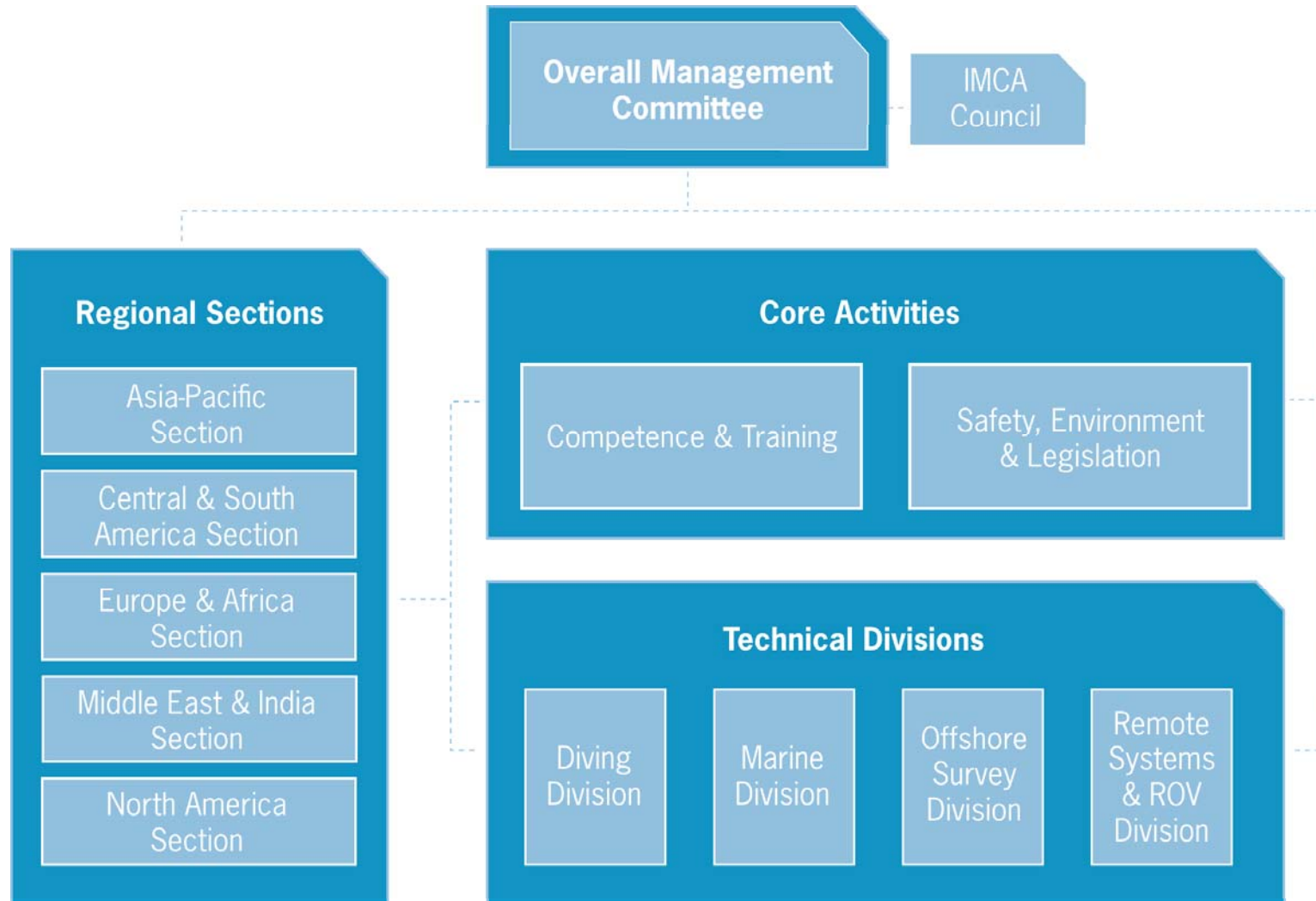
IMCA formed in 1995 through the amalgamation of two trade associations

- AODC founded in 1972  
(originally the International Association of Offshore Diving Contractors)
- DPVOA founded in 1990  
(the Dynamic Positioning Vessel Owners Association)

Currently IMCA has:

- ~ 650 members from 52 countries
- 17 secretariat staff based in London

# Structure



# IMCA Membership



- International Contractors
- Contractors (vessel owners, diving contractors, ROV and offshore survey contractors)
- Suppliers
  - Consultants
  - Equipment suppliers
- Training Establishments and Personnel Agencies
- Corresponding Members (non-voting)
  - Oil companies
  - Government agencies
  - Certifying authorities etc

# IMCA diving membership



- 91 offshore diving contractor worldwide
- 100 supplier members - consultants and equipment suppliers
- 37 training establishments / personnel agencies
- 55 corresponding members – oil companies, governmental bodies, classification societies

This represents 44% of the membership

- Membership assessment procedure

  - Demonstrate ability to undertake offshore diving activities to IMCA guidelines

  - Own or have access to diving equipment meeting IMCA guidelines

  - Appropriate competent diving personnel

- Procedure

  - Document submission

  - Desktop review

  - On-site audit

  - IMCA OMC review

# IMCA's guidance covers offshore diving



- Diving operations outside territorial waters
- Inside territorial waters when in support of the oil and gas industry
- Excluded – diving operations in support of civil, inland, inshore or harbour works

# IMCA activities



- Technical good practice diving guidance
  - 70+ publications
  - Information notes
  - DVDs
  - Covering operational, equipment and personnel issues
- Based on members' worldwide experience
- Guidance developed updated through:
  - Workgroups involving IMCA members – contractors, clients, training establishments
  - Third party consultants
  - Reviewed by DDMC and other bodies
- New work items / document updates identified through:
  - membership needs,
  - at meetings and seminars,
  - discussion with other organisations

# Key Documents



- IMCA International Code of Practice for Offshore Diving (IMCA D 014 rev 1)
- Code of practice for the initial and periodic examination, testing and certification of diving plan and equipment (IMCA D 018)
- Diving equipment systems inspection guidance note (DESIGN)
  - For surface orientated (air) systems (IMCA D 023)
  - For saturation (bell) diving systems (IMCA D 024)
  - For surface supplied mixed gas diving systems (IMCA D 037)
  - For mobile/portable surface supplied diving systems (IMCA D 040)
- Competence assurance and assessment guidance framework
- IMCA Offshore diving supervisor and life support technician scheme (IMCA D 013 rev 3)
- Range of related technical guidance giving additional detail
  - e.g. diving operations from vessels operating in DP mode (IMCA D 010 rev 3)

# Current work programme



- Guidance being updated:
  - DSAA – Diving systems assurance audit (DESIGN) (D023 & D024 and associated document D011 re undertaking DESIGN audits)
  - Diving supervisors manual (IMCA D022)
  - Safe use of electricity underwater (AODC 035) – draft under review
  - Protection of water intake points for diver safety (AODC 055)
  - NURGOD (IMCA 034)
  - Oxy arc cutting operations – change to underwater thermal cutting operations and include information on ‘swordfish’
  - High water jetting (AODC 049)

# Current work programme



- **New guidance issued**
  - Isolations and intervention for safe diver access
- **New guidance in preparation**
  - Hyperbaric evacuation systems
- **Diving supervisor scheme**
  - Review of examination papers
- **Development of process for monitoring divers long term health**
  - Trial being run – collection of exposure data
  - Medical questionnaire
- **Other work**
  - Review of competence tables for all diving personnel to include tasks. Workgroup set up
  - Information note on control of bell blow-down facility during sat operations
  - Guidance on working in environmental extremes
  - Survey of number of divers working in each geographical region being conducted
  - O2 cleaning workshop held to discuss DNV's requirements.

# Forum and facilitator



- IMCA is a forum for discussion and facilitator of events
  - IMCA annual seminar, including specific diving sessions
  - Issue specific workshops e.g. oxygen cleaning, Brazilian diving issues
  - Section meetings
  - Briefing sessions

# Dialogue with other organisations



- Other diving related organisations:
  - European Diving Technology Committee (EDTC)
  - Diving Medical Advisory Committee (DMAC)
  - International Diving Regulators Forum (IDRF)
- Governments, other regulators and IMO
- Client organisations – OGP, APPEA etc
- Classification societies

# Communication is Key



IMCA's role in helping to achieve safe offshore diving operations is through communication and dialogue

Any Questions?

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