

OPTIMISING OFFSHORE WORKING PATTERNS

Invitation to a Shared Research Project Scoping Workshop



The remote locations of offshore oil and gas installations necessitate extended work patterns. Over the past few years, shift rotas have changed significantly on the UKCS and there is now more variation than ever in shift patterns and working arrangements.



Optimising shift patterns can increase productivity, reduce errors, increase continuity, reduce adaptation time and promote job satisfaction, health and wellbeing. However, poorly designed shift-working arrangements and long working hours that do not balance the demands of work with time for rest and recovery can result in fatigue, accidents, injuries, ill health and lower productivity.

When addressing human

factors in relation to health and safety, the aim is to optimise human performance and reduce human failures. However, the effects of longer offshore tours of duty have received very little attention or research. Given current industry shift pattern trends, there is a pressing need to address these gaps and develop an evidence base for further industry guidance.

Proposed Research Themes for Consideration

- Identify factors that influence alertness and optimise inter-shift recovery
- Review the impact of extended shifts on human performance
- Analyse pertinent data to identify causal factors
- Develop industry guidance on optimising rota and shift work design

On 31st October 2019 HSE will host a workshop to discuss the options for shared research regarding optimising offshore working patterns. The workshop, which will be held at The Park Inn Hotel in Aberdeen, will provide a forum for discussing key knowledge gaps and identify opportunities for shared research to address them. The basis on which this research can be undertaken will be a key outcome of the meeting.

To register your interest in attending the workshop please contact:

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