

EVACUATION, ESCAPE & RESCUE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (EERTAG) SUMMARY OF TERMS OF REFERENCE (MARCH 2009)

MEMBERSHIP

The Group's Chairman will be provided from within the Group and elected by a majority on a bi-annual basis.

The secretariat will be resourced by the HSE.

Participating organisations may include appropriate divisions of HSE; technical representatives of offshore operators including Oil & Gas UK, IADC and BROA; the Trades Union Congress; Emergency Response and Rescue Vessel Association (ERRVA); Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and any other similar organisations representing the offshore industry and regulatory agencies.

Members are nominated by the participating organisations to serve on the Group and can only be replaced by those organisations.

Consultants may, from time to time, participate in the Group's business or hold positions within the Group but only if appointed and supported by a participating organisation. Similarly, training providers may be invited to participate in EERTAG discussions.

PRINCIPAL AIMS

- (i) Identify, compile and develop technical information on EER arrangements for offshore installations.
- (ii) Publish and disseminate that information within the offshore industry to enable improvements in EER capabilities.
- (iii) Provide information for suppliers, designers, operators and owners to take account of when developing their EER arrangements.
- (iv) Advise the industry and associated regulators on areas where further research and guidance may be needed.

TECHNICAL SCOPE

The Advisory Group's range of technical interests encompass equipment and procedures to be used in EER from on-platform events or from external events such as ship collision. The Group's interests therefore include arrangements for alarm systems, access to the muster point or the Temporary Refuge, evacuation, escape direct to the sea and rescue and recovery to a place of safety. The scope also includes the suitability and performance of personal protective equipment for use in emergencies.

The Group's interest in offshore Marine and Aviation activities is limited to the interface between these activities and EER.

Contact details:

For further information on EERTAG's business, please contact Paul Heeney, Energy Division, HSE (paul.heeney@hse.gov.uk)