Occupational Health Offshore
Inspection Guide & Operator Performance

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- Approx. 50 - Offshore Operators
- 383 - Producing fields (1.4m b/d, £40 bn/y)
- 288 offshore Installations, 88 NUIs
- 25,000 - Offshore workforce
Definition of Occupational Health

• *a state of mental, physical and social well-being*” (WHO, 1970)

• **Initial and continued fitness for the job**
  – Offshore medicals, health surveillance, health promotion

• **Protection from health hazards**
  – Assessment and control of physical, chemical and biological health risks.

• **Mitigation**
  – First-aid/Emergency treatment
  – Counselling/rehabilitation
Principles for Prioritising Inspections

• Go to the right places
• Do the right things
• Finish what we start
• Leave a good record
Operator Performance

- The extent of non-compliance issues raised
- Enforcement history
- Incident data (RIDDOR, HCRs)
- Issues from SC assessments and other notifications
- Operators own performance information
- Effectiveness of third party verification
- The degree of compliance on ‘strategic’ inspection topics
The Inspection Guides

• First Phase
  – Operational Risk Assessments, Control of Work, Verification, Wells Competence, Temporary Refuge, Evacuation/Escape and Rescue, Pipelines

• Second Phase
Offshore Sector Strategy 2014-17
Occupational Health

• **Personal Health and Safety**
  – Duty holders effectively manage risks from noise and hand arm vibration

• **Personal Environmental Health Issues**
  – Duty holders ensure that standards of food hygiene and water quality are maintained
Why Noise

• Exposure to high noise levels result in significant risk of NIHL (also communication and sleep)
• NIHL second most common reason for occupational health related employers liability insurance claims
• Approx. 10,000 offshore workers exposed above UEAV (85 dB)
• Norwegian, Dutch and Australian offshore sectors also targeting noise control.
Why Vibration

• Prolonged regular exposure to vibration from hand held tools result in significant risk of hand arm vibration syndrome
  – Damage to nerves, blood supply, joints and muscles of the hand and arms
• Approx. 5,000 offshore workers have significant exposure to HAVs
• RIDDOR Reports
• Fabric maintenance, Decommissioning
Why Food and Water

• Potential for large outbreaks
  – down manning and shutdown
  – Ill-health…. death

• Who is at risk
  – All the offshore workforce

• The main issues
  – Ageing facilities, competence