

## CURRENT ISSUES / UPDATES

### Welcome to NOPSA's first edition of BOOT ROOM GOSSIP.

The information provided here:-

- Is intended to keep workers in the Oil and Gas industry apprised of the current concerns / issues in regulatory and safety matters
- Endeavours to provide information on what new programmes / initiatives are being implemented by NOPSA
- Introduces you to NOPSA OHS Inspectors who are the focal point for your facility's safety operations, and
- Includes any other general offshore Oil and Gas safety related information that may be of interest.

## NOPSA'S ROLE

To work with the industry, workforce and other authorities to ensure all health and safety risks in the offshore petroleum industry are properly controlled, and to reduce the likelihood and consequences of major accident events.

Thanks to ESSO and BHP for the cover photographs

## HAVE YOU READ NOPSA'S 'MESSAGE FROM THE CEO' NEWSLETTER?

It contains information on Industry matters, Stakeholder Relations, Conference and Regulatory Activities. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please send your details to [information@nopsa.gov.au](mailto:information@nopsa.gov.au)

### Do you require more information?

#### GENERAL NOPSA ENQUIRIES

Telephone: +61 8 6461 7000  
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E-mail: [information@nopsa.gov.au](mailto:information@nopsa.gov.au)  
Internet: [www.nopsa.gov.au](http://www.nopsa.gov.au)

### Do you want to give us Feedback?

We would welcome your comments, on this edition. Please forward to:

**NOPSA—Boot Room Gossip**  
**GPO Box 2568**  
**PERTH WA 6001**  
E-mail: [information@nopsa.gov.au](mailto:information@nopsa.gov.au)

## WHO'S WHO & DOING WHAT

### JEREMY DUNSTER



Jeremy is NOPSA's newest Inspector and looks after Premium Drilling's WilCraft and Songa's Venus & Mercur. He is also the series editor for the NOPSA Safety Case Assessment process.

Jeremy spent 5 years in Darwin managing Offshore HS&E regulation in the JPDA. Prior to this he spent ten years in the O&G Industry primarily involved in the development, implementation and auditing of integrated management systems after starting his career in onshore HVAC design and teaching CAD.

Jeremy lists his hobbies as motorcycling, IT, gardening and raising two young daughters (although not necessarily in that order).



# NOPSA

National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority

## BOOT ROOM GOSSIP

NOPSA NEWS SHEET FOR OFFSHORE WORKERS  
JUNE 2007



## NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

NOPSA runs two National Programmes – Lifting Operations and Facility Integrity. These programmes are aimed at issues which are widespread across the offshore oil and gas industry, and information is collected from Inspections and from Incident Reports. In this issue of Boot Room Gossip we will explain the Lifting Operations programme.

The Lifting Operations programme inspects Operators' lifting procedures, and arrangements for inspection, maintenance and testing of lifting equipment. The scope of the Lifting Operations programme covers loads freely suspended from a crane or winch – including personnel transfers and man-riding. It does not deal with hoisting involving draw-works, Lucker winches or coiled-tubing.

A standard set of NOPSA's prompt sheets can be found on the NOPSA web site. These are used during Planned Inspections, and cover:

- Crane driver and dogman competency
- Crane maintenance
- Lifting equipment management
- Lifting and crane operations
- Manriding

Early indications from the prompt sheets completed so far suggest that lifting personnel competency, and the management of lifting and crane operations are the main areas of concern.

Feedback from Operators indicates that Operators often refer to the prompt sheets during their own inspections and reviews of lifting operations. Reporting of outcomes from the completed Lifting Operations prompt sheets are fed back to Industry and are supplied to the International Regulators' Forum.

# SAFETY ALERT

## MAN-OVERBOARD HAZARDS JETTISON SKIDS

NOPSA inspectors visiting Mobile Offshore Drilling Units have noted potential man-overboard hazards associated with the configuration of explosives magazines stored on jettison skids.

Explosives used in well operations are typically stored within dedicated magazines, which in turn are stored on jettison skids. The jettison skids allow the explosives magazines to be dumped into the sea in the event of a major fire.

The design of the jettison support structure and its location, whether it is sitting inboard or outboard of the handrail, has important implications for the safe handling of both the explosives and the magazines.

The most practical consideration is to **incorporate human factors in the design** of these platforms by including **safe** access, removing the need to climb or stretch, and reducing the potential for man-overboard situations during the use, inspection and maintenance of the skids. Please visit: [www.nopsa.gov.au/alert/alert11.asp](http://www.nopsa.gov.au/alert/alert11.asp)



## THINKING AHEAD...

### Rescue From Height Kits

Working at height and the use of fall protection equipment is well established in offshore operations. However, rescuing people from height can be an urgent and complex task. Some facilities now have specialist rescue kits for this purpose and are carrying out drills to practice the use of such equipment.

Typical kits will include some sort of pole to reach the victim; a means of attaching a rope to the existing harness; and a pulley system to raise or lower the person being rescued.

**If you have a safety innovation or good practice that you'd like to share, please send the details through to us (address overleaf).**

## WHAT'S NEW IN PPE

### Reader Bifocal Safety Glasses

If you're finding it hard to read small print there is now an alternative to prescription safety glasses. It has been brought to our attention that **safety glasses featuring reading bifocals moulded directly into the lens** are now available.

This allows the wearer to read in a hazardous environment without having to remove their safety glasses.

A simple reading test will determine the magnification strength required. The bifocal lenses are polycarbonate, with 99% UV protection, and comply to AS/NZS 1337-1992.

### Safety Alerts as PDFs

In response to a number of requests, NOPSA Safety Alerts are now available as PDFs from [www.nopsa.gov.au/alert](http://www.nopsa.gov.au/alert)