



G+ BOARD MEMO

Subject: Quick Wins - Enhanced first aid training provision in the offshore wind industry

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| To | G+ Board | | |
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| | Reviewed by | | G+ Focal Group |
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Introduction

In response to requests from some G+ members, key external stakeholders and as part of the research to identify “quick wins” to improve H&S performance in the offshore wind industry, there is the potential to increase the knowledge and competence of offshore wind technicians through the provision of additional first aid training. An offshore wind technician with a higher level of first aid training is better able to respond to certain incidents which can present themselves whilst undertaking work on an offshore wind farm.

Observations - GWO BST First aid module / other industry initiatives

The GWO Basic Safety Training (BST) standard is the recognised training standard used within the on and offshore wind industry and has been developed by a committee comprising wind farm operators and WTG OEMs. In the sea survival module, assessment of a delegate is by means of direct observation (theory and practical) and supplementary oral questions (where appropriate). A delegate can undertake the course after signing a medical self-assessment. The first aid module can be completed in isolation. A GWO BST certificate is valid for up to 2 years.

Successful completion of the GWO BST First aid module ensures a technician can demonstrate:

- the importance of carrying out First Aid in a safe and sound manner, in accordance with the legislative requirements of their geographic location and according to European Resuscitation Council (ERC) and American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines
- normal function, normal signs and symptoms of serious and minor injuries and illness related to the human body
- understanding and correct order of management in an emergency situation in a Wind Turbine Generator (WTG) environment
- correct use of lifesaving First Aid using the Primary Survey A - B - C
- correct use of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)
- correct use of Ordinary First Aid, the Secondary Survey
- correct use of First Aid equipment in a First Aid scenario

Recently there have been discussions with the G+ (individual members and collectively), RenewableUK, GWO and some training providers over the merits of introducing either Advanced or Enhanced first aid course which goes beyond what is currently included in the GWO BST First aid module.

Centrica, through their project Boy Scout, have develop a x1 day Advance First Aid module for use at their offshore wind farms in partnership with Trauma & Resuscitation Services Ltd (Trauma Resus). This has been develop on the back of gap analysis of existing advanced first aid training courses (detailed in Annex A)

Statoil and Statkraft have taken a different approach for the provision of advanced first aid and at Sheringham Shoal employ two medics in the field, each of whom has a minimum of FPOS intermediate level training.

In addition, through the Industry Steering Committee, GWO have advised that they have formed a working group tasked with developing an enhanced first aid training course¹ and this is due to be completed in 2017.

Proposal for consideration

As GWO is the recognised authority for producing the safety training standard for the offshore wind industry, any new module on enhanced first aid should be develop through them. Given GWO have already agreed to develop an enhanced first aid course, the G+ should endorse and support the development of this and (subject to G+ members being happy with the proposed content and format of the training course) also agree to support its implementation into the offshore wind industry once complete².

¹ Enhanced first aid is not the same as Advanced first aid. Development of an Enhanced first aid course is seen as the preferred route by the GWO.

² G+ can influence the development of this training course through a number of avenues, including the Industry Steering Committee and also through some G+ member representation on the GWO Steering Committee.

Annex A: Centrica gap analysis - First aid/Trauma course comparison

| St John Ambulance First Aid at Work (x3 days) | GWO/RUK First Aid module (x2 days) | Intermediate First Aid (Centrica Project Boy Scout) (x1 day) | UK Remote Immediate Emergency Care Advanced (x4 days) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the first aider • Managing an emergency • Health and safety (first aid) regulations • Communication and casualty care • Bleeding (minor and severe) • Resuscitation (adult CPR) • Unresponsive casualty • Stroke • Fainting • Bone, muscle and joint injuries • Seizures (adult) • Burns and scalds • Severe allergic reaction • Chest pains (including heart attack) • Shock • Choking (adult) • Spinal injuries • Eye injuries • Head injuries • Low blood sugar • Poisoning • Asthma | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety duties of employers and employees • Overview of relevant legislation, standard and guidance • Incident / Injury detecting and reporting • Injuries and illnesses of the human body (signs, symptoms and treatments) • Hazards and risks in the workplace • Correct use of techniques for first aid and lifesaving • Risk Assessments and control measures for First Aid. • Equipment used to initiate first aid. • Emergency procedure and Safety Instructions • Environment factors and site specific health and safety procedures • Application of tourniquet and recording system • ABC Technique • AED Technique • Rice Method • CPR Method • Use of first aid equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourniquets • OP Airways • Resuscitation • Major trauma • Emergency cares by the individual • Managing the rescue scene • High Fidelity Simulation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scene management - Safe Dynamic Assessment, Cause/Mechanism of injury, Environment, Number of casualties, Extra resources needed • Kinematics - Mechanism of injuries and predictable patterns of injuries • Catastrophic bleeding - Advanced wound packing, Haemostatic agents, advanced trauma dressings, Tourniquets • Airway - Advanced airway management including; Suction, Nasopharyngeal Airways, Oro-pharyngeal Airways Supraglottic Airways • Breathing - Bag Valve Mask, Pulse oximetry, O2 Therapy • Circulation – Assessment techniques, Pelvic Binder, long bone traction device, advanced patient warming systems • Disability - Head injury assessment, Blood sugar assessment • Extremity Trauma - Advance splinting techniques • Burns - Advanced burns management • Suspension Induced Pathology and Crush Injuries – challenges, rescue techniques and patient treatment • Packaging and Evacuation - Advanced techniques, Vacuum mattress, scoop stretcher, and Spinal Care immobilisation • Special Circumstances - Drowning, Poisoning, Childbirth, Paediatrics, immersion and submersion • Heat-Related Conditions - Advance techniques in Hypothermia and Hyperthermia |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Emergencies - Angina, Heart attacks, asthma, diabetes, hyperventilation, seizures, and stroke recognition • CPR and AEDs - Advance Resuscitation Techniques Including pit crew CPR • Medication - Aspirin, Glucose, inhalers for asthma, epi-pens for anaphylaxis • Pain relief - Entonox, Green Whistle (Penthrox) |
| Performance assessment | | | |
| Theory: 60% Practical: 40% | Theory: 40% Practical: 60% | Theory: 10% Practical: 90% | Theory: 40% Practical: 60% |
| Training validity / refresher period | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requalification every 3 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requalification every 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requalification every 2 years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual one-day update • Two days Revalidation every three years • Monthly Maintenance of Skills programme – E-Learning programme • On-site exercises |