



The right guidance



Offshore Wind: Good Practice Guidance



Standardisation is key to driving performance forward at the pace required. Now we are going outside the boundaries of continental Europe, we will work with new suppliers, stakeholders, authorities, investors, JV partners. It's a new modus, and standardisation is critical to succeeding in those new markets.

Hasse Andreasen
Director, HSE, Offshore
Ørsted



Tove Lunde

Head of Safety, Security and Sustainability in New Energy Solutions at Equinor.

A message from the G+ Chair



I'm delighted to be chairing the G+ in a period of continued growth and internationalisation. Offshore wind has been on a remarkable journey and taken massive leaps in technology innovation, cost reduction and output. And so too has our safety performance.

But as the workforce grows, so too does the exposure to potential hazards associated with operating in offshore environments; and data collected by the G+ still indicates that we have a way to go in this area. Every single day, a person working for us gets injured, either through a first aid incident or something more serious. To me that is just not good enough. We have to strive for zero harm to our people and the environment that we operate in.

The G+ exists to drive world class health and safety performance through robust practices and transparent reporting. To do this effectively, we have to collaborate. Sharing our members' expertise and experience and engaging stakeholders all over the world, including developers, service suppliers, regulators and policy makers in producing best safety practices and sharing our learning across the industry.

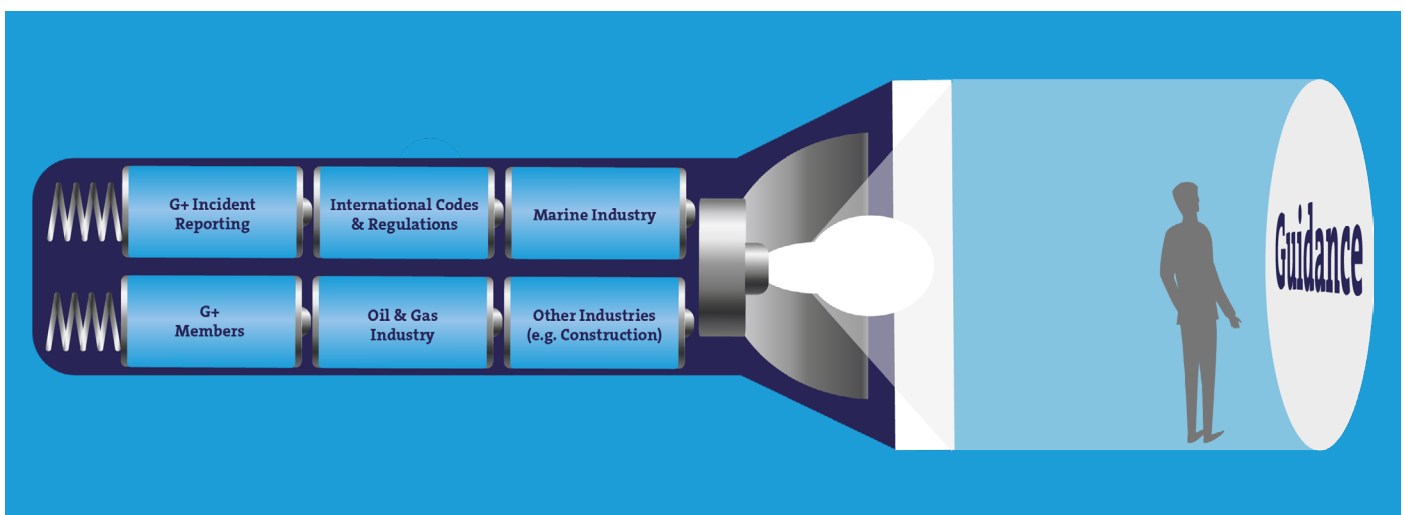
Fostering a safe workplace is the right thing to do, because we cannot accept that people get hurt working for us.

Introduction

The G+ is uniquely placed to draw on expertise across the whole global sector, as well as adjacent sectors such as marine and oil & gas. This enables us to bring together decades of experience and data to make offshore wind safer.

One of the ways we do this is by producing guidelines on areas of high risk, for the purpose of sharing knowledge and experience and bringing about consensus within the industry. Each Good Practice Guideline (GPG) addresses a specific topic, usually in response to feedback or data that demonstrates the potential for a serious incident.

This is a collaboration between key organisations with expert knowledge of the topic. The aim is not to produce new standards or requirements, but rather to draw together and synthesise existing best practice from diverse, related stakeholder groups. This enables a consensus approach that ultimately delivers an authoritative single reference.



A standard approach

One of the key tasks that faced the original members of the G+ (then the G9) was to agree on a set of standard definitions and terminology - a core requirement to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration. Once in place, this formed a solid basis for discussion, measurement and benchmarking that was formalised within the incident data collection and reporting.

In turn, this shone a light on the areas of high risk. G+ members now had a safe forum in which to discuss what the data was saying versus intuition and previously held beliefs. For example, many had intuitively felt that working at height was one of the critical areas of high risk but the data indicated that manual handling incidents presented more of a hazard.

The Good Practice Guidelines are not intended to create new protocols necessarily, but to harmonise and align existing best practice and augment them where required for the specific conditions of offshore wind. Sometimes, topics are a closer fit for a G+ partner organisation, in which case the G+ supports and contributes rather than leads the work. The important thing is to bring certainty and consistency to offshore wind stakeholders where previously there was little or none.

Building a global supply chain

As the market continues its growth on a global basis, emerging markets mature and new markets open up, the supply chain and workforce will expand. There are often very different practices in different countries even where equipment and technology is standard. At best, this forces unnecessary retraining (with the associated impacts on cost and morale) and at worst it exacerbates the chance of errors.

The safest and most efficient way to tackle this is by sharing established ways of working and minimum standards. Standardisation activates a highly skilled, mobile workforce to support projects anywhere in the world. It enables new organisations to successfully participate in the international supply chain. It reduces risk and cost for developers and it gives confidence to policy makers, regulators, investors and communities.

Of course, this is not a simple task and a “one size fits all” approach will not work. Markets around the world are at different stages and growing at different paces. The set of drivers and challenges they each face are unique, as are the legal, political, environmental and commercial models in which they operate.

For this reason, we are working with our international networks and supporting the industry bodies, policy makers and supply chains that are already active. This enables us to identify the gaps we can help to fill and how we can adapt our resources and publications to be most valuable. This includes translations into other languages but it is primarily about engaging, consulting and learning.



If all of our clients had different demands it would be very difficult to train our people in the right way, to develop equipment in the right way. And when we go into new markets, we deal with new suppliers, we evaluate, help and support them. So, we are very happy about G+'s approach to standardising procedures and agreeing on designs. It's cost-effective but, more importantly, it makes working safer.

Fritz Wiedemann
Head of HSE Offshore Wind and Oil & Gas
Van Oord

Leading adoption and change

Whilst the G+ Good Practice Guidelines are not statutory requirements, they are the minimum standard required to meet industry health and safety expectations.

They are increasingly adopted by the major developers and supply chain leaders as part of the procurement and contracting process. This helps new supply chain entrants and new markets understand what is expected as a minimum level. Partner organisations such as IMCA share the standards with their members and they are one of the inputs into GWO training courses, which helps to speed up supply chain growth in mature and new markets alike – safely and efficiently.

Good Practice Guidance Documents

Working at height in the offshore wind industry

(first published 2014, updated July 2018)

Incident data showed that working at height was one of the areas with the greatest number of high potential incidents reported. The GPG was developed in response to that, and with a view to integrating with other relevant guidelines, such as dropped objects prevention.

[Download here](#)

The safe management of small service vessels used in the offshore wind industry

(First published 2014, updated Jan 2018)

Shortly after its inception in 2012, the G+ commissioned this work, recognising that whilst existing guidelines used in the marine and oil and gas sectors are applicable, there are some unique aspects to offshore wind farm projects that warrant specific guidance. As the sector grew, it was recognised that offshore wind farm sites were growing in all dimensions (capacity, area, distance from shore, turbine size). This led to different types of vessels being used and a change to vessel strategies. For that reason, the GPGs were reviewed and updated in 2018.

[Download here](#)

Good practice guidelines for offshore renewable energy developments

(Published October 2019)

The GPGs help organisations identify and mitigate risk to life within their operations. They provide a structured approach to assess hazards and identify the most robust and appropriate emergency response measures, based on each organisation's unique operational circumstances.

[Download here](#)

Reliable securing (Published June 2019)

HSE incident data collected by the G+ since 2012 demonstrated that dropped objects are a high risk area and represent an important threat to safety. In 2017, 169 incidents were recorded, of which eight resulted in lost work day incidents, and a further 38 % were classified as being high potential. The following year, despite a reduction in the number of dropped object incidents, 59 % of them were classified as high potential.

[Download here](#)

Case study on reducing manual handling and ergonomics related incidents in the offshore wind industry.

(Published February 2020)

Offshore wind industry operators are at risk of musculoskeletal injuries and disorders when performing manual handling activities. The case study is based on analysis of incidents, assessment of a sample of industry activities, a systematic review of regulatory requirements, observation of good practice and stakeholder engagement, including peer review by G+ members.

[Download here](#)

Learn more about the G+ Work Programme

The G+ exists to deliver world class health and safety performance in the global offshore wind industry. G+ members and associate members include the sector's key players, including developers, manufacturers and service suppliers who commit resources and actively support our work. Working in close collaboration with partners from offshore wind and adjacent industries such as oil & gas, marine and construction, we drive a global health and safety agenda through our work programme which includes incident reporting, Safe by Design workshops and Good Practice Guidance.



The right data

Transparent reporting and knowledge sharing are the bedrock of a safe industry. Our membership provide data on incidents so we can continuously improve health and safety.

For everyone

G+ Annual reports and interactive tools are available for everyone to read and use.



The right design

Design stage advice can reduce incidents throughout the lifecycle of an offshore wind farm. Holding a Safe by Design workshop allows industry to combine their knowledge and see where improvement or harmonisation is needed to create a safer, healthier industry.

For everyone

The G+ Safe by Design Workshop Reports are available for everyone to read and use.

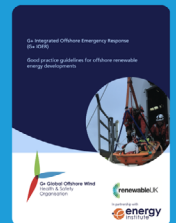


The right guidance

Experience, expertise and consensus are essential for a safe working environment. Our series of Good Practice Guidance documents cover a range of subjects to provide the information you need.

For everyone

The G+ Good Practice Guidance are available for everyone to read, use and continually develop.



How to get involved with the G+

We invite participation from all organisations and individuals with an interest in improving health and safety performance in offshore wind. If you would like to be involved with any element of our work, or would like to be kept informed, please get in touch.

Email: gplus@energyinst.org

www.gplusoffshorewind.com





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