

Title	Inspecting and auditing the management of emergency response	
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Executive Summary	<p>Link Associates International Ltd had prepared this report under contract to the Offshore Safety Division of the Health and Safety Executive. Its primary intended purpose is as a source of information for use by HSE specialist inspection teams when drawing up inspection and audit initiatives in the field of emergency response management. The Report gives background information on the importance of offshore emergency response, on the content of emergency response systems, on the mechanisms established in Great Britain for assessing the emergency command capabilities of offshore managers, and it contains suggestions for the Regulator regarding inspection and auditing.</p> <p>For the purpose of this report an emergency response system is considered to comprise of two parts; emergency command and the remainder of the emergency response system. The report examines the health and safety legal duties applying to these two areas and provides suggestions to the Health and Safety Executive on how it might be involved in influencing and regulating emergency response standards. The report contains detailed information on the Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organisation (OPITO) Standard for emergency command, and on how the Standard is applied by OPITO approved bodies. It is suggested that this information should be used as a knowledge base to inform and stimulate discussion rather than in direct regulatory interventions.</p> <p>The report concludes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency response, which forms part of the emergency preparedness of an installation, remains important to offshore health and safety and that it is appropriate for interest in this subject to be continually revitalised;</li> <li>• Emergency response systems must reflect the ability of an installation to withstand an emergency, the risks from which are required to be demonstrated ALARP under the safety case assessment and acceptance procedures and, in particular, must reflect the performance standards of the accepted safety case for mustering and the endurance times of egress routes and temporary refuges, and for evacuation and escape.</li> <li>• Emergency command capabilities of the offshore management team is at the centre of the emergency response system, and can only be developed and assessed using scenario based training and assessment techniques conducted by expert organisations;</li> <li>• The OPITO Standard on emergency command sets the agreed approach to the training and approved assessment of emergency command for the offshore industry and that the Regulator should continue to work with OPITO on reviewing the Standard and accreditation procedures;</li> <li>• The remainder of the emergency response system can be regulated following the relevant statutory requirements, most of which appear in the Offshore Installations Prevention of Fire and Explosion and Emergency Response Regulations, the Pipelines Safety Regulations and the Offshore Installations Safety Case Regulations. Ideas on how this might be done are included in the report.</li> </ul>	
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