

**To Remove or not to Remove?
The Challenge posed by Man-Made Structures on the Marine Environment.**



Please join us on Thursday 29th August at the Herriot Watt Conference Centre in Edinburgh, for our Oil & Gas/Decommissioning workshop “To Remove or not to Remove: The Challenge posed by Man-Made Structures on the Marine Environment”.

Join the Oil & Gas, Regulatory and Scientific communities to share knowledge, discuss experiences, and debate solutions for the environmental challenge posed by decommissioning of Oil & Gas platforms.

Oil & Gas development in the North Sea is entering a period when decommissioning is becoming an important activity. There are various options for decommissioning, but the evidence base for the environmental effects of these options is not currently well developed. Through working with the Oil & Gas and Regulatory communities, the scientific community can help to build the evidence concerning environmental effects, which can inform appropriate cost-benefit analysis to assist decisions.

This workshop seeks to pull together delegates from across the Scientific, Regulatory and Oil & Gas communities. Expert speakers from across all three communities will share their knowledge and experience of the environmental challenge from their different perspectives, posing questions and stimulating debate from the floor, to ensure the optimal flow and exchange of ideas. The breakout sessions in our coffee and small exhibition and poster area offer great opportunity for networking.

The timing is right.

By working, thinking and debating together, we can find solutions together.

Organised by: Karen Seath, Business Development Manager, SOI Group, University of St Andrews

Hosted by: MASTS (Marine Alliance for Science and Technology Scotland)

When: Thursday 29th August 2013, 10am to 4pm

Where: Heriot Watt Conference Centre, Edinburgh

Who: Oil & Gas, Regulatory and Scientific communities (operators, regulators, contractors, engineers, consultants, trade associations, scientists).

MASTS O&G Workshop, Herriot Watt Conference Centre, 29th Aug 2013

Information on the MASTS Annual Conference & Workshops can be accessed through the MASTS website. Registration for the workshop is £60 – please note that the registration fee for speakers will be covered by the organisers. Payment by delegates is made separately and in addition to the registration itself. Please follow the links below.

For information: <http://www.masts.ac.uk/annual-science-meeting/2013-workshops/>

To register: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/7256316839>

To pay: <https://onlineshop.st-andrews.ac.uk/browse/product.asp?compid=1&modid=2&catid=36>

Draft Agenda

(Please note that titles of talks at the time of writing are placeholders.)

10:00 Session 1: An overview of decommissioning - Setting the Scene (Chair – Callum Falconer, Commercial Project Lead, Marathon Oil)

Welcome & Introduction

Moya Crawford, Chairman Salvage & Decommissioning Committee, SUT / MD Deep Tek

An overview of the decommissioning market in the North Sea

Brian Nixon, Chief Executive, Decom North Sea

The Regulator's View

Sarah Dacre and Tracy Edwards, Environmental Managers, DECC

Consistency & rigour of approach

Vidar Åhjem, DNV

Speakers + delegate discussion

11:00 Coffee & Networking

11:20 Session 2: The O&G Community (Chair – Jillian Price, Principal Consultant Environment & Infrastructure, AMEC)

The Operator's View

John Allan, CNR International

The US Experience: Rigs to Reef in the Gulf of Mexico

Win Thornton, VP Decommissioning Global Projects, BP

The Economists View

Evan Williams, Technical Director, AMEC

The environmental impact of man-made structures on the North Sea: Phase 2 of O&G UK JIP

Richard Heard, Project Manager, North Sea Decommissioning JIP, Oil & Gas UK

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The role of the International Science Advisory Board (ISAB) & Mechanisms of the RFP (JIP).
Graham Shimmiel, Chairman of the ISAB / Exec Director, Bigalow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences.

Speakers + delegate discussion

12:45 Workshop Lunch & Networking

13:30 Session 3: The Scientific Community
(Chair – Andrew Sneddon, Director of Marine Operations, URS)

The ecosystem approach and SOTEAG (Shetland Oil Terminal Environmental Advisory Group)
David Patterson, Executive Director, MASTS

The 40 year experiment
Richard Bates, Senior Lecturer, Geosciences, St Andrews University

Monitoring – In the long and short term
Gill Bishop, Senior Consultant Marine Science & Offshore Energy, Aquatera

Using models to anticipate ecosystem and food-web consequences in the North Sea
John Pinnegar, Programme Director - Marine Climate Change Centre (MC³), Cefas

A brief tour of artificial reefs
Tom Wilding, Lecturer, Ecology Group, Scottish Association of Marine Science (SAMS)

Use of static subsea features and marine mammals
Debbie Russell, Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU), University of St Andrews

Speakers + delegate discussion

15:00 Coffee & Networking

15:15 Session 4: The way forward
(Chair - Ian Boyd, Chief Scientific Advisor, DEFRA)

Final thoughts and summary
Ian Boyd, Chief Scientific Officer, DEFRA

Where do we go from here? The way forward. Agree outputs and next steps.
All - Speakers + delegate discussion

16:00 Workshop close.

Exhibitors

A small exhibition area will be available to view in the coffee/lunch area. Exhibitors include:

Liquid Robotics O&G – Wave Glider
SMRU Instrumentation
St Andrews Instrumentation
PhotoSynergy
Cefas
AMEC

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on kes@soigroup.co.uk, or telephone 01334 466905.

Thank you very much indeed for your interest.

Karen Seath
Business Development Manager, SOI Group
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