

## **Training Circular No. 1 of 2005**

**No:3-TR(113)/2004**

**Dated: January 1, 2005**

**Subject: Safety Training for Offshore Industry**

### **1. Background**

Promotion of job opportunity for Indians in the Indian and International Maritime Industry is one of the objectives of the Directorate General of Shipping. It has been brought to the notice of Directorate that there is tremendous scope for employment in offshore industry. To examine and give suitable recommendation, a committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Chief Surveyor with the Govt. of India with representatives of D.G.Shipping, Industry, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Indian Navy/Offshore Defense Advisory Group, Oil Industrial Safety Directorate, MoP&NG, etc. The Committee held several meetings and gave its final recommendations to Directorate. The recommendations have been examined in consultation with Technical Advisers.

In pursuance to these recommendations, the Directorate General of Shipping has decided to implement an accredited offshore safety training program. The program is expected to accrue multiple benefits to the nation, offshore industry and their employees. Such benefits would include:

- (a) Enhancing the safety standards in the offshore industry thereby leading to better efficiency and reduced cost of production.
- (b) Enhancing the employability of Indians in the foreign offshore industry.
- (c) Develop India as a hub for the offshore safety training in Asia thus earning the

country valuable foreign exchange.

- (d) Enhance the morale of employees through better personal safety standards, leading to higher productivity.

2. The training institutes forming part of the committee revealed that a number of foreign offshore companies were looking forward to train their employees in India. Though these companies were totally satisfied with the quality of training, they wanted the training program to be accredited by a national or an international agency. However, in the absence of an Indian accredited program, the Indian training institutes had to perforce get their training accredited from foreign organizations at exorbitant costs. Such a state was not congenial to the promotion of offshore safety training in India. Therefore, in order to lower cost of training and promote employment of Indian nationals in the foreign offshore industry, the committee recommended an accredited program to be implemented at the earliest. Such a step would also promote India as a destination for high quality offshore safety training.

### 3. **Offshore Safety Training Programme**

In order to fill the vacuum in the offshore safety training, training programs have been finalized based on the following principles:

- (a) The program should comply with the international offshore safety training standards as well as the relevant standards promulgated by the Indian Oil Industry Safety Development Board.
- (b) The program should rhyme with the relevant sections of STCW “ 95 Conventions. This will help the existing maritime training institutions to conduct the Offshore Safety Training.
- (c) The training should cater to the typical requirements of the Indian offshore industry.

4. The following “Offshore Safety Training Program”, henceforth referred to as “OSTD”, proposed by the Committee has been approved by the Director General of Shipping and is hereby promulgated.

- (i) Basic Offshore Safety Course (BOS)
- (ii) Offshore Lifeboat Coxswain Course (OLC)

- (iii) Offshore Fire Fighting Course (OFF)
- (iv) Hydrogen Sulphide Safety Course (HSS)
- (v) Helicopter Underwater Escape & Sea Survival Course (HUESS)
- (vi) Helicopter Landing Officers Course (HLO)

5. Additional courses will be included in future in accordance with requirements of the Offshore Industry.

**6. Applicability :**

The training program at Serial No. (vi) above is applicable to following entities: -

S No	Unit	Course	Remarks
1	Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU)	BOS, OLC, OFF, HSS, HUESS, HLO	As the training is also suitable and beneficial for personnel working on fixed platforms, companies managing such platforms may consider training their employees in these courses.
2.	Vessels engaged in Offshore Operations.	HSS	Applicable to vessels required to operate in the immediate vicinity of exploration/production rigs and exposed to H2S hazards.
		HFF	Applicable to vessels required to assist the rigs in fire fighting operations.
		HUESS	All personnel required to fly over sea in a helicopter.
		HLO	All vessels required to operate helicopters to and from the vessels

7. All personnel who have undergone equivalent IMO modular courses (PST, PSSR, FPF, EFA) will be required to undergo a 2 days abridged version of "Basic Offshore Safety Course (BOS)". The abridged version of the course will exclude the portions already covered under the IMO modular courses and focus on offshore aviation and helicopter underwater escape training.

**8. Conduct of the Training**

It is the endeavor of the D G Shipping that the “ Training Program” is of a very high standard equivalent to the best in the world. In order to ensure high quality of training and regular monitoring by DG Shipping to begin with, only the following Govt./semi Govt. institutions are approved to conduct the training.

- (a) Lal Bahadur Shastri College of Advanced Maritime Studies and Research, Mumbai.
- (b) Naval Maritime Academy, Mumbai.

The above institutes approved to conduct the training are required to submit a regular feedback to DG Shipping on conduct of the training including the following: -

- (a) No. of trainees trained in each course.
- (b) Details of national and International companies sponsoring their employees for the course.
- (c) Summary of the feedback received from the trainees and the sponsoring companies.
- (d) Requirement of any additional training program or amendment to the existing program.

9. The detailed syllabus and curriculum of these courses are given in different training circulars which are being issued shortly.

This issues with the approval of the Directorate General of Shipping and Ex-officio Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

**Sd/-**

**(Naresh Salecha)**

**Sr.Dy. Director General of Shipping**