



Statutory Document No. 168/97

THE MINERAL WORKINGS (OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS) (ISLE OF MAN)
ACT 1974

THE OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS AND WELLS
(DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, ETC.) REGULATIONS 1997

Approved by Tynwald : 20th May 1987

Coming into operation : 1st June 1997

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

PART I

Interpretation and General

1. Citation and commencement.
2. Interpretation.
3. Application.

PART II

Integrity of Installations

4. General duty.
5. Design of an installation.
6. Work to an installation.
7. Operation of an installation.
8. Maintenance of integrity.
9. Reporting of danger to an installation.
10. Decommissioning and dismantlement.

PART III

Further requirements relating to installations

11. Helicopter landing area.
12. Additional requirements.

PART IV

Wells

13. General duty.

14. Assessment of conditions below ground.
15. Design with a view to suspension and abandonment.
16. Materials.
17. Well control.
18. Arrangements for examination.
19. Provision of drilling etc. information.
20. Co-operation.
21. Information, instruction, training and supervision.

PART V

Miscellaneous

22. Offences.
 23. Defence.
 24. Certificates of exemption.
 25. Transitional provision.
 26. Consequential Amendment.
 27. Revocation.
- Schedule 1. Additional requirements.
- Schedule 2. Revocation.

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Transport by sections 3, 6 and 7 of, and the Schedule to, the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) (Isle of Man) Act 1974 (a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the following regulations are hereby made:-

PART I

INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc.) Regulations 1997 and, subject to section 7(7) of the Act, shall come into operation on 1st June 1997.

(a) 1974 c. 33.

Interpretation

2. (1) In these Regulations -

"the Act" means the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) (Isle of Man) Act 1974;

"concession owner" in relation to a well, means the person who at any time has the right to exploit or explore mineral resources in any area or to store gas in any area and to recover gas so stored if, at that time, the well is, or is to be, used in the exercise of that right;

"duty holder" means -

- (a) the operator; and
- (b) in relation to a mobile installation, the owner;

"environmental conditions" means -

- (a) meteorological and oceanological conditions; and
- (b) properties and configuration of the sea bed and subsoil;

"the Executive" means the Health and Safety Executive of the United Kingdom;

"fixed installation" means an installation other than a mobile installation;

"installation" means an offshore installation within the meaning of regulation 2, except sub-paragraphs (a) and (b), and paragraph (ii) of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (3), of the Offshore Installations (Health, Safety and Management) (No.2) Regulations 1995 (b);

"integrity" means structural soundness and strength, stability and, in the case of a floating installation, buoyancy in so far as they are relevant to the health and safety of persons;

"management system" means the organisation and arrangements established by a person for managing his undertaking;

"mobile installation" means an installation (other than a floating production platform) which can be moved from place to place without major dismantling or modification, whether or not it has its own motive power;

"safety case" means a document described in regulation 2(2) of the Offshore Installations (Safety Case) Regulations 1997 (c) which is required to be prepared pursuant to a provision of those Regulations;

"traffic route" means a route for pedestrians, vehicles or both and includes any stairs, staircase, fixed ladder, doorway, gateway, loading bay or ramp;

"well" means -

- (a) a well made by drilling; and
- (b) a borehole drilled with a view to the extraction of minerals through it or another well;

and shall be deemed to include any device on it for containing the pressure in it;

"well intervention operation" means an operation in which a well is re-entered for a purpose other than to continue drilling or to maintain or repair it;

"well operator", in relation to a well, means the person appointed by the concession owner for a well to execute the function of organising and supervising all operations to be carried out by means of such well or, where no such person has been appointed, the concession owner;

"workover operation" means an operation in which a well is re-entered for the purpose of maintaining or repairing it; and

"workplace" means any workroom or other place on an installation used mainly for the performance of work, and does not include a traffic route.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to operating an installation is a reference to using it for any of the purposes described in regulation 3(1) of the Offshore Installations (Health, Safety and Management) (No.2) Regulations 1995.

(3) Where a duty holder in relation to an installation, or a well-operator, is succeeded by a new duty holder, anything done in compliance with these Regulations by the former duty holder or operator in relation to the installation or the well shaft, for the purpose of these Regulations, be treated as having been done by his successor.

Application

3.- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), these Regulations shall apply -

- (a) in the Island; and
- (b) to and in relation to installations, wells and activities to which sections 1 to 59 and 80 to 82 of the Health and Safety etc. at Work Act 1974 (an Act of Parliament) (d) apply by virtue of article 4(1) and (2) (b) and 5 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (Application outside Great Britain) Order 1995 as that Order has effect in the Island (e).

(d) 1974 c. 37

(e) S.I. 1995/263 applied to the Island by SD 277/95

- (2) These Regulations shall apply to a well in the Island only if -
- (a) it is drilled from an installation; or
 - (b) it is made for, or drilled with a view to, the extraction of petroleum.

(3) In paragraph (2) "petroleum" means an mineral oil or relative hydrocarbon and natural gas existing in its natural condition in strata, but does not include coal or bituminous shales or other stratified deposits from which oil can be extracted by destructive distillation.

PART II

INTEGRITY OF INSTALLATIONS

General duty

4. (1) The duty holder shall ensure that an installation all times possesses such integrity as is reasonably practicable.
- (2) The provisions contained in regulations 5 to 10 are without prejudice to the generality of the provision contained in this regulation.

Design of an installation

5. (1) The duty holder shall ensure that the designs to which an installation is to be or in the event is constructed are such that, so far as is reasonably practicable -
- (a) it can withstand such forces acting on it as are reasonably foreseeable;
 - (b) its layout and configuration, including those of its plant, will not prejudice its integrity;
 - (c) fabrication, transportation, construction, commissioning, operation, modification, maintenance and repair of the installation may proceed without prejudicing its integrity;
 - (d) it may be decommissioned and dismantled safely; and
 - (e) in the event of reasonably foreseeable damage to the installation it will retain sufficient integrity to enable action to be taken to safeguard the health and safety of persons on or near it.
- (2) The duty holder shall ensure that an installation is composed of materials which are -
- (a) suitable, having regard to the requirement in regulation 4; and

- (b) so far as is reasonably practicable, sufficiently proof against or protected from anything liable to prejudice its integrity.

Work to an installation

6. The duty holder shall ensure that work of fabrication, construction, commissioning, modification, maintenance and repair of an installation, and activity in preparation for the positioning of an installation, are carried out in such a way that so far as is reasonably practicable, its integrity is secured.

Operation of an installation

7.- (1) The duty holder shall ensure that the installation is not operated in such a way as may prejudice its integrity.

(2) For the purpose of securing compliance with paragraph (1), the duty holder shall ensure that the installation is not operated unless -

- (a) appropriate limits within which it is to be operated; and
- (b) the environmental conditions in which it may safely operate,

have been recorded.

(3) The duty holder shall ensure that a record of the matters described in paragraph (2) is kept on the installation, readily available to any person involved in its operation.

(4) The duty holder shall ensure that the matters described in paragraph (2) are reviewed as often as may be appropriate.

Maintenance of integrity

8. (1) The duty holder shall make and put into effect suitable arrangements for maintaining the integrity of the installation, including suitable arrangements for -

- (a) periodic assessment of its integrity; and
- (b) the carrying out of remedial work in the event of damage or deterioration which may prejudice its integrity.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply -

- (a) to a fixed installation while its structure is not yet established at the location at which it is to be operated; or
- (b) to a mobile installation under construction which is not yet able to be moved.

Reporting of danger to an installation

9. (1) The duty holder shall ensure that, within 10 days after the appearance of evidence of a significant threat to the integrity of an installation, a report is made to the Executive in writing identifying such threat and specifying any action taken or to be taken to avert it.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to anything of which the Offshore Installations (Inspectors and Casualties) Regulations 1995 (*f*) require a report to be made.

Decommissioning and dismantlement

10. The duty holder shall ensure that an installation is decommissioned and dismantled in such a way that, so far as is reasonably practicable, it will possess sufficient integrity to enable such decommissioning and dismantlement to be carried out safely.

PART III

FURTHER REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO INSTALLATIONS

Helicopter landing area

11. The duty holder shall ensure that every helicopter landing area forming part of an installation -

- (a) is large enough, and has sufficient clear approach and departure paths, to enable any helicopter intended to use the landing area safely to land thereon and to take off therefore in any wind and weather conditions permitting helicopter operations; and
- (b) is otherwise of a design and construction adequate for its purpose.

Additional requirements

12. (1) Subject to paragraph (3), the duty holder shall ensure that the additional requirements set out in Schedule 1 are complied with in relation to an installation, while it is in use, unless in the case of any such requirement it would not prejudice the health, safety or welfare of any person if it were not complied with.

(2) While there are persons on a fixed installation which is -

- (a) being completed at the place where it is to be operated; or

- (b) being decommissioned or dismantled,

the duty holder shall ensure that such of the requirements contained in Schedule 1 are complied with, and to such extent, as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances.

(3) In the case of an installation which was commissioned before the coming into force of these Regulations, it shall be sufficient compliance with paragraph (1) where the additional requirements are completed with in each case as soon as possible and no later than 3rd November 1999.

(4) The requirements contained in this regulation shall apply without prejudice to the requirements of the other relevant statutory provisions relating to the installation.

PART IV

WELLS

General Duty

13. (1) The well-operator shall ensure that a well is so designed, modified, commissioned, constructed, equipped, operated, maintained, suspended and abandoned that -

- (a) so far as is reasonably practicable, there can be no unplanned escape of fluids from the well; and
- (b) risks to the health and safety of persons from it or anything in it, or in strata to which it is connected, are as low as is reasonably practicable.

(2) The provisions of regulations 14 to 19 and 21 are without prejudice to the generality of the requirements of paragraph (1) save that, where regulation 17(2) places a duty on the duty holder for an installation, the well-operator is not under the same duty.

Assessment of conditions below ground

14. (1) Before the design of a well is commenced the well-operator shall cause -

- (a) the geological strata and formations, and of fluids within them, through which it may pass; and
- (b) any hazards which such strata and formations may contain,

to be assessed.

(2) The well-operator shall ensure that account is taken of the assessment required by paragraph (1) when the well is being designed and constructed.

(3) The well-operator shall ensure that, while an operation (including the drilling of the well) is carried out in relation to the well, those matters described in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph (1) shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be kept under review and that, if any change is observed in those matters, such modification is made, where appropriate, to -

- (a) the design and construction of the well; or
- (b) any procedures,

as are necessary to ensure that the purposes described in regulation 13(1) will continue to be fulfilled.

Design with a view to suspension and abandonment

15. The well-operator shall ensure that a well is so designed and constructed that, so far as is reasonably practicable -

- (a) it can be suspended or abandoned in a safe manner; and
- (b) after its suspension or abandonment there can be no unplanned escape of fluids from it or from the reservoir to which it led.

Materials

16. The well-operator shall ensure that every part of a well is composed of material which is suitable for achieving the purposes described in regulation 13(1).

Well control

17. (1) Before an operation in relation to a well (including the drilling of a well) is begun the well-operator shall ensure that suitable well control equipment is provided for use during such operations to protect against blowouts.

(2) In the case of an operation to which paragraph (1) applies which is begun -

- (a) from an installation, the duty holder; and
- (b) otherwise than from an installation, the well-operator,

shall ensure that equipment provided pursuant to paragraph (1) is deployed when the prevailing well and operational conditions so require.

Arrangements for examination

18. (1) Before the design of a well is commenced or adopted the well-operator shall make and put into effect arrangements relating to the well of a kind described in paragraph (2) or (where such arrangements already have effect in relation to another well) apply such arrangements, with any appropriate modifications, to the well.

(2) The arrangements referred to in paragraph (1) are arrangements in writing for such examinations by independent and competent persons, of any part of the well or similar well, information, or work in progress, and the making of such reports and recommendations, as are suitable for ensuring (with the assistance of such other measures as the well-operator takes) that the well is so designed and constructed, and is maintained in such repair and condition, that -

- (a) so far as is reasonably practicable, there can be no unplanned escape of fluids from the well; and
- (b) risks to the health and safety of persons from it or anything in it, or in strata to which it is connected, are as low as is reasonably practicable.

(3) The well-operator shall review and revise the arrangements as often as may be appropriate.

(4) The well-operator shall ensure that the arrangements, any revision of them, and reports and recommendations pursuant to them are kept at an address in the Island notified to the Executive, until the expiration of six months after the arrangements and any revision of them cease to be current.

(5) In the case of a well which, at the coming into force of these Regulations, is completed, the well-operator shall make and put into effect or (as the case may be) apply the arrangements described in paragraph (1) within 1 year after such coming into force.

(6) In the case of a well, the design of which was commenced or adopted before the coming into force of these Regulations, but which is not, at such coming into force, completed, the well-operator shall make and put into effect or (as the case may be) apply the arrangements described in paragraph (1) -

- (a) forthwith; or
- (b) within 1 year after such coming into force, in a case where a well consent was given not more than 1 year before such coming into force.

(7) For the purpose of this regulation a person shall be regarded as independent only where -

- (a) his examination will not involve the consideration by him of an aspect, of a thing liable to be examined, for which he bears or has borne such responsibility as might compromise his objectivity; and

- (b) he will be sufficiently independent of a management system, or of a part thereof, which bears or has borne any responsibility for an aspect, which might consider, of a thing liable to be examined, to ensure that he will be objective in discharging his function.

(8) In this regulation "well consent" means a consent in writing of the Department of Trade and Industry to the commencement of drilling of the well.

Provision of drilling etc. information

19. (1) Where an operation to which this paragraph applies is being carried out on a well the well-operator shall cause to be sent out to the Executive, at such intervals as may be agreed or, failing agreement, at intervals of one week calculate from its commencement, a report comprising the following information -

- (a) the identifying number, and any slot number, of the well;
- (b) the name of any installation or vessel involved;
- (c) a summary of the activity in the course of the operation since its commencement, or the previous report;
- (d) the diameter and true vertical and measured depths of -
 - (i) any hole drilled; and
 - (ii) any casing installed;
- (e) the drilling fluid density immediately before making the report; and
- (f) in the case of an existing well, its current operational state.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies to -

- (a) a drilling operation;
- (b) a workover operation;
- (c) an abandonment operation;
- (d) an operation consisting in the completion of the well;
- (e) any other operation of a kind involving substantial risk of the unplanned escape of fluids from a well.

Co-operation

20. Every person who is, or is to be concerned (in whatever capacity) in an operation in relation to a well (including the drilling of a well) shall co-operate with the well-operator so far as is necessary to enable him to discharge his duties under regulations. 13(1) and 17.

Information, instruction, training and supervision

21. In the case of a drilling, well intervention or workover operation to be carried out on a well -

- (a) from an installation, the duty holder; and
- (b) otherwise than from an installation, the well-operator,

shall ensure that the operation is not carried out unless it is carried on in circumstances where the persons carrying out the operation have received such information, instruction and training, and are being so supervised, that the risk to health and safety from such operation is reduced to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS

Offences

22. (1) It is an offence for a person -

- (a) to fail to discharge a duty to which he is subject by virtue of these Regulations;
- (b) to contravene or fail to comply with any provision of these Regulations;
- (c) to fail to comply with any requirement imposed under these Regulations.

(2) Where the commission by any person of an offence under these Regulations is due to the act or default of some other person, that other person shall be guilty of the offence, and a person may be charged with and convicted of the offence by virtue of this paragraph whether or not proceedings are taken against the first mentioned person.

Defence

23. (1) In any proceedings for an offence for a contravention of these Regulations it shall, subject to paragraph (2), be a defence for the person charged to prove -

- (a) that the commission of the offence was due to the act or default of another person not being one of his employees (hereinafter called "the other person"); and
- (b) that he took all reasonable precautions, and exercised all due diligence, to avoid the commission of the offence.

(2) The person charged shall not, without the leave of the court, be entitled to rely on the defence in paragraph (1) unless, within a period ending seven clear days before the hearing, he has served on the prosecutor a notice in writing giving such information identifying or assisting in the identification of the other person as was then in his possession.

Certificates of exemption

24. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) the Executive may, by a certificate in writing, exempt any person, installation, well or class of persons, installations or wells from any requirement or prohibition imposed by these Regulations and any such exemption may be granted subject to conditions and with or without limit of time and may be revoked by a certificate in writing at any time.

(2) The Executive shall not grant any such exemption unless, having regard to the circumstances of the case and, in particular, to -

- (a) the conditions, if any, which it proposes to attach to the exemption; and
- (b) any other requirements imposed by or under any enactments which apply to the case,

it is satisfied that the health and safety of persons who are likely to be affected by the exemption will not be prejudiced in consequence of it.

Transitional provision

25. (1) Where, at the coming into force of these Regulations, a Certificate of Fitness in relation to an installation is in force or such Certificate has been applied for, the provisions of the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1995 (g) shall notwithstanding their revocation by regulation 26 and Schedule 2) be deemed to remain in force in relation to that installation, with the modifications contained in paragraph (2), until -

- (a) the expiration of any Certificate of Fitness without its having been renewed;

(g) SD 469/95

- (b) the expiration of two years from the coming into operation of these Regulations; or
- (c) the receipt by the Executive of a notification by the duty holder for the installation and the Certifying Authority which issued the last Certificate of Fitness relating to the installation that they no longer wish the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1995 to be deemed to be in operation in relation to the installation,

whichever first occurs.

(2) The Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1995 shall be deemed, for the purpose of paragraph (1), to be modified -

- (a) in regulation 11(3) of those Regulations by inserting, after the words "that regulation", the words "not exceeding two years from the coming into operation of the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc.) Regulations 1997";
- (b) by substituting, for any reference to the "owner", a reference to the person who is the duty holder within the meaning of these Regulations; and
- (c) by treating those Regulations for purposes of enforcement (but not of interpretation) as if they were set out herein.

(3) In this regulation, "Certificate of Fitness" and "Certifying Authority" have the same meaning as in the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1995.

Consequential Amendment

26. In regulation 19 of the Offshore Installations (Prevention of Fire and Explosion, and Emergency Response) Regulations 1995 (*h*), in sub-paragraph (5A)(b) for the words from "Schedule 2" to the end of that sub-paragraph substitute "the Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction, etc.) Regulations 1997".

Revocation

27. The public documents specified in column 1 of Schedule 2 are hereby revoked to the extent specified in column 3 of the Schedule.

(h) SD 274/95 as amended by SD 469/95.

Regulation 12

SCHEDULE 1

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Organisation of the installation

1. The layout and configuration of an installation, including its plant, shall be such that risks to persons on it are reduced to the lowest level that is reasonably practicable.
2. An installation shall be kept sufficiently clean, with any hazardous substances or deposits removed or controlled in order not to endanger the health and safety of persons on the installation.
3. Arrangements shall exist for the collection at source and removal, in such a way that persons are not at risk, of harmful substances which could accumulate in the atmosphere.
4. Workstations must be designed and constructed with a view to the safety and ease of action of persons at work, taking into account the need for them to carry out activities there.

Ventilation of enclosed workplaces

5. A supply of fresh or purified air shall be maintained in enclosed workplaces which is sufficient, having regard to the working methods used and the physical demands placed on persons at work.
6. If a mechanical ventilation system is used, it must be maintained in working order. Any breakdown must be indicated by a control system where this is necessary for the health of persons on the installation.
7. If air-conditioning or mechanical ventilation systems are used, they must operate in such a way that persons are not exposed to draughts which cause discomfort.
8. Any deposit or dirt likely to create an immediate danger to the health of persons by polluting the atmosphere must be removed without delay.

Room temperature

9. During working hours, the temperature in enclosed workplaces must be reasonable, having regard to the working methods being used and the physical demands placed on the persons at work.
10. The temperature in rest areas, changing rooms, rooms containing facilities for washing, lavatories, mess-rooms, galleys and sick bays must be appropriate to the particular purpose of such areas.

11. Sunlight let into workplaces via any window or skylight shall not be excessive, having regard to the nature of the work and the workplace.

Floors, walls and ceilings of rooms

12. The floors of workplaces must have no dangerous bumps, holes or slopes and must be fixed, stable and not made of material which is or is liable to become slippery.

13. Enclosed workplaces must be adequately insulated against heat, bearing in mind the type of undertaking involved and the physical activity of the persons at work.

14. The surfaces of floors, walls and ceilings in rooms must be such that they can be cleaned or refurbished to an appropriate standard of hygiene.

Transparent or translucent surfaces

15. Every window or other transparent or translucent surface in a wall or partition and every transparent or translucent surface in a door or gate shall, where necessary for reasons of health and safety -

- (a) be of safety material or be protected against breakage of the transparent or translucent material; and
- (b) be appropriately marked or incorporate features so as, in either case, to make it apparent.

Roofs

16. Access to roofs made of materials of insufficient strength must not be permitted unless equipment is provided to ensure that the work can be carried out in a safe manner.

Natural and artificial lighting

17. Every workplace must be provided throughout with lighting capable of supplying illumination sufficient to ensure the health and safety of persons therein.

18. Workplaces must, as far as possible, receive sufficient natural light and be equipped, taking into account climatological conditions, with artificial lighting adequate for the protection of safety and health.

19. Lighting installations in workplaces and in passageways must be placed in such a way that the type of lighting does not present a risk of accident.

20. Workplaces in which persons are especially exposed to risks in the event of failure of artificial lighting must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity.

Windows and skylights

21. Windows, skylights and ventilation devices which are meant to be opened, adjusted or secured must be designed so that these operations can be carried out safely. They must not be positioned so as to constitute a hazard when open.
22. It must be possible to clean windows and skylights without undue risk.

Doors and gates

23. The position, number and dimensions of doors and gates, and the materials used in their construction shall be determined by reference to the nature of and use of the rooms or areas.
24. Transparent doors must be appropriately marked at a conspicuous level.
25. Swing doors and gates must be transparent or have see-through panels.
26. Sliding doors must be fitted with a safety device to prevent them from being derailed and falling over unexpectedly.
27. Doors and gates opening upwards must be fitted with a mechanism to secure them against falling back unexpectedly.
28. Doors for pedestrians must be provided in the immediate vicinity of any gates intended essentially for vehicle traffic, unless it is safe for pedestrians to pass through; such doors must be clearly marked and left permanently unobstructed.
29. Power-operated doors and gates must function without risk of accident to workers. They must be fitted with easily identifiable and accessible emergency shutdown devices and, in the event of a power failure, it must be possible to operate them by hand.
30. When chains or similar devices are used to prevent access at any place, these should be clearly visible and appropriately identified by signs denoting any prohibitions or warning.

Traffic routes

31. It must be possible to reach workplaces without danger and leave them quickly and safely in an emergency.
32. Traffic routes must be sufficient in number, in suitable positions, and of sufficient size to ensure easy, safe and appropriate access for pedestrians or vehicles in such a way as not to endanger persons at work in the vicinity of these traffic routes, having regard to the number of potential users and the type of undertaking.

33. If means of transport are used on traffic routes, a sufficient safety clearance must be provided for pedestrians.

34. Sufficient clearance must be allowed between vehicle traffic routes and doors, gates, passages for pedestrians, corridors and staircases.

35. Traffic routes must be clearly identified for the protection of persons.

Danger areas

36. If the workplaces contain danger areas in which, owing to the nature of the work, there are risks including that of the worker or objects falling, the places must be equipped, as far as possible, with devices preventing unauthorised workers from entering those areas.

Room dimensions and air space in rooms - freedom of movement in the workstation

37. Enclosed workplaces must have sufficient surface area, height and air space to allow workers to perform their work without risk to their safety, health or welfare.

38. The dimensions of the unoccupied area at the workstation must allow workers sufficient freedom of movement and enable them to perform their work safely.

Rest rooms

39. Where the safety or health of workers, in particular because of the type of activity carried out, or the presence of more than a certain number of workers, so requires, workers must be provided with an easily accessible rest room.

40. Paragraph 39 does not apply if the workers are employed in offices or similar workplaces providing equivalent relaxation during breaks.

41. Rest rooms must be large enough and equipped with an adequate number of tables and seats with backs for the number of workers.

42. If working hours are regularly and frequently interrupted and there is no rest room other rooms must be provided in which workers can stay during such interruptions, wherever this is required for the safety or health of workers.

43. Appropriate measures should be taken for the protection of non-smokers in the rooms referred to in paragraphs 41 and 42 against discomfort caused by tobacco smoke.

Outdoor workplaces

44. Workstations, traffic routes and other areas outdoors which are used or occupied by the workers in the course of their work must be organised in such a way that persons can

circulate safely.

45. Workplaces outdoors must be adequately lit by artificial lighting if daylight is not adequate.

46. When workers are employed at workstations outdoors, such workstations must as far as possible be arranged so that workers -

- (a) are protected against inclement weather conditions and if necessary against falling objects;
- (b) are not exposed to harmful noise levels;
- (c) are able to leave their workstations swiftly in the event of danger or are able to be rapidly assisted; and
- (d) cannot slip or fall.

Pregnant women and nursing mothers

47. Pregnant women and nursing mothers must be able to lie down to rest in appropriate conditions.

People with disabilities

48. The arrangement of an installation shall take due account of the health, safety and welfare of any persons with disabilities who may work on it.

Sanitary facilities

49. Appropriate changing rooms must be provided for workers if they have to wear special work clothes and where, for reasons of health or propriety, they cannot be expected to change in another room.

50. Changing rooms must be easily accessible, be of sufficient capacity and be provided with seating.

51. Changing rooms must be sufficiently large and have facilities to enable each worker to lock away his clothes during working hours.

52. If circumstances so require, lockers for work clothes must be separate from those for ordinary clothes.

53. Provision must be made to enable wet work clothes to be dried.

54. Provision must be made for separate changing rooms or separate use of changing rooms for men and women.

55. If changing rooms are not required under paragraph 49, each worker must be provided with a place to store his clothes.

Showers and washing facilities

56. In addition to those facilities provided in any accommodation area, suitable showers and washing facilities must, if necessary, be provided in the vicinity of workstations.

Lavatories and washbasins

57. In addition to those facilities provided in any accommodation, lavatories and washbasins must, if necessary, be provided in the vicinity of workstations.

58. Provision must be made for separate lavatories or separate use of lavatories for men and women.

Accommodation

59. If the nature, scale and duration of operations so require, persons on the installation shall be provided with accommodation which is -

- (a) suitably provided with ventilation, heating and lighting;
- (b) protected against noise, smells and fumes likely to be hazardous to health from other areas, and against inclement weather; and
- (c) separate from any workstation and located away from dangerous areas.

60. Accommodation must contain sufficient beds or bunks for the number of persons expected to sleep on the installation.

61. Any room designated as sleeping accommodation -

- (a) must not be overcrowded;
- (b) must contain adequate space for the occupants to store their clothes; and
- (c) shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be occupied only by such number of persons as is consistent with reasonable privacy and comfort, having regard to the features of the room.

62. Accommodation must include a sufficient number of showers and washing facilities equipped with clean hot and cold running water.

63. Showers must be sufficiently spacious to permit each worker to wash without hindrance in suitably hygienic conditions.

64. Accommodation must be equipped with a sufficient number of lavatories and washbasins.

65. Where there are both men and women on an installation there shall be separate -

- (a) sleeping rooms;
- (b) shower rooms, or provision for separate use of shower rooms; and
- (c) lavatories and washbasins, or provision for separate use of lavatories and washbasins,

for men and women.

66. Accommodation and its plant must be maintained to adequate standards of hygiene.

Noise and vibration of plant

67. (1) Measures shall be taken to ensure that the exposure of a person on an installation to a risk to his health or safety from noise or vibration of plant shall be prevented or, where that is not reasonably practicable, adequately controlled.

(2) The measures required by sub-paragraph (1) shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be measures other than the provision of personal protective equipment.

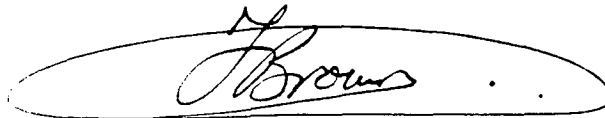
Regulation 26

SCHEDULE 2

REVOCATION

Reference	Title	Extent of revocation
SD 269/95	The Offshore Installations (Well Control) Regulations 1995	The whole Regulations
SD 276/95	The Offshore Installations (Operational Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations 1995	Regulations 3 and 4; In regulation 5(1) the words "without prejudice to the generality of regulation 4 above"; Regulations 10 and 11; Parts I and II of Schedule 1; and Schedule 3.
SD 469/95	The Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1995	The whole Regulations, except regulation 14 and Schedule 3.

Made ^{18th} April, 1997



Minister for Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations contain requirements for ensuring that offshore oil and gas installations, and oil and gas wells are designed, constructed and kept in a sound structural state, and other requirements affecting them, for purposes of health and safety.

The Regulations apply to offshore installations in Manx waters. They give effect to Council Directive 92/91/EEC concerning the minimum requirements for improving the safety and health of workers in the mineral extracting industries through drilling.

Part I deals with the interpretation and the application of the regulations.

Part II is concerned with the structural soundness, strength, stability and buoyancy of installations. Duties are imposed on the duty holder relating to -

- (a) maintaining the integrity of the installations at all times;
- (b) its design;
- (c) work on the installation;
- (d) the way it is operated;
- (e) arrangements for maintaining its integrity;
- (f) reporting to the Health and Safety Executive of danger to the installation; and
- (g) decommissioning and dismantlement.

Part III contains requirements relating to the helicopter landing area of an offshore installation. Detailed requirements relating to the layout and facilities of the installation are specified in Schedule 1.

The regulations in Part IV impose requirements affecting oil and gas wells on the well-operator relating to -

- (a) the general reduction of risk;
- (b) assessment of conditions below ground;
- (c) design and construction;
- (d) the materials used;
- (e) well control equipment;
- (f) arrangements for examination of the well, and information relating to it;
- (g) the provision of information to the Health and Safety Executive;

- (h) Co-operation with the well-operator; and
- (i) information, instruction, training and supervision.

Part V deals with defences at law to prosecutions, certificates of exemption, and transitional provisions.

The Regulations revoke the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) regs and the Offshore Installations (Well Control) regs.