

Highlights



Photo: Oil Gas Denmark

- > 'Collaboration is key', Gordon tells safety conference
- > Gas as part of an 'energy miracle'
- > Geomatics webinar reaches global audience
- > The Japanese have a word for it

"Everything IOGP does is a work of collaboration"

Gordon Ballard
Executive Director, IOGP

'Collaboration is key', Gordon tells safety conference

'Everything IOGP does is a work of collaboration,' the Association's Executive Director Gordon Ballard told a national industry meeting on 14 April. He was speaking at Oil Gas Denmark's Task Force Zero (TFZ) event in Esbjerg.

Gordon was one of several industry leaders invited to the country's upstream capital for a session devoted to safety. He cited the example of IOGP's Global Industry Response Group (GIRG), which was established to recommend initiatives on major incident prevention, intervention and response based on lessons learned from Macondo in 2010. These recommendations are being implemented, he said.

Such cross-industry cooperation is always a good thing 'whether during good times or bad,' he added. Referring to current market conditions, Gordon went on to say that 'Tighter budgets make us reorganise our priorities. This can mean looking at more efficient ways to carry out some projects. And even dropping others. But never, in my 30 years in the industry, have I known any company to cut corners on safety as a way of economising. Doing that would be immoral. It would also be bad business.'

On the other hand, safety improvements, he said, 'benefit everyone, which is why they are a crucial platform for collaboration. So are issues concerning health, corporate social responsibility and sustainability. All of these – which are integral to IOGP's remit – transcend the concept of competition.'

If there is any silver lining in the cloud of low oil prices, he added, it is in the potential for additional areas of cooperation and collaboration.

Citing an IOGP example, he described a new joint industry project initiated in conjunction with the World Economic Forum. It is looking at harmonising certain component specifications among the Association's members. 'Consider the efficiencies and savings to be achieved if bearings or ball-valves, for example, were standardised rather than produced to individual specs for individual offshore platforms,' Gordon said.

Collaboration is also crucial to the biggest challenge facing our industry: extending and renewing its social licence to operate, he continued.

With that in mind, IOGP has embarked on a new area of collaboration to increase wider awareness of the importance of oil and gas – not just now but for decades to come.

Continued from front page

Gordon went on to describe the campaign's key messages. These include:

- the essential role of oil and gas for heat, light and transport
- the need for a balanced energy portfolio that takes into account affordability and security of supply as well as climate change implications
- the advantages of cleaner-burning natural gas for power generation in particular and as a backup for variable outputs from renewables
- the part that oil plays in transport, agriculture and industry
- the ability of oil and gas to lift billions of people out of poverty – continuing a trend that began 150 years ago.

'We're aiming to make decision-makers and opinion leaders around the globe aware of oil and gas as integral to the world's sustainable energy future,' Gordon said. 'We don't expect to change global opinion overnight. Or in the next few months. Or even in a year. But in a disciplined, organised, cost-effective way, we do want to ensure that our industry becomes a recognised part of a debate that so far has been dangerously one-sided. It's only by working together – by collaborating on this most important topic of all – that we can make a difference.'

'If we don't succeed in this communications effort, we won't have an industry to operate safely in,' Gordon concluded.

Gas as part of an 'energy miracle'



Following up on Bill Gates's recent comment that the world needs 'an energy miracle', François-Régis Mouton, Chair of GasNaturally, has said: 'We are not there yet. But we can start laying the ground for future progress. Natural gas has already delivered improvements in emissions and air quality... the US would have been in a much more difficult position in Paris (at last year's COP21 summit) were it not for the emission reductions achieved thanks to more gas (and less coal) in producing electricity.' François-Régis's thoughts on gas appeared as an editorial in a recent issue of EurActiv, an independent European online media platform.

IOGP is GasNaturally's leading member.

Expanding his argument in Euractiv, François-Régis cited figures from the International Energy Agency (IEA) that showed how, to meet a rigorous limit to the rise in global temperature of no more than 2°C, the world 'will have to use more natural gas in 2040 than we did in 2013, to cover 22% of the world's primary energy demand. The solution to the climate problem is not getting rid of gas, but using it intelligently – for example in partnership with renewables', he said.

Directing his comments at the European Union (EU), which is GasNaturally's primary stakeholder, he went on to say that 'If the EU wants to play the leading role in the global CO₂ reductions it has always been seeking, it must make the right choices today. Too many continue to support coal, relying on renewables to offset

its huge CO₂ harm – wasting most, if not all, the great benefits of hydro, wind and solar. The EU needs to make the most of the Post-COP21 momentum and ensure it doesn't lag behind by supporting outdated energies.'

This would involve a phase-out of coal, he said. 'Gas emits half the CO₂ and fewer particles in power production. Most importantly, it brings the flexibility needed to integrate renewables – which are by definition variable – in the power market.' As part of this, he said, 'Private investments will be needed, for example, to keep improving the gas network. To commit big money, companies will need clear signals that their products will continue to have a market. Again, a clear move from coal to gas would send that signal, while also encouraging new uses for gas, such as in shipping and heavy-duty vehicles.'

'Finally, we should continue to pursue a long-term vision by investing now in new technologies that will make that "energy miracle" happen. Our industry is committed to playing its part in developing innovations like biogas, power to gas and, for the longer term, carbon capture and storage,' he said.

These actions would enhance the partnership between gas and renewables. The result, he concluded would put us on the right track to deliver that energy miracle.

Geomatics webinar reaches global audience

In the interests of greater efficiency, lower costs and enhanced reach, IOGP's Geomatics Committee held its first webinar on 10 March, hosted by Walter Jardine, chair of the Geophysical Operations Sub-committee. The virtual event attracted 60 E&P Operator participants from around the world, drawn by presentations from Andy Hill of BP and Tony Blackburn, who recently retired from a senior position in the E&P Operator domain.

Andy's session focused on recent updates to the 2011 Guidelines for the conduct of offshore drilling hazard site surveys (IOGP report 373-18-1) and the new Technical Notes, which he explained, provide more detailed guidance. This material includes supporting technical information and background theory on the various equipment, planning, acquisition, processing and interpretation techniques used in a site survey project.

Tony spoke about significant updates to the seismic navigation data formats (P1, P2 and P6) of which the Geomatics Committee is the

custodian. Following a thorough review of these between 2009 and 2011, IOGP reissued them as P1/11, P2/11 and P6/11, replacing formats that were 20-25 years old. Subsequently, the legacy formats were deprecated and revision 1.1 of the P1/11 and P2/11 formats was issued. As Tony explained in the webinar, this revision incorporates improvements suggested by the user community. The new formats should be stable for the foreseeable future, he added, and are more suitable than the legacy formats, for the myriad of seismic techniques now available in the industry, including 3D, 4D and 4C marine tow and OBC/OBN and also land seismic.



For those who missed the live webinar, the material presented is available on the IOGP Geomatics pages:

<http://www.iogp.org/Geomatics#2521696-geophysical-operations>

The Japanese have a word for it

As a global organization, IOGP wants its reports and recommended practices to have global application. To help achieve that level of impact with limited resources, the Association has relied on the dedication and generosity of Members to provide translations for those documents that they think might be more useful in a language other than English. As a result, some IOGP documents are now available in Russian, French, Chinese, Spanish and Portuguese.

The latest company to tackle such valuable work is Tokyo-based INPEX, which has taken the initiative to provide Japanese editions of two important IOGP reports: *Operating management system framework* (originally published in 2014) and *Shaping safety culture through safety leadership* (originally published in 2013).

While translated IOGP reports don't have official standing, they do provide a welcome way to spread the Association's commitment to safety, the environment protection and improved operational efficiencies to a wider global audience.



Meetings Calendar

June 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Standards - Coatings SC ☎	1
Case for Oil and Gas TF	2
Comms Com	2
Legal Com	3
EU - Emissions Trading SC ☎	3
JIP 33 Steering Com	7
Safety - Land Transportation Safety SC	8-9
Environment Com ☎	9
Standards - Instrumentation & Automation SC	9-10
EU - Energy Market SC	15
Standards - Administration TF ☎	21
Standards - Specifications Workshop TF ☎	22
EU Com	28
Standards - Information Standards SC ☎	29
IOGP/IPIECA Joint Heads TF	30
AGM	30
Man Com ☎	30

Meeting types are abbreviated as follows: Committee **(Com)**
 Subcommittee **(SC)** Task Force **(TF)**
 Teleconference **(☎)**
 Working Group **(WG)**

Contact us

Registered Office

City Tower
 40 Basinghall Street
 14th Floor
 London EC2V 5DE
 United Kingdom

T +44 (0)20 3763 9700
 F +44 (0)20 3763 9701
 reception@iogp.org

Brussels Office

Bd du Souverain, 165
 4th Floor
 B-1160 Brussels
 Belgium

T +32 (0)2 566 9150
 F +32 (0)2 566 9159
 reception@iogp.org

Houston Office

10777 Westheimer Road
 Suite 1100
 Houston, Texas 77042
 United States

T +1 (713) 470 0315
 reception@iogp.org