

2.10. When the Construction and Survey Regulations were being prepared it was realised that the rapid evolution of offshore technology could be inhibited if the regulations specified technical details. The regulations were therefore broadly framed and the D/Energy published the non-statutory "Guidance on the Design and Construction of Offshore Installations" in 1974. The aim was to make detailed technical guidance available in a form which could be readily up-dated without recourse to Parliamentary procedures. Knowledge on installation design and construction was then much less complete and research was initiated by the Department in a number of areas. As the results of this work became available and in the light of operational experience it became clear that the "Guidance Notes" needed substantial revision. This was carried through and a second edition of the handbook was published in 1977. D/Energy intends that further revisions will be made from time to time as necessary.

2.11. *Diving Operations Regulations 1974.* These regulations lay duties on concession owners, installation owners and managers, masters of vessels and employers of divers for the provision of equipment and compliance with procedures for diving operations. They require the appointment of diving supervisors to exercise immediate control of diving operations, and the keeping of divers logbooks. Divers must be certified fit by approved doctors and, unless experienced, may only dive after instruction and under close supervision. Diving equipment must be tested periodically and examined daily, and arrangements must be made for rescue services.

2.12. *Operational Safety, Health and Welfare Regulations 1976.* Concession owners, installation owners and managers and all employers and employees are required to ensure compliance with the provisions of these regulations, which promote the use of safe working practices on and near offshore installations. Competent persons must be appointed to take charge of various potentially hazardous operations, and all operational personnel must be either fully experienced themselves or work under close supervision of someone who is. Each installation must have at least one trained medical attendant on board and a comprehensive medical store.

2.13. *Emergency Procedures Regulations 1976.* These require that every installation which is normally manned has an Emergency Procedures Manual specifying the actions to be taken in the event of such incidents as blow-out, fire, collision, and structural failure. Everyone on board the installation must know his duties in an emergency, and regular practice drills must be held. The regulations also require a "standby vessel" to be within five nautical miles of every installation and capable of accommodating everyone on board in the event of evacuation of the installation.

2.14. *Life-Saving Appliances Regulations 1977.* This instrument requires the provision of survival craft, life-saving equipment and general alarm and public address equipment on installations which are normally manned. Life-saving appliances must be examined—the examinations are carried out by surveyors of Marine Division, Department of Trade, acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy.