

TOOLBOX TALK

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This issue is a diverse offering which will hopefully strike a chord with all of you at some point during the read

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Not worth the risk

One of the sad realities of the Oil and Gas service sector is the occurrence of alcohol and drug related incidents. WWG are no more or no less immune to such events than any other company involved in the industry. No matter how many times we point out such matters and bring to attention our drugs and alcohol policies there are still incidents of abuse. Such incidents are damaging to our hard fought efforts to build relationships of trust with our client community and for that reason we continue to rigorously enforce both our own drug and alcohol policies and those of our clients.

It seems that some people think

they are too clever for the system and can cheat it by abstaining from recreational drugs leading up to a medical examination when a ten-point drug screen is mandatory with WWG. The reality is that both rig owners and operating companies can and regularly do arrange random drug screening at the departure heliport or reception buildings if onshore. In addition to this, WWG also carries out random drug screening checks on our contractors... if you get caught out there are no second chances!

Breath tests for alcohol are also carried out randomly. Our drug and alcohol policy specifically states that there must be a 24-hour abstinence

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from consuming alcohol before commencing an assignment. It is worth remembering that acceptable thresholds of mgs of alcohol per litre blood do change from one country to the next and the best policy is to totally abstain when out on contract so that there can be no doubt.

Strangely enough, people will swear black and blue that they don't ever take drugs and that they don't drink on assignments either, only for the very same people to be the subject of a positive breath or urine test carried out randomly 24 hours before travel.

Drug and alcohol policy enforcement is an area where our clients never show leniency

It seems so obvious that to take risks in these areas is a complete no brainer. Not only are you risking your own safety but also that of your co-workers. Without exception, 'caught out' individuals are always gushingly sorry but, by then of course, it is always too late.

Other than the safety risk there is always the commercial damage that such an incident can do to an individual's ability to make a living and the knock on effect that this then has on home life. It is simply not worth the risk.

Drug and alcohol policy enforcement is an area where our clients will never show leniency and once a positive drug or alcohol test has been made it will invariably lead to a ban.

The majority of people fully understand the importance of these policies in our industry and take a mature and sensible approach to such matters. Social drinking is part of western culture and nobody is suggesting that you need to give this up. Please enjoy a responsible social drink when you are not on a job, just make sure that you can cross the line when it comes to going to work!

Offshore workers sized up!

A study into the size of offshore oil workers has been announced. Figures available to the UK industry indicate that each worker is, on average, 19% heavier than in the mid-1980s.

Weight is routinely measured before offshore helicopter flights. Scans have been taking place of 600 workers to determine whether the offshore infrastructure can cope with the current workforce.

The industry said it wanted to know if workers were taller or just heavier. The process of gathering and analysing the data is expected to take two years.

Dr Arthur Stewart, of Robert Gordon University's obesity research centre, said: "The only thing we know about the current

offshore workforce is its weight. We suspect some of that increase may be down to an increase in height, but more probably an increase in body size."

Robert Paterson, health and safety director at industry body Oil and Gas UK, said the information would help in future with issues such as survival suit and room sizes.



Safety snippet

This photograph just goes to show how a fully certified manufactured air hose is not always as it should be or as it may appear. Without whip-checks fitted this hose could have taken someone's eye out, or perhaps worse! Always ensure that whip-checks and 'R' clips are fitted in the correct way. Fortunately, on this occasion, all safety precautions were in place to prevent injury to personnel operating this equipment.

CLUB COMMUNIQUE

ARRIVALS

Mark Cox is the proud dad of identical twin boys born on 23rd December 2012. Cole Harley was born weighing 4lbs 10oz and Billy Cruz was born weighing 4lbs 5oz. The boys were six weeks premature due to a few problems and they had to stay in hospital for two weeks.

The twins are now doing really well and currently weigh 9lbs 6oz (Cole) and 9lbs 1oz (Billy) – congratulations to you all!

Dan Pavitt is a Grandad! Dan's son Sam and his daughter-in-law Cheri announced the safe arrival of their son, Fraser Samuel, born on 31st January weighing 7lb 11oz. Congratulations to Dan and his family.

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING IN THE AIR AT WELLWISE!



First Aaron Childerhouse proposes to his girlfriend (as reported in our last issue). Now **Ashley Fryer** our Administration Assistant has been asked

'the question' by her boyfriend. Ashley and Kevin have known each other since high school but they did not get together until they went to College. A few years later Kevin began to believe she was the one for him. They moved into

LIFE BEGINS!

Brigitte Galenski (WWG Credit Control and Sales Ledger) and her husband Matt decided to have a party for family and friends to celebrate B's 40th birthday. Brigitte decided she wanted to have an 80's themed fancy dress party and of course her WWG colleagues were invited – can you recognise anybody?



their own home in 2009. A little kitten called Boo appeared, parties, celebrations and BBQ's were held. Then Kevin was talked into getting a puppy Labrador who they called Jenson (yes he was named after Jenson Button the Formula 1 racing driver). When Kevin proposed he scattered candles all over the house and garden and stood waiting to surprise her when she arrived home after an evening out with her friends. Of course Ashley said yes and their special day is booked for June 2014.

WEDDING

On 15th September 2012 WWG contractor **Xavier Tracol** married his wife, Virginie, at Romans Sur Isère, South East of France, after four years of living together. Xavier told us that the weather was lovely and all the guests enjoyed the celebration after the wedding.



NEW START

Damiano Vendramini (pictured) joined us in February as Software Development Engineer. Damiano has a wealth of experience in IT and is looking forward to improving our Matrix Management Systems & Databases. Damiano hails from Verona, Italy... so we are all looking forward to his cooking and wine selections.



BERNIE MURPHY SPONSORED DIP!

Bernie completed a sponsored swim in the North Sea for Cystic Fibrosis on Sunday 24th February. The event raised over £11,000 for the charity. Unfortunately we don't have any pictures of Bernie in the water as it was rather chaotic, however, we do have this picture of him and his mate looking extremely cold. Well done Bernie!



CLIVE CURTIS REACHES THE BIG 50!

To celebrate David, Dan, Glenn, Wayne & Clive visited Poland. Poland is always somewhere Clive has wanted to visit to see the medieval City Square and of course nearby Auschwitz. Flights were diverted and the crew ended up driving in dense fog to find their way back to Krakov. We also believe the Cherry Vodka went down well!



Do you have any news you would like to share with us? Email: theclub@wellwisegroup.com

Competency

If you think Competency is only related to the North Sea and is not a significant factor for overseas contractors you are mistaken!

SQA external verifier and competency system guru, Ron Gray, travelled to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in April to host a three day seminar to increase understanding of competency in the Far East to an eager audience supported by majors such as Asia Oil and Gas and the China Energy Forum.

In the oil and gas industry, competence is one of the most significant issues currently being addressed globally.

BP's investigation into the Deepwater Horizon accident listed competence as a key factor in the investigation recommendation objectives:

“Developing a certification process to assure and maintain proficiency. Conduct periodic assessments of competence that should include testing of knowledge and demonstrations of practical application of skills”

In a nutshell, should the need arise, you will be required to prove you are competent or working towards an approved competency award.

Complacency is a personal risk evaluation made by an individual that a nasty eventuality is never going to affect them – we can assume with some degree of certainty that many workers on the Deep Water Horizon felt the same!

COMPETENCY COMPLETION CASE STUDY

Jon Beale has successfully completed his Data Acquisition portfolio. Here's what Jon had to say about the course:

“When I first started the competency course I expected to do it in well under a year. However, I didn't get ‘stuck in to it’ for a while, stalling on difficult course requirements.

I must say that on taking up such issues with Wellwise, the

competency support team did their best to clarify any points that came to light, and where certain objectives weren't possible, provided alternative solutions.

Some of the objectives were less than directly related to my day-to-day job so gathering the required information gave me an interesting insight into the role of colleagues that work as part of our well test crews”

Jon Beale (left) receiving his certificate from Wayne Palmby, Service Line Manager at WWG



COMPETENCY COMPLETION CASE STUDY

In our last Toolbox Talk edition we informed you that Mircea Balaban had successfully completed his competency portfolio. He said:

"I enrolled on the Data Acquisition competency scheme in November 2010 after a chat I had with Glenn. The next step was the induction which was straightforward and made things clear regarding how everything should be completed. In the competency scheme there were two sections: 'Health and Safety' and, for me, 'Data Acquisition'. Each of these had three columns of items that should be completed: Evidence, Questions and Witness Testimonies.

The easiest for me was questions. It was easy because you don't need to be on a job to answer them, all you need is the knowledge. The evidence

was not very difficult to gather with the exposure I had. Initially I thought it would take me less time to finish it all but there was quite a bit of materials to prepare. Two years is a fair amount of time to finish it. The most difficult part was the witness testimony. Getting supervisors to sign these was sometimes quite difficult because of high activity but again two years is enough time. The testimony form was easy to understand and complete. The support email address always replied to my questions which was very helpful. The communication tab had the reasons why one or more of the uploads had been rejected. The rejecting reasons were always explained clearly.

My overall experience was very good."

Social Media - Beware!



a number of troublesome downsides; in this case we are talking Social Media.

We have grown accustomed to sharing each and every breath that we take, with anyone who wants to listen, many times not appreciating just who gets to read our varied thoughts of both positive and negative.

From politicians to footballers, celebrities to social climbers and wannabes to has-beens, we have all at times said things that eventually come

back to bite and social media is the latest potentially contentious soapbox from which to broadcast anything and everything in accordance with how you see it to the world.

Without wanting to sound like Big Brother, please refrain from using social media when the subject of work-related topics come up, such as locations, rig names, operational issues, company names or personnel.

We have all become accustomed to using the web on a daily basis; where would our busy lives be without it? 24-hour news, text messaging and advertising, the list is endless and all delivered to a handheld device or PC anywhere in the world – it is the stuff of a James Bond movie; how did we ever cope without it?

For all the many positives that the worldwide web brings to our daily lives, there are of course

TRAVELLER PROFILES

WWG already hold a wealth of information concerning contractors in our databases, some of which may be securely accessed from our websites (<https://>) by clients and contractors alike.

When it comes to arranging air travel we are often asked about frequent flyer loyalty card numbers, seat and meal preferences. We are currently planning to modify sections of our contractor database to include additional fields to store and retrieve this kind of information so that when you rock up at the check-in desk more of that time-consuming stuff has already been completed for you.



....and finally Well Done!



Paul Goodwin

We received this letter from a client in KSA

We received this email from a client in Holland in relation to the following contractors: **Robert Ballantyne, John Batho, Christian Jacobs, Alec Burt, Simon Shreeve, Ian Kirkland and John Brissenden.**

Gents

The wash up meeting for the test on the rig was held yesterday.

Three main points were highlighted by our client as to what made the job a success.

- 1.All required equipment was available and delivered on time.
- 2.The package was capable of the extreme rates it was designed for.
- 3.The competency, commitment and motivation of the crew involved.

I'd just like to thank you all for the efforts made to make this test the success that it was. It's not always the case that clients openly praise our crews, but for this test I think they had point 3 above at the top of their list.

Once again, many thanks for a great job done by all.

Cheers!