

Highlights



IOGP Executive Director Gordon Ballard welcomes new EU Affairs Director François-Régis Mouton

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IOGP welcomes a familiar face as new Director for Europe

François-Régis Mouton is IOGP's new EU Affairs Director, based in Brussels. He succeeds Roland Festor, who has retired after almost five years with the Association. François-Régis previously represented Total on IOGP's EU and Communications Committees.

He joins IOGP's secretariat with 30 years of international experience in the oil & gas industry. At Total, he was, most recently, Vice President for Oil & Gas Advocacy. Previously, his career encompassed reservoir engineering in Europe and Africa, gas and power business development in the UK and Northern Europe, a senior advisory role in the World Bank's Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership and European Affairs activities in Brussels.

In 2011, François-Régis also founded GasNaturally, a now well-established Brussels-based partnership representing the entire European gas value chain. He served four terms as Chairman and was instrumental in formulating the organization's position on 'the future of gas in a post-COP21 environment'.

Considering his new role at IOGP, François-Régis says:

"Europe's energy landscape is evolving and so is the way we use oil & gas. Our industry will retain an important role in the decades to come and my focus will be to help raise its profile

and communicate what this role looks like in a lower carbon environment. I look forward to building closer links with the EU Institutions and governments, but also to finding synergies with other industrial sectors, including renewables, because the challenges we face can only be solved through common action."

In announcing this new appointment, IOGP Executive Director Gordon Ballard said:

"We are delighted to have him steer the Association's European activities at a time that requires an innovative and bold approach. François-Régis has already contributed enormously to the work of IOGP's various Committees in his time at Total; we now look forward to drawing on his expertise as our new EU Affairs Director."

François-Régis holds a Master's degree in Reservoir Engineering from the French Institute of Petroleum and is also a graduate of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes d'Ingénieur.

CEPSA becomes IOGP's newest member

The Association's newest member – 77th and counting – was Spain's first private oil company, founded in 1929.

CEPSA's upstream experience dates back more than 30 years and today upstream activities extend to five continents. The company's diverse portfolio includes operation of Algeria's largest oil field (alongside IOGP member Sonatrach), as well as activity in the Peruvian jungle, the plains of Colombia and offshore Abu Dhabi, Thailand and Malaysia. CEPSA's gross production is 205,000 barrels of oil per day.

Wherever CEPSA operates, sustainable growth is the company's consistent goal. This includes, 'in areas most in need of aid' participation in 'projects to promote their development and generate a positive impact.'

CEPSA's IOGP Member Representative is Mahyar Golabi.



Making the case for oil & gas

Point...

In a world that constantly questions the future of oil and gas, one of IOGP's primary goals is to inform key audiences – including law makers, regulators, journalists, academia, those who work in the industry and the wider public – about the essential role our industry plays in their daily lives. Now and for decades to come.

Senior IOGP staff have a mission to promote that idea, largely based on independent data produced by the International Energy Agency. In January, IOGP Executive Director Gordon Ballard and Global Engagement Manager Olaf Martins did just that.

Gordon's first presentation of the year took IOGP's key messages to Florence, Italy, where Baker Hughes (an IOGP member and GE company) had invited him to participate in the BHGE Annual Meeting. This event brings together global leaders to debate key issues and learn more about the latest innovations associated Baker Hughes's core business. The 2018 theme was 'inventing smarter ways' to handle the 'changing market realities and constant uncertainty' that mean 'the industry will continue to face pressures from all directions.'

Gordon's role was to participate in a 'fireside chat' with Jérôme Péresse, President & CEO of GE Renewable Energy. Their discussion, before a plenary audience on 29 January, addressed 'the broadly shared misconception that there is no role for oil and gas in a lower carbon world.'

The aim of their dialogue was to help the audience understand 'how a balanced approach is essential to achieving shared COP21 goals on greenhouse gas emissions.' Their discussion also focused on exploring the ways how 'fossil fuels and renewable sources together will shape the future of energy.'

Gordon set the scene by evoking his childhood memories of the 'spaghetti westerns' of his childhood; Italian-made films like *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* starring a young Clint Eastwood. The



villains usually wore black hats and the heroes sported white hats. 'Now continue along that train of thought,' Gordon told the audience 'and imagine me wearing the bad guy's black hat and my friend Jerome sporting a heroic white Stetson. Because it's as simple as that. In the eyes of much of the world – and that includes legislators, policy-makers, heads of NGOs and some journalists – oil and gas are evil. And renewables are good.'

'But renewables alone can't meet the world's growing energy needs,' he said. Citing the International Energy Agency's most optimistic low-carbon forecast for 2040, he pointed out that renewables – including hydro and biofuels – will only be able to meet about 30% of energy demand. 'Oil and gas will form about half of the energy mix then. Just as they do now. So it turns out that the villains – us – will have to come to the aid of the good guys after all.'

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He went on to quote Maria Moreaus Hanssen, the new CEO of DEA Deutsche Erdoel, who said:

"It is not immoral to explore, develop and produce oil and gas. It is difficult and challenging, and for many, many years, oil and gas will still be a prerequisite for keeping society going. Oil and gas companies' biggest challenge is still not declining demand, but how to find more oil and gas to compensate for the natural decline from existing fields."

Gordon concluded by stressing the need for an open debate on the future of energy, with all points of view open for consideration.

...Counterpoint

But that didn't happen when Olaf made his first presentation of the year. He had been invited by the Durham Energy Institute, part of that northern English city's prestigious university.

Half way through his talk on the future role of oil and gas in a low carbon economy, a group of about a dozen masked protesters stormed into the room and shouted him down. They then staged a 'die-in', lying prone on the floor while shouting slogans about the environment.

"I let them shout their slogans and then invited one of the protestors to address the meeting, thinking that they would allow me to continue with my presentation. I was wrong. As soon as the demonstrator's representative finished criticising the University for providing a platform for me, the chanting began again. Fortunately, there was an adjacent room available so the rest of the audience and I carefully picked our way through the 'die-in' to continue our session in peace," Olaf recalls.



The incident, which made the UK national press, prompted the University's Vice Chancellor, Professor Stuart Corbridge, to insist that:

"Durham University is committed to freedom of expression within the law and encourages free expression and debate amongst our staff, students and visitors. This reflects our core values as a university. We recognise the right to protest. However, action that prevents the free exchange of ideas is unacceptable. We will be investigating the circumstances that led to the Durham Energy Institute debate being closed early, with urgency."

And will Olaf risk future talks in support of our industry?

"That's my job. Just as many people in our industry explain and sometimes defend their own jobs with their families and friends or in public – because we're convinced that what we're doing is important. But as Durham demonstrated, it's always good to have a spare room available next door to continue the debate in peace."

New report focuses on diver evacuation

It's the stuff of offshore operational nightmares: A ship, offshore rig or platform needs to be evacuated in an emergency. But down below, or in a bell or a pressurized habitat on board, are deepsea divers going about their business. How do you evacuate them to safety while keeping them in saturation to prevent the serious and potentially fatal consequences of an un-managed decompression – commonly known as 'the bends'?

One of IOGP's first publications of the year is a revision of Report 478 which tackles this dilemma by providing recommended practice on how to create and implement an effective hyperbaric evacuation plan. Report 478 builds on Report 411 2008, Diving recommended Practice by taking into account a decade's experience and improved understanding of the importance of methods for the successful evacuation of saturation divers.

While the report does not provide technical solutions – which generally come from regulators, industry associations and classification societies – it does recommend minimum performance criteria for key aspects of diver evacuation. These aspects include treatment area locations and the provision and status of essential equipment.



This revision updates the sections on emergency drills and training and provides two tools to help users implement the guidance:

a template for a Hyperbaric Evacuation Plan (HEP) – produced together with the International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA), a Safety Critical Element Analysis for a HEP and an example Matrix of permitted operations..

Report 478 and its new appendices are available to IOGP members on their dedicated website: www.extranet.iogp.org

Non-members can download the report by registering in the publications area of www.iogp.org



Put Abu Dhabi in your April diary

Come April, many of our industry's leading figures in health, safety, security, the environment and social responsibility will gather in Abu Dhabi for the SPE's biennial HSSE-SR Conference.

Immediately following that event, on Thursday, 19 April, IOGP and IPIECA are joining forces to run our own event: an International Oil & Gas Showcase.

Open to all IOGP and IPIECA members as well as other industry representatives, the Showcase will highlight a range of good practices from each Association – specially selected for particular relevance in the Middle East.

The main feature of the Showcase will be interactive poster sessions. These will cover:

- Well control
- Safety
- Security
- Environmental management, including water and biodiversity
- The UN's Sustainable Development Goals
- Climate change
- Oil spill preparedness and response

To register for the Showcase on Thursday 19 April and dinner the preceding night, contact Dianne James on dj@iogp.org

Also featured will be updates by IOGP and IPIECA Executive Directors Gordon Ballard and Brian Sullivan, both of whom will focus on their respective Associations' accomplishments and current activities.

'With so many people from our industry gathered in Abu Dhabi in April, flying the flag for IOGP and IPIECA was too good an opportunity to miss. Our International Oil & Gas Showcase will provide participants with valuable insights into upstream operations as well as the scope for global networking,' Gordon says.

Those who sign up for the Showcase will also receive an invitation to the IOGP dinner at the Jumereiah Eithad Tower Hotel the night before.

The Showcase sponsor is ADNOC, which is hosting the Showcase at their office overlooking the Corniche. ADNOC will also present a keynote address and provide lunch for all participants.

Meetings Calendar

February 2018

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				

Standards – Offshore Structures SC **S** 5

Safety – Diving Operations SC 6

EU – Energy Market SC 7

Safety – Diving Industry WG 8

Communications Com 8

Subsea – Flexible Pipe Life Extension Network 20-22

Safety – Aviation SC 25-26

Standards – Offshore Structures SC Specs Group **S** 26

Standards – Requirements Digitalization Task Force **S** 27

EU – Transparency TF 28

Meeting types are abbreviated as follows:

Committee (Com)

Skype **S**

Subcommittee (SC)

Task Force (TF)

Teleconference **T**

Webex **W**

Working Group (WG)

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