



Welcome to our first Toolbox Talk of 2009!

In a few short months , the global economic climate has changed at a pace beyond belief. For the most part and up until now, our service provision has been unaffected.

International Rig Count has undergone a steady decline since the back end of Summer 2008. Rig Count of course is and always has been a reliable market indicator for activity levels throughout the industry in parallel with oil prices. There is always a certain amount of lag in the system, so while Rig Count and Oil prices have fallen, the full effects of such downturn have yet to be seen at our end of the business. Many existing projects continue keeping current activity levels high. Other new projects are sometimes not started or cancelled altogether, the effect of which has yet to emerge.

Continued...

Photo competition is back!

Thanks to all of you who have sent in photos over the few months. We had forty five photos up to the end of January – any photos received after this date will roll forward to the next quarter competition.

This quarter's winner is Lisa Prior with a photo of Elmina in Ghana.

Lee was on Standby to go offshore for the first Well Test off Takoradi in Ghana. "I knew we had some days in hand so I got the driver to take me to a place called Elmina about 3 hours down the coast where one of the many slave trading forts was. I went on a tour inside the Fort and took this picture from the roof top looking back over the local fishing village"



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Happily there are globally diverse pockets of activity that continue to be strong protecting our contracting workforce, so far, from the prospect of reduced activity levels. Correction in the market is likely to be a reality at some stage in 2009 and we all have to make preparations and plans to best ride the inevitable storm.

At Wellwise Group we have been building our service offering for many years. Sometimes the value of what we have built has not always been fully appreciated by either clients or contractors. More recently though, at a time when the wheat is being separated from the chaff, we are starting to see our interest from our community of clients and contractors strengthen in the value of our offering; the fundamental differences between WWG and the plethora of poorly managed companies purporting to be in the market to provide a similar service. In particular our QHSE and Competency System offerings stand out as being of a different and much higher quality class. We are beginning to see an increasing amount of interest from both our client and contracting community concerning our SQA approved Competency Systems. At a time when activity levels may decrease we are witnessing a renewed take up and interest on all quality related offerings.

As a contractor you can now be certain that your loyalty and commitment to WWG over the years has paid dividends in that together we have created a strong quality offering that will stand up against the most stringent client inspection and is actually very often the envy of many whom we have had the pleasure of demonstrating it too recently. From a Client perspective, WWG have been the strongest player in the contractual service personnel business for more than



twenty years but we have never rested on our laurels . We remain the company of choice for our clients old and new, recognised by them all as a strong, progressive company with the highest quality QHSE standards perpetually maintained and or improved over many years.

Contractors that are not yet enrolled in our competency scheme are encouraged to "get involved now" while you are still able to demonstrate your quality commitment prior to any client driven forced necessity. The time is fast approaching when competency accredited contractors will be preferentially utilised over those that have not yet made a commitment in this direction.

Our new competency system – The Wellwise Group Well Services Award - is all digital , web based and is, in all honesty, a step change simpler to work through than the original paper based scheme. Talk to Jo Abrey, Dan Pavitt, Ann Corner or David Mason to find out more.

Club communique

- Brigitte Galenski our Credit Controller gave birth to a baby girl Anya Sophia Galenski on October 21st, 2008. Anya arrived over a week early and caught everyone by surprise! Congratulations to both Brigitte and Matt. Brigitte hopes to be back to work at the beginning of April.
- Kerry Rose from Expro Gt. Yarmouth gave birth to a baby girl Evie May in February. Congratulations!
- Mark Elrick received £50 in vouchers from Schlumberger Aberdeen for excellent work carried out by the crew on the job on Nexen.
- Version 3 of the Wellwise Group Health & Safety Manual is now available via our website www.wellwisegroup.com
- Please note that back issues of the Newsletter are now available from the website – to read them just log in and click the link on the right.



The quarterly news feed from the Wellwise Group

The best people offshore

Contractors will travel



Not only do our Contractor's choose to travel half way around the world to work, they like to travel for their holiday's also!

Our latest traveller sharing his story is Richard Matthews. Richard has been working for us as a Well Test Supervisor since 2002.

Richard travelled with his Grandson Benjamin to the Himalayas in September last year . The trip was a specialized one for the Royal Enfield Motorbikes (Richards favourite bike – he rides one at his home in Spain!). There are only 20 riders on each trip and only 3 trips per year. They had to book nearly 2 years in advance to secure their place.



Their trip started on the 13th September (Richards 62nd birthday!) in Delhi with a five hour train journey to Shimla were they picked up their motorbikes – Royal Enfield Bullett, ready for the real trip Sarala; Sanglia; Tabo; Kaza; Losar. It was a really arduous trip as it rained and there were landslides. It was the worst weather for 49 years! One of the disappointments of the trip was they were unable to get through to Tibet because their route was blocked by snow. Other travellers who travelled through the mountain pass to Tibet the previous day were

not so lucky and eventually had to be airlifted out by helicopters. They had to change itinerary several times due to landslides, and some rock falls were very close indeed with a couple of bikes being damaged by tumbling rocks and resulting in a broken arm by one of the party.



They were lucky they did not suffer from altitude sickness which is common in these mountains, although “the air gets pretty thin and it makes you puff a bit” says Richard.

However the scenery was spectacular, and the locals warm and inviting, always willing to tell them stories, and they loved having their pictures taken. One highlight of the trip was finding a Hot Water Bottle in their beds! It was an unforgettable trip – a real adventure!

They returned home on the 27th September. The biggest lowlight was of course the journey was over! Tell us about your travels and adventures, email theclub@wellwisegroup.com



Jules Colby completes his competency portfolio!

One full year after launching a revised and improved Competency Scheme Jules Colby is the first to complete his portfolio. His work is now undergoing verification before it goes to the SQA (Scottish Qualification Authority) for the final check before a Wellwise Group Well Services Award certificate is issued.



Jules Colby says “I have always understood any training or courses that enhance my prospects are a good thing. Like most I was aware that contractor competency was becoming an issue with most service companies I day rate for so I welcomed the opportunity to join the WWG Scheme. It is backed by the SQA and I recognise the value of the stamp on my CV. The induction process was straight forward enough and personally I had few problems understanding how the scheme worked and what I was required to do. I did need assistance with a few of the questions but was also pleased that the feedback I gave was acted on where merited. Any queries I had were quickly answered and I found that support was always at hand. Despite a break of two months when my new daughter arrived I still completed in a year. You do have to remain focused to stay on track but now I have finished I would recommend it to anyone”.

Interest continues to gather pace and our goal remains to enroll as many Wellwise Group Contractors as possible. Whilst we appreciate some may struggle to appreciate the full value of attaining the qualification (because it is indeed a qualification), others have seized the opportunity and it is pleasing to see the hard work the Wellwise Group team have undertaken on your behalf being recognized by your continued enrolment. If you are not yet part of the competency community and would like to understand just what it is all about then email us at support@wellwisegroup.com or telephone for a chat. Remember our aim is to stand out from the crowd as the number one provider of quality people and quality people stand out by having attained proof of competency.

Web Based Delivery

Before the next newsletter we are aiming to be able to deliver a new web based Competency Scheme. The Wellwise Group have again spent a lot of time and effort to develop a web based delivery to make it easier for remote Contractors to download and submit competency documentation. It will be a sophisticated website, but at the same time it is designed to be easy to use. Instead of needing to email or post in Questions, Witness Testimonies or Evidence you will be able to upload direct to your personal folder, where a record in the form of Completion Summary will advise what percentage of your portfolio you have completed. We will announce its availability via ecast – then of course we will be looking for more Candidates to enroll.

BE A QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN AND STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD!



Offshore documentation requirements

Safety is always the top concern for offshore working and therefore certain important documentation needs to be in place before you can go offshore on a job. When you are travelling all around the world you need to know what certification is applicable.

Survival Course

Before being allowed to go offshore, all of you must complete an offshore survival course

- **UK Waters** - Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training (BOSIET). The BOSIET includes Safety, Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, First Aid, Helicopter Safety & Escape and Survival at Sea. Further Offshore Emergency Training (FOET) is the refresher certificate.
- **Abroad** – Different countries across the world have different requirements, some more stringent than the UK. The BOSIET is not sufficient for working in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. The Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF) course is a lot more demanding than that required in the UK. Very few countries now do not insist on an offshore survival.

Medical

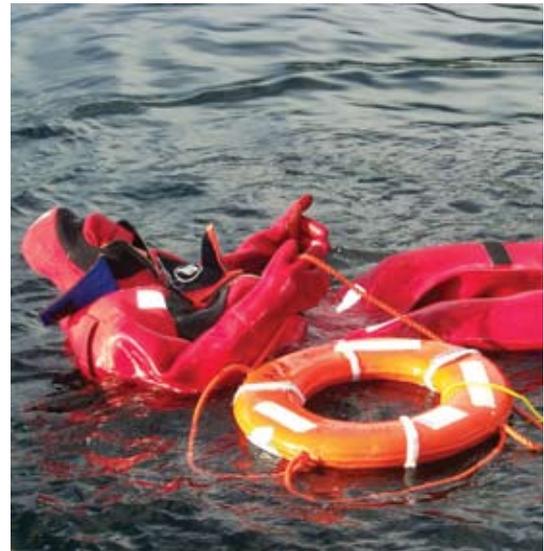
You must also undergo a medical

- **UK Waters** – Physicians who are approved by the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA) Health Advisory Committee should carry out the examination. All assets are controlled by UKOOA and renewals are necessary every two years, irrespective of your age.
- **Abroad** – Many authorities have reciprocal agreements with other authorities with regard to medicals, e.g. the Netherlands Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Association (NOGEP) will accept a UKOOA medical, or a Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF) medical.

Your survival and medical certificates are very important documents and a copy of each should be carried with you at all times when you travel wherever you travel to/from.

Offshore Letter

Another document which is now important when you travel is correspondence from the WWG confirming you are an offshore worker, the date you are travelling and which installation you are travelling to. This correspondence mainly only required by KLM or Air France travellers to enhance security and ensure it is a genuine offshore worker receiving an offshore fare. This letter will be sent to you at the same time as your flight itinerary, If for any reason you do not receive this correspondence you must let us know and we can



then issue it to you. You may not be asked to produce this document each time you travel with KLM or Air France as they carry out spot checks however if you are asked for proof and you do not have any it could cause a delay for you at the check-in desk, embarrassment and various phone calls to WWG.

Other Documents

Other documents you should check and take with you are:-

- Passport with visa (if applicable)
- Vantage Card or MAPS card (if applicable)
- Wellwise Group contact details
- Flight itinerary
- Hotel information
- Taxi collection time
- Client information i.e. contact details/pick up point and arrangements
- Client Health Advice (if applicable)
- Timesheet / Appraisal form

Take a minute to check your paperwork before you set off on a job, and this could save you time and embarrassment at the airport/heliport.

Jo Abrey.



Journey management

You may, or may not know that the biggest cause of accidents in the oil industry is driving! Driving to and from the office or a job. Statistics prove that driving is a bigger killer than any other offshore activity.

(Please also remember that if you need to drive a vehicle on behalf of the Client then you will need to take extra insurance as many company policies do not include contract personnel).

That is why before you undertake any journey which is over 50 miles (business or pleasure) you should identify potential driving-related hazards by asking yourself the following questions:

The Driver

- What are your stress and fatigue levels? If you have just come off a 12 hour shift then do not drive!
- If the vehicle is a hire car - are you familiar with the vehicle and vehicle loadings?
- Have you checked your eye sight recently? Do you comply with legal requirements?

The Vehicle

- Is your vehicle regularly maintained, serviced, roadworthy, fit for purpose (ie load carrying)? If a hire car do a spot check for tyres pressures, windscreen washer water, etc.
- Taxed and insured for business (or to and from work)?
- Does your vehicle have current safety features ie seatbelts for all passengers; ABS; driver and passenger airbags, side impact bars? You should make this a personal standard if you regularly travel long distances.
- If you are travelling abroad does your vehicle comply with European regulations, or regulations in the country you are travelling to? (The AA, RAC or hire company can advise this information).
- Can distraction or injury arise from communication equipment (ie navigation system mounting? Non-hands free mobile telephone?)
- Are you confident that the vehicle you are driving is insured for your use, ie do you meet age requirements for hire cars, or are you covered if you are driving your car on business.

The Journey

- Is your work related journey essential by road? (Can it be replaced by safer transport modes ie Train)
- What is the distance you are travelling? Have you planned and left time for a Break?
- Have you allowed time for bad weather conditions?

- Can you travel the day before and get a nights rest before travelling offshore if you are going to work immediately?
- Can your journey be managed so you avoid rush hour traffic, and more dangerous road types ie Motorways.
- Have you allowed enough time to avoid breaking the speed limit?
- If you are going on an especially long journey, will you notify somebody what time you left and what time you arrived. Especially in bad weather conditions somebody should be aware to call the emergency services if you do not arrive at your destination in a reasonable time. Therefore the journey route should be planned and your "buddy" should be aware of it. In certain circumstances keep in regular contact during your journey (but do ensure you are stationary before using your mobile telephone).

On shorter journeys, you may still wish to consider some of the above.

If you drive regularly during the course of your work, additional guidance is available on a Department of Transport website "Driving for Work" www.dft.gov.uk/drivingforwork

Truthfully there is a danger of becoming complacent about driving. Take care and don't become another statistic!





New ways to dispose of old gadgets

Discover how to recycle your old technology, help change lives and be environmentally friendly.

Convert to cash

Sell old computers

Sell old computers and other electrical equipment on auction sites like eBay. Once you have signed up, take pictures, write an accurate description and set your minimum sale price and postage costs. It is reasonable to ask buyers to collect larger items, such as TV's or larger kitchen appliances. If it all seems too complicated, there are professional sellers who, for a share of around 30 percent, will sell it for you. Try www.trading4u.com

Donate your old working mobile

Donate your old working mobile through Tesco instore or online to receive cash to Clubcard points, or donate the proceeds to Marie Curie Cancer Care. Tesco will also recycle spent inkjet cartridges. Visit www.tescomobilerecycle.com

T-Mobile now includes freepost

T-Mobile now include freepost recycling bags with every new phone, to earn you, or a charity, up to £80 per redundant handset.

Give it away

If your item does not have a resale value or you just want to get rid of it, try Freecycle. This online organization has groups throughout the UK,

but you can start your own if your area does not have one. Post a description of the item and wait for offers to flood in. You can pick you gets it, and they will collect. No money changes hands. See www.freecycle.org/groups/unitedkingdom

Donate to charity

It is always good to know your old handset or computer equipment can benefit someone else, so why not donate to charity? Fonesforsafety.org.uk turns old handsets into 999-only phones for women at risk of domestic violence, whilst Re:cycle Your Mobile enables you to pick from 50 charities that work with schools, vulnerable women, wildlife and more. They'll resell or break down old phones and donate the proceeds. You can also donate inkjet cartridges and set up your own recycling scheme via the website at www.recycleyourmobile.co.uk

If you have old PC's lurking in the office, try Computer Aid International, which works with business to refurbish their IT for use in schools and in developing countries. They will wipe all data off your hard drive as part of the recycling programme and, to date, they've sent over 100,000 PC's to 106 countries. See www.computeraid.org

Dispose responsibly:

For household items, find recycling facilities at your local council. Some will collect bigger items for a small charge. TV's are dismantled to remove hazardous substances, then the rest of the materials are recycled. If you are updating fridges or washing machines, ask if the delivery of your new model includes taking away your redundant appliances. These goods can also be taken to the local authority recycling facility, to the council will arrange collection for a fee. For businesses, Paper Round (www.paper-round.co.uk) takes both working and broken IT equipment. There is a minimum charge of £19.50 for collection

