Independent Verification of Safety Critical Elements
Julien Marty; Sophie Theys, SPE; Christian Bucherie; Andy Bolsover and Philippe Cambos, Bureau Veritas

Abstract

The main objectives of "Independent Verification of Safety Critical Elements" are to help substantiate that current oil and gas best practices are used, to provide assurance that facilities have been designed to operate safely throughout and to ensure that all Health Safety and Environment risks have been managed to acceptable / As Low As Reasonably Practicable levels. It anticipates the lack of applicable laws or standards, especially in the case of new environments. This approach, which was initially introduced in the United Kingdom after Piper Alpha disaster in 1988, is now becoming an industry standard worldwide.

Offshore Russia offers extreme (remote and arctic) conditions which are a challenge today. This, and the lack of Russian Federation laws applicable to the control of Major Accident Hazards, may represent an issue regarding Health, Safety and Environment for operating companies.

This paper will describe the history of independent verification, and particularly show its application on the Front End Engineering Design stage of a project lead in Russia. It will highlight the regulatory differences and the value of a goal setting process in such situations. This article shows an example of implementation in a country unfamiliar with independent verification.

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