

**Improving DP Operational Reliability through Application of the IMCA FMEA Management Guide**

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**Abstract**

Wavespec has been working over many years with providers of offshore drilling and platform support services to review the status of DP documentation and operations on their vessels, particularly on vessels either built before the most recent DP regulations or that have been subject to upgrades. In many of these vessels there is either an insufficiently detailed FMEA document, or one which is seriously out of date.

In a number of cases potentially serious DP incidents have occurred, which have triggered a response from the vessel owner or operator and the subsequent investigation has identified a number of deficiencies, which require corrective action.

This paper will review one or two of these original incidents and focus on the methodology used (based on the FMEA Management Guide published by IMCA in April 2005) to review present DP FMEA documents and update them, as well as the improvement of onboard knowledge and hands-on experience of possible incidents and failures.

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