

# Competent is as Competent Manages

## Successful DP operations management in the new offshore sector

Chad N. Fuhrmann, Independent Consultant  
REvolution Consulting & Engineering  
Email: [chad.fuhrmann@revolutionces.com](mailto:chad.fuhrmann@revolutionces.com)

A number of industry efforts are converging that emphasize the critical importance of understanding marine operations – particularly dynamic positioning – throughout an organization. The MTS DP Committee is spearheading an effort geared toward verification of DP Subject Matter Experts who provide DP assurance services across the industry spectrum (<https://dynamic-positioning.com/draft-techop-on-dp-sme-competency-fmea-practitioner-competency/>). IMCA's own DP Practitioner Accreditation Scheme is set for its official launch on 01 May 2019 and includes accreditation for Company DP Authority (<https://www.imca-int.com/news/2019/04/08/countdown-under-way-for-start-of-imcas-dp-practitioner-accreditation-scheme/>).

These programs effectively shift focus to shoreside assurance practitioners and operational management teams. In so doing, they highlight significant – though less conspicuous – issues stemming from support and management teams' lack of awareness of basic DP operating principles. The gap in understanding between the vessel and the office can lead to inadequate policies and procedures that may set operating personnel down a dangerous path before an operation has even begun.

As the industry pulls out of its downturn and increasingly dedicates resources to reactivation of physical assets, there needs to be greater focus on the reactivation of the professionals who operate and manage those assets – *from the engine room to the board room.*