STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 289

OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS

The Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1974

Made - - - - 17*th February* 1974

**To be laid before Parliament*

Coming into Operation 1*st May* 1974

Whereas the Secretary of State has consulted pursuant to section 7(1) of the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") with organisations in the United Kingdom appearing to him to be representative of those persons who will be affected by the following Regulations.

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State in exercise of his powers under sections 3, 6 and 7 of, and paragraphs 3, 4, 9 and 14 of the Schedule to, the Act and all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1974 and shall come into operation on 1st May 1974.

2.—(1) In these Regulations and in the Schedules hereto, unless the context otherwise requires:—

"Certificate of Fitness" means a certificate issued by a Certifying Authority under Regulation 9;

"Certifying Authority" means the Secretary of State or any person, committee, society or other body of persons appointed by the Secretary of State pursuant to Regulation 4;

"environmental factors" mean the matters referred to in Part II of Schedule 2;

"equipment" means any plant, machinery, apparatus or system attached to or forming part of an offshore installation;

"fixed installation" means an offshore installation which is not a mobile installation;

"mobile installation" means an offshore installation which can be moved from place to place without major dismantling or modification, whether or not it has its own motive power;

"operations manual" means written particulars provided by the owner of an offshore installation for the information, guidance and instruction of the manager thereof in securing, in the case of a fixed installation, the safety of the

*This instrument was laid before Parliament on 6th March 1974.

(a) 1971 c. 61.

installation when established at a station and, in the case of a mobile installation, the safety, seaworthiness and stability of the installation when moving to or from, or being located on, or removed from, or maintained at, a station;

"primary structure" means all structural components of an offshore installation, the failure of which would seriously endanger the safety of the installation;

"relevant waters" mean waters to which the Act applies;

"seaworthiness" means the capacity of a mobile installation to withstand, while floating, all relevant environmental factors;

"survey" means an examination conducted by a surveyor of an offshore installation or any part thereof or of any equipment, including the scrutiny of any document relevant thereto, and the conducting of any tests which a surveyor considers necessary in order to assess the integrity or safety of any item and whether any requirement of these Regulations has been complied with; and

"surveyor" means a surveyor appointed by a Certifying Authority.

(2) Nothing in these Regulations shall apply to an offshore installation which is a dredging installation and which is registered as a vessel (whether so registered in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) or to an offshore installation which can be navigated or operated when wholly submerged in water.

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889**(a)** shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Certification of offshore installations

3.—(1) On or after 31st August 1975:—

(*a*) no fixed installation shall be established in the relevant waters;

(*b*) no mobile installation shall be brought into those waters with a view to its being stationed there; and

(*c*) no fixed or mobile installation shall be maintained in those waters;

unless there is in force in respect thereof a valid Certificate of Fitness.

(2) On or after the date specified in paragraph (1), no mobile installation shall be moved to a station in the relevant waters unless prior to moving the owner of the installation has obtained from a competent person a report on the environmental factors at that station and the owner has reasonable grounds for believing that the installation is capable of withstanding those factors.

4. The Secretary of State may appoint any person, committee, society or other body of persons to cause surveys and assessments to be made pursuant to these Regulations and to certify offshore installations as fit for any of the purposes specified in these Regulations.

5.—(1) An application for a Certificate of Fitness in respect of an offshore installation, or for a renewal thereof, shall:—

(*a*) be made by or on behalf of the owner of that installation;

(*b*) be made to a Certifying Authority in the form specified in Part I of Schedule 1 duly completed and signed;

(a) 1889 c. 63.

(*c*) be accompanied by such information as may be necessary to enable the fees to be calculated in accordance with Regulation 13;

(*d*) be accompanied by sufficient plans, drawings, specifications, reports and other documents and information to enable the Certifying Authority to ascertain whether the requirements specified in Schedule 2, or such of the same as are applicable to the installation and its equipment, have been complied with; and

(*e*) be accompanied by the operations manual relating to the installation:

Provided that it shall be permissible to submit any document referred to in paragraphs (*d*) and (*e*) at any date prior to the grant of the Certificate of Fitness.

(2) If upon receipt of an application for a Certificate of Fitness in respect of an offshore installation, or for a renewal thereof, the Certifying Authority shall be of opinion that the application and the supporting documents and information comply with the requirements of paragraph (1), the Authority shall:—

(*a*) cause to be carried out, or ensure that there has already been carried out, by a competent person, an independent assessment of the design and method of construction of the installation to ascertain whether the requirements specified in Schedule 2 hereto, or such of the same as are applicable to the installation and its equipment, have been complied with, and an independent assessment of the provisions of the operations manual to ascertain whether the information, guidance and instructions contained therein are adequate and appropriate in relation to the installation ; and

(*b*) cause to be carried out a major survey of the installation and its equipment in accordance with Regulation 8(1) in order to ascertain whether the installation conforms to the design and method of construction referred to in sub-paragraph (*a*) and whether the requirements specified in Schedule 2, or such of the same as are applicable to the installation and its equipment, have been complied with.

Surveys of offshore installations

6.—(1) A Certifying Authority shall appoint, from among persons appearing to the Authority to be suitably qualified, surveyors whose duty it shall be to conduct the surveys required by these Regulations.

(2) In carrying out any such survey, a surveyor shall be accorded all necessary facilities therefor by the owner and manager of the installation concerned, and the installation and any of its equipment shall be submitted to such tests as may in the opinion of the surveyor be necessary to ascertain whether the requirements specified in Schedule 2, or such of the same as are applicable, have been complied with.

(3) On completing a survey, a surveyor shall make a declaration to the Certifying Authority giving the date of completion of his survey, the results thereof and his findings as to whether the installation complies with the requirements of Schedule 2, or such of the same as may be applicable, on a form specified by the Authority for that purpose, which form shall remain in the Authority's custody.

7.—(1) If at any time while an application for a Certificate of Fitness is being considered by a Certifying Authority or while a Certificate of Fitness is in force any alteration should be made to any plan, drawing, specification or other

document (apart from an operations manual), a copy of which was previously submitted pursuant to these Regulations, the owner of the installation concerned shall forthwith upon such alteration send particulars thereof to the Certifying Authority which is considering the application or which issued the certificate in force or both those Authorities (as the case may be).

(2) No alteration shall be made to the provisions of any operations manual, which has previously been submitted to a Certifying Authority, without the consent of that Authority.

(3) If at any time while an application for a Certificate of Fitness is being considered by a Certifying Authority or while a Certificate of Fitness is in force there occurs in respect of the offshore installation to which the application or certificate (as the case may be) relates any of the following events:—

(*a*) it is damaged, or is suspected of having been damaged, in a manner likely to impair the safety, strength, stability and, in the case of a mobile installation, seaworthiness of the installation; or

(*b*) it demonstrates signs of deterioration in its structure to an extent likely to impair the safety, strength, stability and, in the case of a mobile installation, seaworthiness of the installation; or

(*c*) its equipment is subjected to any alteration, repair or replacement;

the owner of the installation shall forthwith notify in writing the Certifying Authority which is considering the application or which issued the certificate in force or both those Authorities (as the case may be) of the occurrence of that event, giving whatever particulars may be required to enable the Authority concerned to determine whether or not an additional survey should be carried out.

(4) No repair, replacement, alteration or dismantlement shall be carried out in respect of any offshore installation at any time while a Certificate of Fitness is in force in respect of that installation unless the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of paragraph 1 of Part VII of Schedule 2 are observed in respect thereof, the references in those sub-paragraphs to "the Certifying Authority" being taken to refer to the Certifying Authority which issued the before-mentioned Certificate of Fitness and the reference therein to "such work" being taken to refer to such repair, replacement, alteration or dismantlement (as the case may be).

8.—(1) In respect of every offshore installation in relation to which there is no Certificate of Fitness in force or in respect of which a Certificate of Fitness is in force and a renewal thereof is sought, there shall be carried out a survey (herein referred to as a "major survey") which shall include a thorough examination of the installation and its equipment in order to ascertain the matters specified in Regulation 5(2)(*b*):

Provided that a Certifying Authority may accept as part of a major survey the results of a survey carried out otherwise than under these Regulations if satisfied that the results so obtained are equivalent to those which would have been obtained in the course of a major survey:

Provided further that at any time after the installation has been subjected to a major survey a Certifying Authority may accept, instead of a subsequent major survey, a series of continuous surveys conducted in rotation in conjunction

with the annual surveys required under paragraph (2) if satisfied that the results so obtained are equivalent to those which would have been obtained in the course of a major survey.

(2) (*a*) In respect of every installation in relation to which a Certificate of Fitness is in force, there shall be carried out on behalf of the Certifying Authority which issued that certificate surveys (hereinafter referred to as "annual surveys") of a selection of the members, joints and areas of the primary structure of the installation, the parts of the installation referred to in Part V of Schedule 2 and its equipment, the selection being sufficient in number, disposition or extent (as the case may be) to provide reasonable evidence as to whether the installation and its equipment continue to comply with the requirements of Schedule 2, or such of the same as may be applicable.

(*b*) The first annual survey shall be carried out within not less than 9 nor more than 18 months after the date of issue of the Certificate of Fitness and thereafter similar surveys shall be carried out within not less than 9 nor more than 15 months of each anniversary of the date of issue of the certificate during the period in which it is in force.

(3) Upon receipt of a notification pursuant to Regulation 7(3) of the occurrence in respect of an installation of any of the events specified therein, or if the Certifying Authority otherwise has reason to believe that any such event has occurred, the Certifying Authority may cause such additional survey of the installation and its equipment to be carried out as the Authority thinks fit to ascertain, in the case of an installation in respect of which an application for a certificate is being considered, whether any changes have been made or taken place sufficient to render no longer accurate the data which accompanied the application and, in the case of an installation in respect of which a Certificate of Fitness is in force, whether the installation and its equipment continue to comply with the requirements of Schedule 2, or such of the same as may be applicable.

Certificates of Fitness

9.—(1) After considering all documents and other information submitted in pursuance of Regulation 5(1) and all declarations of survey and the results of all assessments carried out in pursuance of Regulation 5(2) the Certifying Authority may, if the Authority is satisfied that it is proper to do so, issue a Certificate of Fitness in accordance with these Regulations certifying that the offshore installation concerned is fit to be established or stationed (according to whether it is respectively a fixed or a mobile installation) and maintained in the relevant waters.

(2) A Certificate of Fitness shall be in the form set out in Part II of Schedule 1 and may contain whatever limitations the Certifying Authority considers it appropriate to specify as respects the movement, location and operation of the installation to which it relates having regard to the design of the installation, the method of its construction, the materials employed in its construction and the environmental factors. The Certifying Authority shall issue two copies of the Certificate of Fitness to the owner of the installation.

(3) One copy of the current Certificate of Fitness shall be kept posted on board the installation to which it relates in such a position that it can be conveniently read, save for occasions when in pursuance of these Regulations any amendment or endorsement required to be made thereto is being effected.

(4) The Certifying Authority may amend any Certificate of Fitness by recording on the copy of the certificate referred to in paragraph (3) any changes which have occurred since it was issued, and a record of any survey made in pursuance of Regulation 8(2) or (3) in connection with the installation to which the certificate relates shall be endorsed thereon on behalf of the Certifying Authority by the surveyor who carried it out. The surveyor shall also furnish the owner of the installation with a copy of the endorsement made by him.

10.—(1) If, after considering the matters referred to in Regulation 9(1), the Certifying Authority is not satisfied that a Certificate of Fitness may properly be issued, the Authority shall send a notification in writing to that effect to the owner of the offshore installation concerned giving the reasons for the conclusion, and shall at the same time send a copy of that notification to the Secretary of State.

(2) If, after considering any declaration of survey carried out in pursuance of Regulation 8(2) or (3), or particulars of any alteration to a document submitted in pursuance of Regulation 7(1), the Certifying Authority is of opinion that the installation is not, or is no longer, fit to be maintained in the relevant waters or in any part thereof to which it may be limited by the terms of the Certificate of Fitness issued in respect of it, the Authority shall send a notification in writing to that effect to the owner of the offshore installation concerned giving the reasons for forming that opinion, and shall at the same time send a copy of that notification to the Secretary of State.

11.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of State may terminate a Certificate of Fitness if he is satisfied that:—

(*a*) information supplied in connection with the application therefor was incorrect in a material particular; or

(*b*) the installation to which it relates is not, or is no longer, fit to be maintained in the relevant waters or in any part of such waters to which it may be limited by the terms thereof; or

(*c*) there has been a failure to observe any limitation contained therein respecting the movement, location or operation of the installation; or

(*d*) the installation to which it relates has been moved to a station contrary to the provisions of Regulation 3(2); or

(*e*) there has been a failure to comply with any Regulation; or

(*f*) it has been superseded by a new Certificate of Fitness, or by an exemption made by the Secretary of State, issued in respect of the same installation; or

(*g*) the installation has in the opinion of the Secretary of State changed in character to such an extent that the issue of a new Certificate of Fitness is desirable.

(2) Before a Certificate of Fitness is terminated in accordance with paragraph (1), both the owner of the installation to which it relates, and the Certifying Authority which issued the certificate, shall be given notification in writing of the reasons for such termination, and the date on which it is to take effect, which shall not be less than 30 days after the date of issue of the said notification.

(3) A Certificate of Fitness shall be valid for such period as the Certifying Authority may specify, not exceeding 5 years from the date of completion of the last major survey carried out pursuant to Regulation 8(1) or of the last equivalent

survey carried out in accordance with the second proviso to that Regulation, unless it is previously terminated by the Secretary of State in accordance with paragraph (1). The date of expiration shall be recorded on the certificate by the Certifying Authority.

Exemptions

12.—(1) The Secretary of State may exempt any offshore installation or part of an offshore installation from all or any of the provisions of these Regulations and any such exemption may be made subject to any conditions which the Secretary of State sees fit to impose.

(2) Where an installation or part of an installation has been exempted in accordance with paragraph (1) but subject to a condition and the condition is not observed, the exemption shall not have effect and proceedings may be brought in respect of any breach of duty as if the exemption had not been made.

(3) When an installation or part of an installation has been exempted in accordance with paragraph (1), the Certifying Authority shall endorse a note of such exemption and of any conditions to which it is made subject on the Certificate of Fitness (if any) relating to that installation issued in accordance with Regulation 9.

Fees

13.—(1) There shall be payable in respect of the services provided in accordance with these Regulations the fees specified in Schedule 3:

Provided that if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the cost of work required to be performed in a particular case exceeds the maximum sum payable in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 he may, at his discretion, authorise such higher sum as, in all the circumstances, he considers proper.

(2) On the making of an application for a Certificate of Fitness under Regulation 5, a sum not exceeding 5 per cent. of the maximum fee specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 shall be payable to the Certifying Authority which may require that the balance of the fees and expenses due shall be payable at any time before giving its decision regarding the application.

Offences

14. A person who wilfully falsifies or uses a false document or who supplies or uses information or makes any statement which he knows to be false in a material particular for the purposes of these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence.

Peter Emery,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Energy.

17th February 1974.

SCHEDULE 1

PART I (Regulation 5(1))

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS

MINERAL WORKINGS (OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS) ACT 1971

THE OFFSHORE INSTALLATIONS (CONSTRUCTION AND SURVEY) REGULATIONS 1974

1. Name or other designation of the installation(1) .....

2. Name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) of the installation .....

.....

3. Address of owner(s) in the United Kingdom for the service of notices

.....

4. Particulars of registration of the installation(1):

(*a*) Date of issue of the certificate .....

(*b*) Certificate number .....

5. Particulars of any previous Certificates of Fitness issued in respect of the installation:

(*a*) Date of issue of the certificate(s) .....

(*b*) Certificate number(s) .....

(*c*) Certifying Authority(ies) .....

6. Particulars of any other certificates which may be of relevance(2) .....

.....

7. Present location of the installation and intended location (if different)(3)

.....

8. Name(s), address(es) and qualifications of the designer(s) of the installation

.....

.....

9. Name(s), address(es) and qualifications of the person(s) under whom construction of the installation was (or is being) supervised .....

.....

10. Brief details of the documents lodged in support of the application(4)

.....

.....

11. Current construction cost of installation(5) .....

I/We being the above-named owner(s) of the above-described offshore installation, hereby make application for a Certificate of Fitness to be issued for that installation in accordance with the provisions of the said Act and Regulations, and I/We hereby declare that the information given in this application and in any documents lodged herewith is correct.

Dated..... 19..... Signed.....

on behalf of(6) .....

status of signatory(7) .....

NOTES

(1) Pursuant to the Offshore Installations (Registration) Regulations 1972.

(2) E.g. insurance and (in the case of vessels) merchant shipping certificates.

(3) Where appropriate, give name of dock, yard or harbour or (if at sea) geographical co-ordinates and licence block number (if any).

(4) Pursuant to Regulation 5(1)(*c*), (*d*) and (*e*) of the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1974.

(5) This may be required to determine the amount of the fee pursuant to Regulation 13 of the said Regulations.

(6) Give the name(s) of the owner(s).

(7) E.g. director or secretary of a body corporate.

PART II (Regulation 9(2))

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS OF OFFSHORE INSTALLATION

Certificate Number .....

Name or other designation of the offshore installation .....

Description of installation .....

Name(s) of owner(s) .....

THIS IS TO CERTIFY pursuant to Regulation 9(1) of the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1974 that the above-described offshore installation is fit to be * established/stationed and maintained in waters to which the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971 applies, † subject to the following limitations:

This Certificate remains valid subject to annual and additional surveys in accordance with the Regulations until ..... unless previously terminated by the Secretary of State.

Issued at ..... on ..... 19.....

Signed.....

Designation .....

on behalf of .....
A Certifying Authority
appointed pursuant to the Regulations.

*delete whichever is inapplicable
†delete if inapplicable

SCHEDULE 2

PART I

INTERPRETATION

In this Schedule—

"non-slip surface" means a surface designed to prevent or reduce slipping;

"recognised" in relation to a standard, practice (including a code of practice) or specification means recognised by the Certifying Authority in the particular instance; and

"suitable" in relation to a material or an article means that the properties and characteristics of the material or article are such that it can safely be used for the purpose described.

PART II

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Every offshore installation shall be capable of withstanding any combination of—

(*a*) meteorological and oceanological conditions; and

(*b*) properties and configuration of the sea bed and subsoil;

to which the installation may foreseeably be subjected at the place at which it is, or is intended to be, located, as assessed in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3.

2. An assessment of the matters referred to in paragraph 1 shall be made by a competent person and (to such extent as may be relevant to the installation concerned) shall take into consideration—

(*a*) the water depth, the tidal range and the height of wind-induced and pressure-induced wave surges;

(*b*) the frequency and direction of winds and their respective speeds, averaging periods and heights above the surface of the sea;

(*c*) the heights, directions and periods of waves, the probability of their occurrence and the effect of currents, sea bed topography and other factors likely to modify their characteristics;

(*d*) the direction, speed and duration of tidal and other currents;

(*e*) characteristics of the sea bed which may affect the foundations of the installation;

(*f*) air and sea temperature extremes;

(*g*) the extent to which marine growth may form on the submerged sections of the installation; and

(*h*) the extent to which snow and ice may accumulate on or against the installation.

3. In assessing the matters referred to in paragraph 2—

(*a*) the minimum values to be ascribed by the competent person shall not be less than those likely to be exceeded on average once only in any period of 50 years; and

(*b*) full account shall be taken of the records, predictions and other information available from the Institute of Oceanographic Science, the Meteorological Office of the Ministry of Defence or from any other body of comparable status fulfilling substantially the same functions or any of them.

PART III

FOUNDATIONS

1. Those parts of an offshore installation which either from time to time or at all times are, or are intended to be, in direct contact with, and transmitting loads to, the sea bed and subsoil shall be capable of maintaining the integrity of the primary structure of the installation and of the sea bed and subsoil and generally of supporting the installation and maintaining it in a safe and stable condition.

2. An assessment of the matters referred to in paragraph 1 shall be made by a competent person and shall include an investigation of the site or intended site of the installation concerned in order to ascertain and take into consideration—

(*a*) the configuration of the sea bed and subsoil;

(*b*) the properties and condition of the sea bed and subsoil;

(*c*) the presence of any man-made hazards or obstructions; and

(*d*) all other factors likely to affect the stability of the sea bed and subsoil;

at that site, such investigation to comply, so far as possible under marine conditions, with a recognised code of practice.

PART IV

PRIMARY STRUCTURE

1. *Forces*

Every offshore installation shall be capable of withstanding any foreseeable combination of forces arising from—

(*a*) the weight of the installation, including all equipment and stores thereon;

(*b*) the buoyancy of any structural element which may be, or may become, submerged in water;

(*c*) the process of moving the installation or any part thereof from place to place;

(*d*) the operation of maintaining the installation in any desired position;

(*e*) the environmental factors;

(*f*) the inertia of structural and other masses when the installation is constrained to move under the influence of the forces exerted by the environmental factors;

(*g*) the operation of equipment and all functional activity associated with the installation;

(*h*) ships berthing and departing, aircraft landing and taking off, and any other operations associated with the transfer of persons, stores and equipment;

(*i*) the fabrication, assembly, erection, alteration and dismantlement of the installation; and

(*j*) (in the case of a mobile installation) changes of trim or during transition between the floating and sea bed and subsoil supported modes, or a combination of the two;

together with any impact or impulse forces developed in consequence of the sudden application of all or any of the above-mentioned forces.

2. *Design criteria*

In respect of every offshore installation—

(*a*) stresses (including stresses caused by the forces referred to in paragraph 1) shall be calculated either by means of a mathematical analysis of the primary structure of the installation appropriate to that structure and approved by the Certifying Authority or by means of established rules for design approved by the Certifying Authority;

(*b*) factors of safety and maximum working stresses shall be in accordance with the recommendations contained in codes of practice and other recognized standards appropriate to the material concerned and the conditions under which the material is to be used;

(*c*) the design of joints and other structural details shall be such as to minimise stress concentrations;

(*d*) the calculated fatigue life of the primary structure shall be capable of being demonstrated to the reasonable satisfaction of the Certifying Authority as exceeding the period for which a Certificate of Fitness may be granted;

(*e*) the frequency at which the installation or any of its structural components naturally vibrate shall not be so approximate to the frequency of any foreseeable external force as to cause abnormal displacement; and

(*f*) deflections in structural components shall not be such as to affect the safety of the installation.

3. *Stability*

(*a*) Every mobile installation shall be constructed so that—

(i) under any combination of forces envisaged in paragraph 1 the forces of weight and buoyancy shall operate to induce the installation to maintain, or return to, an upright position;

(ii) any part thereof intended to remain buoyant on immersion in water and being of sufficient magnitude shall be subdivided into watertight compartments by means of watertight decks, bulkheads or other internal structures strong enough to withstand any hydrostatic pressures to which that part may foreseeably be subjected; and

(iii) in any conditions permitting operations to be carried on it will remain afloat and stable notwithstanding the flooding of any one watertight compartment.

(*b*) Every fixed installation and every mobile installation designed to be supported from time to time by the sea bed and subsoil shall—

(i) be capable of withstanding the sliding forces and the overturning moments to which it may foreseeably be subjected without loss of positive bearing on any part of the foundation of the installation; and

(ii) impose on the foundation only such loads as may safely be supported by the sea bed and subsoil, and without causing settlement likely to endanger the integrity and stability of the installation.

PART V

SECONDARY STRUCTURE AND FITTINGS

1. *Superstructure*

The superstructure of every offshore installation shall be capable of withstanding all forces to which it may foreseeably be subjected and, in particular—

(*a*) deck houses and other structures on decks which may be swept by waves shall be constructed in accordance with recognised requirements;

(*b*) every external part of the installation which is not designed to resist wave impact shall be positioned so as to maintain at all times a clearance above the highest wave crest which may reasonably be anticipated; and

(*c*) every deck shall be capable of carrying all concentrations of loads to which it may foreseeably be subjected.

2. *Helicopter landing area*

Every helicopter landing area forming part of an offshore installation shall—

(*a*) be located in a position readily accessible to and from the living accommodation of the installation or any other area of the installation likely to be regularly manned;

(*b*) be large enough, and have sufficient clear approach and departure paths, to enable any helicopter intended to use the landing area safely to land thereon and to take off therefrom in any wind and weather conditions permitting helicopter operation;

(*c*) be strong enough to withstand any landing by any helicopter intended to be used;

(*d*) be provided with a non-slip surface for landing, constructed so that rainwater and fuel spills shall not collect thereon or fall therefrom on to other parts of the installation;

(*e*) be provided with suitable tie-down points;

(*f*) be provided with markings and lighting sufficient to enable easy identification of the landing area by day or night and have any obstructions thereon clearly marked and illuminated; and

(*g*) be equipped with suitable safety nets along the sides thereof over which persons might fall.

3. *Bollards*

Every bollard and towing bitt forming part of or attached to an offshore installation shall—

(*a*) be of a pattern suitable for its intended use;

(*b*) possess a working strength not less than the breaking strength of the strongest rope or cable intended to be used thereon;

(*c*) be secured to suitable strong points;

(*d*) be positioned so as to have a clear lead to associated fairleads and winches; and

(*e*) possess, together with such fairleads, working surfaces of suitable radii.

4. *Openings*

On every offshore installation—

(*a*) every opening affording persons access to or egress from any part of the installation intended to become buoyant on immersion in water, and every opening in a bulkhead (being a bulkhead intended to effect a watertight partition between compartments of the installation) shall be fitted with an efficient watertight door or hatch made of suitable material and attached permanently and strongly to the bulkhead, deck or other structure in which the opening is located;

(*b*) the surrounds of every such opening shall be framed and stiffened so as to make their strength equal to that of the unpierced bulkhead, deck or other structure in which the opening is located;

(*c*) every door intended to be watertight shall be fitted with a surrounding gasket and equipped so as to be capable of being efficiently secured from either side;

(*d*) the sill height of every door intended to be watertight and the coaming height of every hatch located in an open deck shall accord with recognised practice;

(*e*) every discharge port in a compartment intended to be watertight shall be fitted with an automatically acting non-return valve and with either a second such valve or a device whereby the port may be closed from a position outside and above the compartment;

(*f*) every inlet port shall be fitted with a device whereby it may be closed from a position which is readily accessible at all times;

(*g*) pipes and ducts led through a watertight compartment shall be constructed so as to maintain the watertight integrity of the compartment; and

(*h*) every other aperture in a compartment intended to be watertight and capable of being flooded on immersion in water shall be provided with a means of closure which will enable such aperture to be watertight.

5. *Fendering*

(*a*) Every system of fendering forming part of or attached to an offshore installation shall be capable of resisting and absorbing all forces to which it may foreseeably be subjected in such a manner that the primary structure of the installation is not thereby damaged.

(*b*) All such fenders shall be securely attached to the installation and extend in the vertical plane a distance sufficient to avoid possible hazard to vessels alongside the installation at any state of tide.

6. *Living accommodation*

Every offshore installation shall be provided with accommodation—

(*a*) placed and constructed so as to afford persons on the installation protection from weather, fire, noise and vibration;

(*b*) sufficient in area to meet the needs of the maximum number of persons likely to be on board the installation at any one time; and

(*c*) containing facilities and equipment for that number of persons as respects sleeping, food and water storage, food preparation and consumption, sanitary and recreational requirements.

7. *Decks, stairways, etc.*

Every deck, passageway, walkway, stairway and ladder forming part of or attached to an offshore installation shall incorporate—

(*a*) non-slip surfaces where practicable;

(*b*) protection of any exposed parts and openings, with the provision of suitable guard rails and toe-boards or similar devices;

(*c*) as respects ladders, suitable safety caging or rest platforms; and

(*d*) features affording protection against fire, including the isolation of areas by means of fire-resisting bulkheads and fire doors capable of being opened from either side.

8. *Escape routes—*

On every offshore installation

(*a*) every general area which is likely to be regularly manned shall have at least two separate escape routes situated as far apart as practicable and leading to abandonment stations situated either on the helicopter deck, or on the survival craft embarkation deck, or at sea level, or at any combination of those locations;

(*b*) every such escape route and abandonment station shall be readily accessible and unobstructed;

(*c*) means of escape leading to an upper level shall, wherever practicable, be provided in the form of ramps or stairways and means of escape leading to a lower level shall, wherever practicable, be provided in the form of ramps, stairways or chutes;

(*d*) personnel landings shall be provided for ensuring safe embarkation at sea-level; and

(*e*) every boat landing shall incorporate non-slip surfaces and suitable guard rails.

PART VI

MATERIALS

1. Every part of an offshore installation shall be composed of material which is suitable having regard to the nature of the forces and the environmental factors to which that part may foreseeably be subjected. All such material, so far as consistent with its function, shall be incombustible.

2. Any material not entirely protected against corrosion and forming part of an offshore installation shall be of sufficient mass to allow for losses which may arise from corrosion.

3. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing—

(*a*) steel employed as structural material shall be selected from suitable grades of mild or higher tensile steels which conform to a recognised standard;

(*b*) welding material employed as structural material shall be compatible with the material joined, shall be selected in accordance with a recognised code of practice for welding operations and shall comply with a recognised standard;

(*c*) concrete employed as structural material shall consist of materials selected in accordance with a recognised code of practice relating to structures used in a marine environment and shall comply with a recognised standard;

(*d*) aluminium alloys employed as structural material shall be selected from alloys which conform to a standard recognised for marine use; and

(*e*) all other structural material shall be suitable for use in a marine environment.

PART VII

CONSTRUCTION

1. In respect of any work relating to the fabrication or assembly of an offshore installation taking place at any time while an application for a Certificate of Fitness is being considered by a Certifying Authority—

(*a*) such work shall be carried out in accordance with drawings, specifications and other documents approved or recognised by the Certifying Authority and complying with the requirements of these Regulations;

(*b*) only those materials described in documents approved or recognised by the Certifying Authority shall be incorporated in the structure of the installation; and

(*c*) except where the documents approved or recognised by the Certifying Authority otherwise provide, workmanship and methods of construction shall be, and shall be inspected, in accordance with recognised standards and codes of practice and, without limitation to the generality of the foregoing—

(i) all welding shall be in accordance with a recognised standard or code of practice and performed by suitably qualified persons; and

(ii) concrete shall be prepared and placed in accordance with a recognised standard or code of practice appropriate for a marine environment, by suitably experienced persons and under the direction of a competent person experienced in marine concrete construction work.

2. In respect of any work relating to the fabrication or assembly of an offshore installation taking place otherwise than as mentioned in paragraph 1, suitable evidence, whether by means of records, tests or otherwise, that such work has been carried out to a standard comparable with the requirements of paragraph 1, shall be produced to the satisfaction of the Certifying Authority.

PART VIII

EQUIPMENT

General requirements

1. Every item of equipment—

(*a*) shall comply with a recognised standard or specification;

(*b*) shall be suitable for its intended purpose and incorporate efficient control apparatus, guards, shields and other means of protecting personnel;

(*c*) shall be located to ensure safe operation and, if located in an area within which danger of fire or explosion from ignition of gas, vapour or volatile liquid exists or is likely to exist, shall be suitable for use in that area;

(*d*) shall be provided with a safe means of access;

(*e*) if capable of causing noise or vibration which is, or is likely to be, injurious to health, shall be suitably insulated; and

(*f*) shall be so installed and disposed, both individually and in relation to other items of equipment on the installation, as to reduce to a minimum any potential danger to the installation and its personnel.

Specific requirements

2. *Ballasting*

Where necessary to permit operations to be carried on safely, every mobile installation shall be provided with ballast tanks whose number, location and sub-division, together with their associated equipment, shall be capable of trimming the installation efficiently.

3. *Bilge pumping*

(*a*) Every offshore installation shall be provided with a means of pumping bilges and of draining all compartments and sections intended to be watertight, other than those containing liquids connected to a separate pumping and drainage system.

(*b*) The capacity and arrangement of the pumping and drainage apparatus shall be in accordance with recognised practice.

4. *Dynamic positioning*

Where an offshore installation is equipped with a dynamic positioning system such system shall be capable of maintaining the installation in position and on correct heading in all conditions permitting operations to be carried on.

5. *Mooring*

(*a*) Where an offshore installation is equipped with a mooring system such system shall be capable of enabling the installation to be securely moored in all conditions permitting operations to be carried on.

(*b*) The mooring system shall incorporate suitable anchors, chain cables and wire ropes, with suitable windlasses and winches which shall be securely attached to the structure of the installation.

(*c*) It shall not be necessary for the whole of the mooring system to be contained on or within the installation.

(*d*) No anchor or chain cable shall be incorporated which has not been tested and marked in the manner specified in the Anchors and Chain Cables Act 1899(**a**) or in any rules (**b**) made under section 1(1) of the Anchors and Chain Cables Act 1967(**c**) or in accordance with any recognised practice.

6. *Platform elevation and descent*

Where an offshore installation is equipped with a system for raising and lowering the platform thereof that equipment shall—

(*a*) have a lifting capacity exceeding the maximum gravity load;

(*b*) be of a capacity sufficient to support the platform in an elevated position in the event of failure of any part of the mechanism; and

(*c*) be fitted with—

(i) means of keeping free from ice those parts essential to the proper functioning of the equipment; and

(ii) devices for recording at all times the load borne by the equipment.

7. *Ventilation, heating and cooling*

(*a*) Every offshore installation shall be provided with ventilation, heating and cooling systems capable of maintaining a temperate and non-injurious atmosphere in all areas to be used for living accommodation and all other enclosed areas likely to be manned.

(*b*) In any area on the installation where flammable or noxious gases may occur, a separate and suitable ventilation system shall be provided capable of removing therefrom any such gases in a manner avoiding contamination of other areas of the installation by those gases.

8. *Lighting*

Every offshore installation shall be provided throughout with lighting capable of supplying illumination sufficient to ensure the safety of the persons thereon and arranged so as to ensure that operational control areas, escape routes and embarkation areas remain illuminated in both normal and emergency conditions.

9. *Emergency power supply*

On every offshore installation, additional to and independent of the main source of electrical power, equipment shall be provided capable of providing during an emergency a sufficient supply of electricity to those services required to ensure the safety of the installation and of persons thereon.

(**a**) 1899 c. 23.
(**b**) *See* S.I. 1970/1453 (1970 III, p. 4766).
(**c**) 1967 c. 64.

SCHEDULE 3

(Regulation 13)

Fees

1. *Surveys*

(*a*) For the carrying out pursuant to Regulation 8 of a survey there shall be payable to the Certifying Authority a sum equal to the cost of the work performed, subject to a maximum sum determined in accordance with the following Table:

TABLE

Type of Survey	Maximum Fee	
	Current Construction Cost	Maximum Fee per £1million of Current Construction Cost or part thereof
Major survey, pursuant to Regulation 8(1), of an installation in respect of which no Certificate of Fitness is in force	For the first £1million For the next £5million For the next £5million Thereafter	2.5% of current construction cost 0.7% " " " " 0.5% " " " " 0.3% " " " " 0.2% " " " "
Major survey, pursuant to Regulation 8(1), of an installation in respect of which a Certificate of Fitness is in force and a renewal thereof is sought	Two thirds of the fee calculated on the above-mentioned scale	
Annual survey pursuant to Regulation 8(2)	One tenth of the fee calculated on the above-mentioned scale	
Additional survey pursuant to Regulation 8(3)	Two thirds of the fee calculated on the above-mentioned scale	

(*b*) For the purpose of paragraph (*a*) the current construction cost of an offshore installation shall be the cost at the time of the survey, of designing, constructing and testing a similar installation and installing its equipment in the United Kingdom, as agreed between the owner of the installation and the Certifying Authority or, in the event of disagreement, as determined by the Secretary of State.

(*c*) In addition to the fee payable in accordance with paragraph (*a*), there shall also be payable a sum equal to the cost of travelling and subsistence expenses reasonably incurred by the surveyor.

2. *Certificates of Fitness*

(*a*) For the issue pursuant to Regulation 9 of a Certificate of Fitness (in duplicate) there shall be payable to the Certifying Authority the fee of £10.

(*b*) For the issue of each additional copy of a Certificate of Fitness there shall be payable to the Certifying Authority the fee of £2.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations relate to offshore installations to which the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971 applies. They prescribe standards in relation to the design and construction of such installations and provide for the appointment of Certifying Authorities, the carrying out of surveys and the issue and termination of Certificates of Fitness. The Regulations also lay down practices to be observed in the siting, alteration and equipping of offshore installations and make provision for the granting of exemptions.

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