

DON'T WAIT TO BE ASKED; AND DON'T WAIT TO FIND OUT...



Neil Martin, SHE-Q Manager UK

I recently visited some of the Smit crew in Plymouth, UK, to give a NINA Workshop – this crew's first proper introduction to NINA. Waiting for me were ten crew

members, seemingly quite relaxed, drinking coffee and sharing a joke or two. As I finished preparing, I looked up at my "audience" and could immediately sense some kind of anticipation, although I could not be sure at the time what its nature was. No more than five minutes into the workshop, the first underlying issues were voiced without restraint: "We always get the blame...!" Then, a lively 15-minute discussion ensued, which demonstrated the following: that time and again, at Boskalis, Smit or any other company, we assume certain issues are dealt with and solved. But... are they really? Do we, at times, move on too quickly and miss a point, thereby repressing a feeling or opinion?

NINA ON BOARD ROCKPIPER

Last year, the brand-new rock-dumping vessel Rockpiper departed with an all-new crew for the Norwegian waterways to be put to work for Statoil. It was the job of Captain Maarten Prijt and his colleagues to form a new team. One year later, the mission has been accomplished: all parties are satisfied with the results and Statoil has extended the framework contract by three years.

"We work well with Statoil", says Maarten Prijt, who attributes the solid partnership partly to the fact that both companies have the same values, which became clear in the joint NINA start-up meeting. "'Open communication' is a key priority for them, too. They are constructive and truly care about the well-being of our staff. We were really focused on the implementation, but Statoil literally said, 'Don't forget about the time outside of work. Take care of your staff.'" SHE-Q manager Offshore Allard Leertouwer agrees that there is mutual trust, respect and interest: "We were invited by Statoil's senior management to come talk about NINA, which taught us a lot about their views on safety.

WILLINGNESS

When he considers the Rockpiper crewmembers, Maarten Prijt feels that safety awareness is second nature to hem. "Because we started out as a new team, we didn't have any routines. When we build a down pipe, we fill out a JHA: what are the risks and how should we approach the job? What strikes me is everyone's willingness to figure all of that out - together. I think that's the strong point of NINA." After I explained what NINA really means - being responsible, communicating and listening, the workshop then took on a positive note, as the crew became aware of certain safety topics it faced. In fact, they immediately began to re-think some of the safety measures that were previously introduced, and a safer system of working was agreed by the end of shift. In conclusion, don't wait for a workshop. Take the opportunity to re-evaluate matters and speak up, whether you are part of the crew, work shoreside, are a manager or are managed, the NINA Values apply to everyone.

In the next edition: Frans Olsthoorn, Project Manager

EYE-OPENER

At the beginning of this year, a NINA refresher workshop was held. The new priorities are 'sharing' and 'interaction', for instance through 'management visits'. "It was an eye-opener for me that crewmembers feel it is so important", says Christian Veraart, manager Subsea Rock-installation. "So thanks to NINA, I am very personally involved in safety on board. It's very motivating!"



Rockpiper working at the Sleipner platform