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**Secretariat of ISO/TC 67/SC7
Offshore Structures for Petroleum
and Natural Gas Industries**

To: ISO/TC 67/SC7 P- and O- Member Bodies
For forwarding to their National Delegates

Dear Member,

You will be aware that ISO 19901-2 is due its first systematic review. Although the document has not received any comments since it was published, there were some late comments that were received on ISO FDIS 19901-2 and that were deferred for later consideration. These comments were:

1. The document describes a procedure using a return period of 1 000 years. This return period give a much lower reliability of the structures than the actions from environmental loading as waves. To keep the same structural reliability the return period should be increased to at least 10 000 years.
2. The term "Probability of failure" should not be used (clause 6.4). The use of "annual probability of exceedance" of a earthquake magnitude is more appropriate. The term "Probability of failure" is normally used in structural engineering as the probability of a structural failure.
3. The possibility to get slides hitting the platform caused by earthquakes, should also be evaluated. If no guidance is given in this document, a general statement describing the problem and the impact should be included.
4. Production of petroleum may cause changes in the reservoir - causing earthquakes. The effect on the platforms should be evaluated. This effect has been experienced in tectonic active areas.

The first comment, in particular, requires some consideration as a return period of 10 000 years could be unduly onerous, both in comparison to the other risks facing an offshore structure, and also in comparison with the requirements for major on-shore structures and buildings.

As Convenor of WG 3, I am proposing a small technical panel addresses this issue and either confirms the current requirements or proposes revised requirements to be incorporated into a second edition of ISO 19901-2.

If you wish to nominate an expert in seismic considerations please advise me as soon as possible so that the technical panel can commence their work in April 2009.

Kind regards

David Galbraith

Convenor ISO TC 67 / SC 7 / WG 3

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