



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Issue

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OCIMF's Transition to Digitalised Tanker Inspections Gathers Pace

All programme users will soon be able to participate in trial SIRE 2.0 inspections

07 August 2023 – (LONDON) The Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) has successfully completed the first phase of the 'four-phased' roll-out and testing of the digitalised tanker inspection regime, SIRE 2.0, which will replace all existing SIRE inspections for tankers. Phase 2 of the transition is now underway, with invited programme users testing the entire end-to-end SIRE 2.0 inspection process with minimal support from the OCIMF Secretariat.

SIRE inspections are widely used by the marine industry to assess vessel safety and operational performance. As a digitalised inspection programme, SIRE 2.0 transforms the way inspections are carried out, with OCIMF-accredited inspectors completing a bespoke risk-based inspection questionnaire (CVIQ) using a tablet device rather than a static paper questionnaire. This means no two inspections will be the same and vessel operators and crew must be prepared to respond to any question within the SIRE 2.0 Question Library.

SIRE 2.0 also has an increased focus on assessing the human element, an ability for vessel operators as well as inspectors to submit photographic and documentary evidence and introduces the ability for inspectors to highlight how crews have exceeded expectations.

Aaron Cooper, Programmes Director, OCIMF, said: *"We are transitioning to SIRE 2.0 over several phases as we recognise that moving to a digitalised regime with new processes and procedures is a significant change for industry and it needs to be done very carefully."*

"Phase one – where a limited number of invited parties conducted SIRE 2.0 inspections with the support of our project team – was a great success overall and we have been able to gather crucial feedback and recommendations from participants. Phase two, which is now underway, sees a greater



number of participants involved and conducting SIRE 2.0 inspections, this time without our support, so we can really interrogate how user-friendly the system is and – of course – collect feedback and opinions through the Suggestions for Improvement function within SIRE 2.0 and in our follow-up sessions.”

OCIMF has been actively engaging with industry through industry engagements and training sessions and is urging all programme participants to ensure they are fully familiarised with all documentation relating to SIRE 2.0. The organisation stressed that all parties involved in a tanker inspection, including Captains and crew, should be familiarised using the training resources provided by OCIMF and available to industry [here](#). Particular attention should be paid to the document *SIRE 2.0 Conditions of Participation, Policies and Procedures*, available [here](#).

“It is imperative that, when the time comes, all users of the programme take the opportunity to participate in phase three – when all programme users will have the opportunity to conduct a SIRE 2.0 inspection to test their own readiness. When SIRE 2.0 does fully ‘go-live’ at phase four, the existing system, VIQ7, will be withdrawn. Operators, programme participants and recipients really should take the opportunity to test their readiness before SIRE 2.0 becomes the commercial tool. They need to be preparing and familiarising themselves with all of the materials now.” Cooper added.

All companies engaged in the SIRE programme will be provided with ample notice before Phase 3 is activated. Phase 3 will provide all programme participants with the opportunity to conduct SIRE 2.0 inspections for familiarisation and testing purposes, however VIQ7 will still be used as the commercial inspection programme throughout Phase 3.

More phase-specific information will be provided to all programme participants in the coming weeks through the existing SIRE programme portal.

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SIRE 2.0 Phased Roll-Out Timetable			
	Approx. timeframe	Stakeholders Included	Goal
Phase 1: SIRE 2.0 internal testing [completed]	1 month	OCIMF Secretariat & Submitting Companies and vessel operators involved in initial trials	Internal end-to-end testing of the SIRE 2.0 system
Members Confirm Critical Success Factors Achieved			
Phase 2: Beta test of full end-to-end process [currently underway]	2 months	Optional participation for invited parties	End-to-end testing without assistance from the OCIMF Secretariat Capturing of feedback to advance to Phase 3
Members Confirm Critical Success Factors Achieved			
Phase 3: Unlimited beta test of full end-to-end process	4 months	Optional participation for all programme participants (can use SIRE 2.0 for training purposes – VIQ7 remains the commercial programme)	To allow ALL Submitting Companies, vessel operators and programme recipients to use the SIRE 2.0 system prior to full launch
Members Confirm Critical Success Factors Achieved			
Phase 4 — SIRE (VIQ7) withdrawn		All programme participants	SIRE 2.0 launched and replaces the SIRE VIQ7 as the commercial inspection programme – all inspections will be SIRE 2.0 inspections VIQ7 reports will be available for 12 months following the launch of SIRE 2.0

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About OCIMF:

1. The Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) is a voluntary association of oil companies with an interest in the shipment and terminalling of crude oil, oil products,



petrochemicals and gas. OCIMF focuses exclusively on preventing harm to people and the environment by promoting best practice in the design, construction and operation of tankers, barges and offshore vessels and their interfaces with terminals.

Vision

A global marine industry that causes no harm to people or the environment.

Mission

To lead the global marine industry in the promotion of safe and environmentally responsible transportation of crude oil, oil products, petrochemicals and gas, and to drive the same values in the management of related offshore marine operations.

We do this by developing best practices in the design, construction and safe operation of tankers, barges and offshore vessels and their interfaces with terminals and considering human factors in everything we do.

- Further information and documentation on SIRE 2.0 can be viewed at:
<https://www.ocimf.org/programmes/sire-2-0>

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