The OCIMF Marine Terminal Information System (MTIS)

Working together for safety and efficiency at the ship shore interface
THE MARINE TERMINAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
Promoting consistently high operational standards at marine terminals worldwide

Improving terminal safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental protection

OCIMF’s Marine Terminal Information System (MTIS) aims to help all marine terminals worldwide continuously improve their operational standards of safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental protection.

To do this, MTIS brings together all the relevant information required by stakeholders regarding a terminal’s physical properties and management systems. MTIS holds this information in one place, offering a replacement for the current need to consult multiple sources. MTIS consists of a suite of three programmes covering the terminal’s physical, management and operations systems.

MTIS also includes guides to help terminal operators continuously improve their management systems, operator training and competence.

Have you registered yet?
The more terminals MTIS covers, the greater the benefits to the industry in terms of enhanced operational performance.

So it is important that anyone who operates a marine terminal registers within the system, completes the relevant MTPQs and conducts MTMSAs. Registration is absolutely free and OCIMF personnel are always available to help make the process as easy and efficient as possible.

The aim is that all the world’s marine terminals are captured within MTIS, raising safety and environmental performance to a consistently high standard.

Through these three programmes OCIMF is bringing together and sharing vital information and best practice from its oil company members and elsewhere to provide safety-critical data and guidance aimed at improving operational safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental protection. A dedicated Marine Terminal Focus Group has been established within OCIMF to regularly review MTIS and identify ways it can be continuously improved – including responding to user feedback.
**Significant benefits to terminal operators**

OCIMF’s trusted, neutral and fully independent status within the global industry is at the heart of its ability to capture and share information and best practice aimed at continuously improving terminal performance.

In particular, by their willingness to exchange technical data and practical experience terminal operators can derive a number of benefits from MTIS, including:

- Simpler, faster dissemination of terminal information through a single central database that relevant stakeholders can access.
- Continuous improvement of safety management systems through best practice self assessment using MTMSA.
- A standardised approach to management system self assessment, building upon the philosophy proven in other OCIMF programmes.
- Through the use of MTOCT, better trained and more competent terminal operators.
- A secure process for sharing information that is owned and managed by the terminal operators themselves. Terminal operators retain full control over their data.
- Enhanced demonstration of terminal capabilities through the MTPQ.
- Improved safety, reliability, efficiency and environmental standards leading to fewer incidents.
- Improved operational efficiency through quicker and more accurate matching of terminals and ships.

MTIS complements OCIMF’s International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals (ISGOTT), which aims to be the definitive guide to the safe carriage and handling of crude oil and petroleum products on tankers and at terminals.

“Effective ship/shore interface is critical to both terminal and ship operators for efficient and incident free operations. MTIS will go a long way to improving that all important interface.”

Tim Coombs
GENERAL MANAGER OFFSHORE AND MARINE TERMINALS, CHEVRON
An industry-wide database will make it easier for everyone to access terminal information

Accurate and comprehensive terminal information is essential to:

- Ensure the compatibility of ships and terminals.
- Enhance operational efficiency and reliability.
- Prevent incidents that may harm people or the environment.

This is why OCIMF aims to compile a comprehensive database of industry standard information for all the world’s estimated 3,500 marine terminals – from mooring arrangements, to berth equipment, water depths and transfer rates – and make this data readily accessible to terminal users.

“As a responsible member of OCIMF we have completed the MTPQ for all marine facilities. Having a single industry database for all the information about our terminals has reduced the number of direct requests for information and made our life easier.”

Dr. Jörg Walter
GROUP DIRECTOR HSSE & CORPORATE COMMUNICATION, MARQUARD & BAHLNS AG

To capture the information, OCIMF developed the Marine Terminal Particulars Questionnaire (MTPQ). MTPQ is a carefully structured, standard format using consistent units of measurement that facilitates ready comparison of terminal data with data about ships.

In particular, MTPQ is fully aligned with vessel data held on OCIMF’s Ship Inspection Report Programme (SIRE) database and compatible with the new Harmonised Vessel Particulars Questionnaire. This enables vessel programmers, schedulers and terminal operators to assess quickly and easily the compatibility of ships and terminals and ensure safe operation and environmental protection. Because all the terminal information is available on a single central database readily accessed on-line, there is less need for ship captains and terminal managers to spend time requesting data from each other and answering the same questions again and again.

Information from the MTPQ database is available to terminal operators in a format that is suitable for onward transmission, so it acts as a single repository of data that they can use for a variety of purposes. Terminals can also attach their own information to the MTPQ system to make it generally available, helping reduce the number of ad hoc questions they have to answer.

The database was launched in 2011. Data on hundreds of terminals covering every continent have already been captured and many more are being added every week.

Self assessment guide helps terminals improve their management systems

OCIMF members have found the Tanker Management and Self Assessment (TMSA) guide a practical and valuable tool for continuous improvement for the tanker operators that use it. Building on this positive experience, OCIMF has developed a similar guide to Marine Terminal Management and Self Assessment (MTMSA). MTMSA is designed to help marine terminal operators assess, measure and improve the effectiveness of their management systems.

Launched in 2013, MTMSA captures worldwide best practice guidance and key performance indicators against which terminal operators can benchmark their management systems relating to berth operations and the ship-to-shore interface. In particular, the assessment process helps terminal operators identify gaps, plan for future improvement and build a sustainable business for the longer-term.

MTMSA offers terminal operators a number of clear benefits:

- It acts as a leading indicator, helping prevent incidents.
- It helps raise standards and establish a cycle of continuous improvement.
- It provides factual information on which to base management decisions.
- It is being continuously improved by incorporating operator feedback and best practice.

Terminal operators can use the MTMSA guide to develop their own internal review methodology, continuously improve their safety and environmental performance and identify and share best practice around their terminal network. They can also submit their assessment report to OCIMF’s terminal database and choose how widely the information can be shared.

Of course, terminal operators need to be sure that the assessments are conducted rigorously by suitably skilled staff. To help them provide this assurance, the online MTMSA guide includes advice on how to verify that the self assessment has been conducted correctly.

The guide is available online at no cost to registered users of MTIS. A hard copy is also available from www.witherbyseamanship.com.
Developing cost-effective, targeted training programmes

The Marine Terminal Operator Competence and Training (MTOCT) guide aims to help marine terminal managers ensure the people operating the ship/shore interface have all the necessary skills and experience. The guide identifies all the essential competences and knowledge requirements for particular roles. Terminal managers can then assess each member of staff against this best practice, identify any gaps and establish individual training needs. In this way, terminals can use the guide to develop or commission their own cost-effective, targeted operator training programmes.

MTOCT also includes advice on maintaining training records and verifying that the training programme is achieving its goals.

The MTOCT guide is available in hard copy, including a customisable CD-ROM.

“MTIS is the wave of the future for improving the ship/shore interface. The three primary modules (MTPQ, MTMSA, MTOCT) should help raise the best practice standards at our marine terminals worldwide.”

Steve Carr
NUSTAR ENERGY LP (OCIMF MEMBER)

MTIS website – simple, standard and secure

Easy access using google map

MTIS features a user friendly search function, allowing you to identify terminals by precisely defining the geographic areas that are of interest.

Assess vessel and berth compatibility

MTIS provides the facility to compare vessel and berth dimensions automatically using VPQ (Vessel) and MTPQ (Berth) data.

To ensure user-friendliness, MTIS databases and other software have the same look, feel and features as existing tools, for example TMSA and SIRE. This includes clear language and navigation with extensive use of drop-down menus to simplify data entry.

Terminal operators who submit MTPQ and MTMSA information can also be confident that security is, as ever, at the heart of OCIMF’s software development and that their information will only be shared in the ways they have specified. For example, they have complete control over which types of organisation can access their MTPQ and MTMSA data.

Expert help and advice is available from the OCIMF secretariat for those terminal operators who wish to structure MTPQ entries for multiple terminals.
Access to MTIS is available to:

- All terminal operators, whether OCIMF members or others. If you have one or more terminals that you wish to register within the MTIS website, select the ‘Terminal Operator’ account.

- MTIS recipient organisations. These are OCIMF members and third parties such as shipping agents, shipping companies, charterers, vetting departments and port authorities who may wish to have access to the MTPQ and MTMSA information. If you are not a terminal operator, select the ‘MTIS Recipient’ account.

Terminal operators are able to view reports uploaded by other terminals, unless those terminals have limited the types of organisation allowed to have access.

It is free to register or to download the MTPQ and MTMSA reports that operators make available within MTIS.

To register and for more information

Visit www.ocimf-mtis.org/

For a set of Frequently Asked Questions and Answers, visit the website.

For general information on MTIS:
Telephone +44 (0)20 7654 1218

Support queries:
Email mtissupport@ocimf.com

Administrative queries:
Email mtisadmin@ocimf.com

Publications
OCIMF’s publications are available from www.witherbyseamanship.com

“The lack of readily available, detailed and competent information is one of the main challenges we encounter when vetting a new terminal.”

Bill Crabb
VETTING TEAM, PHILIPS 66
What is OCIMF?

OCIMF is a voluntary association of oil companies with an interest in the shipment and terminalling of crude oil, oil products, petrochemicals and gas.

Our mission is to be the foremost authority on the safe and environmentally responsible operation of oil tankers, terminals and offshore support vessels, promoting continuous improvement in standards of design and operation.

Today, OCIMF is widely recognised as the voice of the oil industry providing expertise in the safe and environmentally responsible transport and handling of hydrocarbons in ships and terminals and setting standards for continuous improvement. OCIMF’s extensive membership includes every oil major in the world, the majority of National Oil Companies and major terminalling companies.

History

OCIMF was formed in April 1970 in response to the growing public concern about marine pollution, particularly by oil, after the Torrey Canyon incident in 1967.

In the early 1970s, a variety of anti-pollution initiatives were starting to emerge nationally, regionally and internationally, but with little coordination. Through OCIMF, the oil industry was able to play a stronger, coordinating role in response to these initiatives, making its professional expertise widely available through cooperation with government and intergovernmental bodies. OCIMF was granted consultative status at the IMO in 1977 and continues to present oil industry views at IMO meetings. Since then, its role has broadened to take account the changing maritime activities of its membership. Its remit now covers tankers, barges, offshore support vessels and terminals and its advice extends to issues like shipping in ice and large-scale piracy, which rarely troubled the oil industry when OCIMF was first created in the 1970s.

“Vopak recently joined OCIMF because we believed it would help us to further improve and embed our safety and sustainability ambition. OCIMF’s great network and wealth of knowledge and experience has proven to do so.”

Frank-Jan Thijssen,
MANAGER GLOBAL OPERATIONS,
ROYAL VOPAK NV
OCIMF’s contribution today

In addition to its extensive publications library, OCIMF has a rich portfolio of tools:

**SIRE**
The Ship Inspection and Report programme is a unique tanker and barge risk assessment tool. Originally launched in 1993, it is widely used by charterers, terminal operators and government bodies to assist in the assurance of vessel safety.

**TMSA**
The Tanker Management and Self Assessment programme was introduced in 2004 as a tool to help vessel operators assess, measure and improve their safety management systems.

**OVID**
The Offshore Vessel Inspection Database was launched in January 2010 as a voluntary system of inspection for those vessels (such as Platform Supply Vessels, Anchor Handling Tugs, and diving and cable-laying vessels) involved in the support of offshore exploration and production.

**OVMSA**
OVID is complemented by an Offshore Vessel Management Self Assessment tool that has the same aims as TMSA.

**MTIS**
The Marine Terminal Information System is a comprehensive set of tools comprising a Marine Terminal Particulars Questionnaire, Marine Terminal Management and Self Assessment, and a guide to Marine Terminal Operator Competence and Training.

“SIRE was a significant milestone in improving oil tanker operations globally. MTIS will become a similar milestone in the development of safe, efficient and environmentally responsible terminal management, offering a simple standardised way to share vital information to improve terminal safety and operations.”

Andrew Cassels
DIRECTOR, OCIMF

By providing practical tools to promote safety and environment protection, OCIMF has made an important contribution to the industry’s significantly improved performance over the past few decades. Chart: Intertanko.