

**International Regulators' Offshore Safety Conference
4-6 December, 2007**

A Note from the Program Committee Chair

Conference Aims

The conference website currently states the purpose as “to share experiences and to compare differences in regulatory approach and safety performance.” In my letters to the Programme Committee I amplified the aims as follows:

“The Miami Conference will continue the aims of the first Conference and promote the vision that good safety performance is complementary to best operational performance and therefore safety is vitally important to the social and economic wellbeing of the countries where offshore oil and gas is produced, or where it is planned to develop an offshore industry.”

“The intended outcomes of the meeting will be the identification of important safety issues that are common to the participating countries in 2007/08 and the further development of an international support network for governments that was begun successfully after the 2005 Conference.”

Following further internal discussions, it was decided to secure the conference aims and outcomes by focusing on the topic of **asset integrity**. It is known that this important aspect of the sustainability of our industry is a key issue across the world. This approach was preferred to a more open agenda that might, in the short time available at the conference, fail to achieve consensus.

For the purposes of the conference “asset integrity” is defined as **the maintenance of fitness for purpose of offshore structures, process plant, connected pipelines and risers, wells and wellheads, drilling and well intervention facilities, and stability systems**. Following discussion with the Programme Committee we have agreed to concentrate on ‘as-built’ structures or facilities, and therefore focus particularly on i) life extension of aging structures, including major modifications; ii) wellbore integrity; iii) ship/facility interface operations; and iv) process safety, including maintenance, verification, and safety management systems.



Taf Powell 11th May 2007