
Oil and Gas Platform Supervision: Permit Control, Shift Handover and Crew Leadership Training Course

23 – 27 November 2026
Vienna





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Programme Summary

Oil and gas platform supervision is the subject of this one-week training course for senior platform supervisors and operations managers, ending in a supervision plan for one production platform. Platforms run many tasks at once under shift rotation, and failures in permit control, handover or crew direction are where serious incidents begin. The programme links work control, simultaneous operations, handover, crew leadership and incident escalation, then applies each tool to one platform. Mars Training Centre UK delivers this programme on oil and gas platform supervision to mixed-organisation cohorts.

The Business Case

A platform depends on supervisors who decide, every shift, which work may start, which tasks may overlap and what the next crew must know. Leaders who strengthen oil and gas platform supervision with clear permit control, disciplined handover and prepared escalation reduce avoidable stoppages.

- Permit Quality: Improves as permits are checked against isolations, hazards and overlapping tasks.
- Information Lost at Handover: Reduces as handover content and format are standardised across shifts.
- Time to Escalate an Incident: Shortens as triggers, roles and reporting lines are agreed before they are needed.

Principles and Evidence Base

- ISO 45001 on occupational health and safety management: It frames the supervisor duties for hazard control and worker participation in Sessions 1 and 2.
- ISO 31000 on risk management: It structures the ranking of overlapping tasks and the escalation triggers in Sessions 2 and 4.
- IOGP Life-Saving Rules: They anchor the high-risk activity checks used in permit review in Sessions 1 and 3.

Intended Participants

- Platform and installation supervisors who direct daily work across shifts.
- Operations managers who set the supervision standards for several platforms.
- Control of work leaders who issue, review and close work permits.
- Maintenance and projects leaders who plan work that overlaps with production.
- Safety leaders who investigate incidents and follow up actions.

Typical settings include offshore production, onshore gas plants, drilling support and facility maintenance.



Learning Outcomes

1. Participants will be able to diagnose weaknesses in permit control on a platform from permit records.
2. Participants will be able to evaluate the risk of simultaneous operations using a common ranking scale.
3. Participants will be able to construct a shift handover format that carries the information the next crew needs.
4. Participants will be able to prioritise crew and contractor supervision tasks by exposure to risk.
5. Participants will be able to design an incident escalation route with named triggers and roles.
6. Participants will be able to justify a supervision plan for one platform to operations leadership.

Programme Structure

Day 1: Supervisor Duties and Control of Work Principles

What must a platform supervisor control, and how does a permit system support that control?

- Supervisor Duty and Authority Map
- Permit to Work Flow Diagram
- IOGP Life-Saving Rules Checklist
- ISO 45001 Hazard Control Hierarchy
- Permit Record Review Sheet

Day 2: Permit Review and Simultaneous Operations

How are overlapping tasks identified, ranked and separated on one installation?

- Isolation and Permit Cross-Check Grid
- Simultaneous Operations Conflict Matrix
- Task Overlap Risk Ranking Scale
- Work Site Briefing Template
- Permit Suspension Decision Guide

Day 3: Shift Handover and Information Flow

What must pass from one crew to the next, and in what form?

- Handover Content Standard
- Handover Log Template
- Open Permit and Isolation Register
- Communication Failure Case Review
- Fatigue and Shift Pattern Review Grid



Day 4: Crew Leadership and Incident Escalation

How does a supervisor direct crews and contractors, and when does a concern become an escalation?

- Crew and Contractor Supervision Plan
- Stop Work Authority Decision Tree
- Incident Escalation Trigger Table
- Reporting Line and Role Chart
- Follow-Up Action Tracker

Day 5: Applying the Tools to One Platform Supervision Plan

Do the permit, overlap, handover and escalation tools work together on one platform?

- Applying the Session 1 Permit Review Sheet to Sample Records
- Testing the Session 2 Conflict Matrix on a Work Schedule
- Adopting the Session 3 Handover Standard
- Mapping Session 4 Escalation Triggers to Roles
- Completing the Platform Supervision Plan

Methodology

The programme uses a structured exercise method built on anonymised permit records, work schedules, handover logs and short written cases from offshore and onshore facilities. Participants work in small supervisory teams on one platform and receive facilitator feedback on every review, ranking and plan.

- Suggested activity: Reviewing six permits and listing the checks that were missed.
- Suggested activity: Marking overlaps on a weekly work schedule and ranking them.
- Suggested activity: Rewriting a poor handover note into the agreed format.

Capstone Output

Each participant completes a supervision plan for one production platform. It holds a duty map, a permit review routine, a conflict matrix, a handover standard, a crew supervision plan and an escalation table. The plan is used at work to brief operations leadership, set expectations for supervisors on each shift and prepare the next review of work control.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is training in oil and gas platform supervision suitable for managers who have not supervised a platform?

Yes. The programme assumes familiarity with plant operations and builds oil and gas platform supervision skills from duties and permit control upward.



Which standards does oil and gas platform supervision rest on in this programme?

It rests on ISO 45001 for occupational health and safety management, ISO 31000 for risk management and the IOGP Life-Saving Rules.

How is the supervision plan for oil and gas platform supervision used at work?

You use it to brief operations leadership, set expectations for each shift and prepare the next review of permit control and handover.

How does learning oil and gas platform supervision differ from a programme on process safety leadership?

It centres on daily work control, handover and crews on one installation, while process safety leadership centres on safety management systems across the whole organisation.