

Safety and Environmental Management System for Offshore Wind Operations and Assets

API RECOMMENDED PRACTICE 75W
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Introduction

This document describes the elements of a Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) for offshore operations, in the offshore wind energy sector focusing on the purpose and minimum expectations for each element. In reviewing this document, the focus should be on assuring that the applicable elements and their expectations are addressed rather than the formatting, organization, or order of the elements and expectations.

This document is not intended to be prescriptive or limiting on the expectations of each element; rather, it allows flexibility appropriate to the size, scope, and risk of a Company's assets and operations. It is advised that users of this document review and comply with applicable legal and regulatory requirements and conform with applicable industry codes and standards.

Once the SEMS is established and implemented, it should be maintained and periodically reviewed to facilitate continual improvement. For the purposes of simplicity and clarity, in this document the words "safety" or "safely" refer to the management of safety and the environment. Consideration may be given to using this document to help systematically manage other aspects of operations, such as security and health.

Background

Recommended Practice (RP) 75W is an offshore wind energy specific RP consistent with API Recommended Practice 75, 4th edition. There are many operators and contractors that have implemented a safety management system to conform with API Recommended Practice 75, 4th edition. To drive consistent expectations for safety management systems, there is a desire from these companies to operate offshore energy activities under a single safety management system. API Recommended Practice 75W leverages global knowledge with the safe development and operation of offshore wind assets and decades of development and operational experience from offshore industries.

API Recommended Practice 75W includes the following:

- Performance-driven expectations: This edition provides guidance for the systematic and thoughtful evaluation of assets and operations to better identify and manage risks. It is written to account for evolutions in technology, operations, and knowledge to promote continual improvement and active management of risk. It is not intended to be prescriptive in how to satisfy the expectations.
- Global applicability: This edition can be used globally for offshore operations and is not limited to a particular region or regulatory regime.
- Relevant to all companies and personnel: This edition applies to operators, contractors, and others performing work within the scope of this RP.
- Interface management: This edition includes guidance on managing the interfaces and related risks among other entities performing work offshore.
- Full scope of operations: This edition includes applicability to all offshore operations.
- Human performance: This edition enhances the previous edition's general consideration of human factors by integrating more detailed human performance expectations throughout the document.
- Structure and consistency: This edition has a standardized format for all elements and provides clear and consistent expectations.

Notable changes specific to API Recommended Practice 75W from API Recommended Practice 75, 4th edition are:

- administrative changes from offshore operations and assets to offshore wind operations and assets;
- definition added for “offshore wind energy”;
- SEMS Interface Examples changed from parenthetical oil and gas scenarios to parenthetical offshore wind scenarios;
- updated bibliography to offshore wind references.

Safety and Environmental Management System for Offshore Wind Operations and Assets

1 Scope

This RP provides companies engaged in offshore operations in the offshore wind energy sector with a framework for the establishment, implementation, and maintenance of a Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) to manage and reduce risks associated with safety and the environment to prevent incidents and unplanned events.

This RP applies, in part or whole, to companies engaged in offshore operations throughout the project life cycle.

For simplicity and clarity in this RP, the words “safety” or “safely” can refer to the management of safety and environmental risks.

NOTE Although this RP is written for the offshore wind energy sector, its principles can be applied to other offshore industries after performing an engineering and management analysis.

2 Normative References

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms, Definitions, and Abbreviations

3.1 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1.1

adequate

Sufficient for a specific need or requirement.

3.1.2

administrative change

A change to processes, practices, policies, procedures, standards, or controlled documents.

3.1.3

asset

The equipment (individual items or integrated systems) or software used offshore.

3.1.4

commissioning

When a component or system is ready to operate as designed and transitions to operational readiness.

3.1.5

company

An operator, contractor, or partnership engaged in offshore operations.

3.1.6

contractor

The individual, partnership, firm, or corporation retained by the Company to perform work or provide an asset, supplies, or information.