

➔ FACT SHEET WALK-TO-WORK



Marine Safety



Marine transfer

The traditional method of transporting personnel offshore in the North Sea is by helicopter. However, sometimes exceptional circumstances mean helicopters are unavailable and other established methods of marine transfer may be used, such as **walk-to-work**.

What it involves

Transport to the installation is provided by a suitable vessel. A heave-compensated gangway installed on the vessel then connects to a point on the installation, allowing personnel to walk safely from one to the other.

What you need to know

- It is **safe**. Walk-to-work gangways currently operating in the North Sea have heave compensation systems and can operate in up to 3m significant wave height. There have been no lost-time injury incidents since the first unit started operations in 2006.
- The method is only suitable for **certain types** of installation, with the appropriate deck levels/deck access to allow a bridge link to be landed. Some installations can have landing points retro-fitted.
- Walk-to-work systems have been used successfully in the UKCS since early 2006, and globally have transferred over 400,000 personnel, therefore there is an existing base of **expertise and knowledge**.
- There is existing **guidance and regulation** in place to ensure safe walk-to-work transfers.
- You have the **right to say no** if you're not comfortable with it.



Find out more

Step Change in Safety has established a workgroup, focusing on the safe transfer of personnel offshore by means other than helicopter. The group will initially look at pulling together existing guidance and information to help companies safely plan transfers. Find out more at <http://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/about/MarineTransfer.cfm>

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