

Reaching Out to Stakeholders: A New Feature on the Website

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Today the International Regulators' Forum (IRF) is announcing a new feature on its website: articles written by IRF members on topics central to the current offshore oil and gas environment throughout the world. The articles will be highlighted on the Homepage of the [IRF website](#) as they are rolled out and archived under a new "Monthly Articles" tab on the left side toolbar.

The articles are the genesis of a conversation among the IRF membership at the October 2016 IRF Annual General Meeting held in Auckland, New Zealand. Recognizing the benefit of interacting and sharing information on mutually important topics over the years, IRF members determined to expand its outward communications with non-member regulators, the regulated community and other stakeholders around the globe. As a result, we formalized our commitment to this effort. Each month, an IRF member will author an article on topics ranging from "safety at risk in a low oil price environment" to "aging infrastructure and equipment". Through these articles, we hope that readers will learn more about the concerns and issues that we, as the regulators of safety in the offshore industry, share. Although the topics published each month are about issues of interest to all IRF members, each article will be written from the perspective of the authoring IRF member.

These are challenging times for the offshore oil and gas industry, something every member of the IRF recognizes. We know that information from the IRF won't impact the price environment, but it might help stakeholders better understand the regulator perspective so that we can all operate using a common language. We are planning to publish articles that will have transnational appeal, and that will eventually touch on all facets of the offshore oil and gas industry. The monthly articles are meant to bridge the communications gap between the IRF Offshore Safety Conferences, but most importantly, to provide a platform to hear from the IRF regularly.

In December, the first monthly article will be posted on the [IRF website](#). If you have ideas for topics we should consider covering in future months and years, please send suggestions to us at bseeoip@bsee.gov. Otherwise, please check the IRF website in early December for the first release.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of any other IRF member.