

## 26 Offshore diving safety specialist (DSS)

### 26.1 Application

[Clause 26](#) applies to all offshore diving operations in Canada. The diving safety specialist is an individual who demonstrates extensive competence in offshore diving operations through a combination of training, knowledge, and experience and applies this competence to the specific diving project for which the appointment was issued. To assist consulting engineers, clients, contractors, and supervisors in operational procedures, legislated due diligence requirements, quality assurance, and risk assessment, an offshore diving safety specialist applies this competence to specific diving projects to which he or she is assigned.

### 26.2 Working categories for the offshore diving safety specialist

These categories of offshore diving safety specialist consist of:

- (a) unrestricted surface-supplied diving operations; and
- (b) bell diving operations.

### 26.3 Competency criteria

#### 26.3.1 Unrestricted surface-supplied diving operations

The diving safety specialist shall

- (a) have at least five years' experience as an unrestricted surface-supplied diver;
- (b) have been appointed and performed as a supervisor of unrestricted surface-supplied diving in diving operations for an additional period of at least five years;
- (c) have obtained adequate training in the technical, operational, regulatory, management, and safety aspects of unrestricted surface-supplied diving operations;
- (d) meet the requirements of a diver and diving supervisor as set out in [Clauses 10](#) and [14](#); and
- (e) have successfully completed
  - (i) a recognized dynamically positioned induction training course or a minimum 2 d dynamic positioning familiarization course; and
  - (ii) 700 signed-on dive panel hours working as an offshore supervisor on dynamically positioned vessels.

#### 26.3.2 Bell diving operations

The diving safety specialist shall

- (a) have at least five years' experience as a bell diver;
- (b) have been appointed and performed as a supervisor of bell diving in diving operations for an additional period of at least five years;
- (c) have obtained adequate training in the technical, operational, regulatory, management, and safety aspects of bell diving operations;
- (d) meet the requirements of a bell diver and bell diving supervisor as set out in [Clauses 17](#) and [18](#); and
- (e) have successfully completed
  - (i) a recognized dynamically positioned induction training course or a minimum 2 d dynamic positioning familiarization course; and
  - (ii) 700 signed-on dive panel hours working as an offshore supervisor on dynamically positioned vessels.

### 26.4 Performance requirements

The diving safety specialist shall

- (a) ensure that his or her diving safety specialist certification is carried offshore;
- (b) advise the operator or contractor on applications for authorization to dive;
- (c) provide interpretations of the Government of Canada's *Canada Oil and Gas Diving Regulations* and this Standard; and
- (d) be available on a 24-hour-a-day basis to advise the operator or contractor or any other person involved in the diving operation, including any person making decisions affecting the safety of the divers, on all safety aspects of the diving operation.