

Arctic Operations Support

Introduction

PGI was asked to assist a leading offshore drilling contractor with their Arctic drilling campaign. The company has a fleet of over 60 mobile offshore drilling units operating globally in a range of hazardous and difficult operating environments. The company had an extensive and in depth knowledge of the oil and gas sector and drilling specifically but had limited experience in dealing with the operational, hazard and reputational risk associated with environmental non-governmental organisations (eNGO's) that were, and continue to be, opposed to operations in the Arctic Ocean.

Solution

PGI brought together a multi-disciplinary group of intelligence, risk, maritime and information security, legal and commercial professionals overseen by a dedicated Oil and Gas account management team to formulate an appropriate and cost-justified risk mitigation plan from which to base subsequent operational safeguards.

An integrated programme of services was delivered across the corporate spectrum from Headquarters to operations in Norway, The Indian Ocean, Singapore, Malaysia, The Pacific Ocean, various states in the USA and the Arctic Ocean itself.

Services delivered included:

- eNGO monitoring to provide information on current and likely future activity based on specialised analysis and scenario planning.
- eNGO awareness and response training for crews, port staff and office personnel to ensure the proper handling of eNGO protest activities and associated safety concerns.
- Detailed Security Vulnerability Assessments in line with ISPS guidelines for vessels, rigs and ports over the duration of the two year project.
- Embedded Security Project Management staff to provide continuity of approach across multiple business units. The role initially focussed on the drilling company projects but quickly escalated to be a key information and assurance asset for the Operator. The role was integral to the smooth interaction of business, law enforcement and local government stakeholders.
- Maritime security advisors to provide assurance to the Masters of transport vessels, support vessels and the drilling rig itself. With a key understanding of reputational risk the advisers were able to reduce the publicity impact of eNGO direct action and provide documentary evidence for any potential legal action.

Benefits

The drilling contractor benefited from a good understanding of the eNGO threat which allowed appropriate risk mitigation measures to be implemented. Operational and Hazard risk was minimised with no "Lost Time Incidents" attributed to security related incidents. Primarily, Reputational Risk was minimised and credibility gained and trust strengthened with the drilling contractor's client.