



Energy & Industry Department Prime Minister's Office Note to Industry (NTI)

TOPIC Workplace Safety and Health Order 2009: Use of Self Righting Life Jackets			Reference Number 2017/NTI/6
Approved by: Head of HSE	Issue date: 13 April 2017	Expiry date: OPEN	Revision No: 1

The Energy and Industry Department, Prime Minister's Office HSE Division, has been working closely with the Oil and Gas, Energy sectors for the past few years in improving health, safety and environment awareness and procedures. All identified COMAH facilities have submitted safety cases and are in receipt of safety case certificates. Through verification and regulatory inspections, it has been identified, that there are a number of activities which place persons who are employees and also persons not their employees near the water's edge or where there is potential to fall in the water.

It has also been noted that the majority of persons working offshore do not know how to swim and, as such, are at a disadvantage in all weathers. Where there is a feasible chance for a person working to be near or over water or requires to cross from on location to another, e.g. while stepping or swinging between a marine craft and offshore structure; the individual shall be provided with and wear a life jacket. Where the risk is assessed and there is potential to fall in the water, the person shall be provided with a self-righting jacket of adequate strength and capability to turn the person, so that his face is upwards automatically in a case where he loses consciousness.

All employers, operators and Duty Holders working on or engaged in activities related to COMAH facilities shall ensure that no individuals are put at risk and adequately protected with such life-jackets. Fully cognizant of the number of individuals working offshore, the Regulator will review the full implementation of this requirement by the **1st December 2017**.

All are guided by the Workplace Safety and Health Order 2009 (WSHO), as amended, Sections 12, 13, 14 and 15. Any person not providing adequate measures to protect their employees or persons not their employees, may be found in breach of the WSHO.