



International Association of
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News Release

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IAGC's Global Environmental Manual Sets Standards for Industry Care of the Environment

Houston, TX – International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) has released the newest edition of its Environmental Manual for Worldwide Geophysical Operations.

First published in 1994 as the *Environmental Guidelines for Worldwide Operations* and then in 2001 with its current title, the *Environmental Manual for Worldwide Geophysical Operations* demonstrates IAGC members' commitment to minimizing potential impacts from their operations to the environment, and serves as a guide for identifying factors to consider when developing an environmental management plan.

Chip Gill, International Association of Geophysical Contractors President said, "The geophysical industry is committed to conducting our operations in a sustainable, environmentally responsible manner. This revised and updated Environmental Manual serves as a guide for identifying factors to consider when developing an environmental management plan, and demonstrates our industry's commitment to environmental responsibility. We are confident this new manual will aid users in minimizing potential impacts on the environment from their operations."

The Environmental Manual was prepared by IAGC member company volunteers, using their experience and expertise to provide the industry with useful information for conducting geophysical field operations in a sustainable, environmentally responsible manner.

Geophysical surveys are conducted in support of a variety of resource extraction and ground use activities. Resource-related activities include hydrocarbon exploration, development and production, mineral and metal mining activities, and water resource management.

Geophysical exploration measures and interprets the physical properties of the earth to determine subsurface conditions. This requires a direct interaction between the measurement systems and the physical environment. Methods of surveying for hydrocarbons include electro-magnetic, gravity, magnetic and seismic.

The manual includes guidance on land and at sea geophysical operations and addresses management responsibilities, stakeholder identification and communication, environmental training, , assessment of natural and physical issues, social and cultural impact assessment and consideration, mitigation strategies, sound effects, environmental monitoring and audits, wildlife and livestock, and restoration activities. The manual also focuses on operations in special habitats and environments such as rainforest and wetlands.

The new edition of the [Environmental Manual for Worldwide Geophysical Operations](#) is available for purchase or as a download at the [IAGC website](#).

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About IAGC

IAGC is the international trade association representing the industry that provides geophysical services (geophysical data acquisition, seismic data ownership and licensing, geophysical data processing and interpretation, and associated service and product providers) to the oil and gas industry.

More information on IAGC and the geophysical industry can be found at <http://www.iagc.org> and <http://geophysicsrocks.com>

For reference material on Marine Mammal Protection, see
<http://www.iagc.org/MarineEnvironment/references/>

For a video overview of marine seismic operations, see
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEE2ECC235BCA5FA0>

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