

## Would you like to be on the ETG Board?

We are looking to refresh and diversify the make up of the ETG Board to encourage participation from a wider range of backgrounds and industries. Participation involves attending 4 board meetings a year, by video conference although we hope to meet face-to-face at least once a year when that is possible. Board members are also expected to volunteer to take on specific tasks. All hours count towards your annual CPD record.



## this issue

New Year Message **P.1**

ETG Seminar **P.2**

Member Survey Results **P.3**

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

and welcome to the latest issue of the ETG newsletter. One of our key challenges in 2021 will be to build a technical community within IOM3 that can serve an ever broader, younger and more diverse membership.

We are in the process of developing a strategy to guide us for the next few years, and will host a one-day seminar in October ahead of the UN COP 26 Climate Change meeting in Glasgow. The ETG member survey in August (see page 3 for full details) provided extremely useful feedback. Perhaps not surprisingly, there were some accusations of greenwashing and bandwagon jumping. I can absolutely assure you this is not the case. We are not turning our back on the need for an oil & gas industry and the people who work in it. The technical capabilities that made the industry one of the great successes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century still have a vital role in providing energy in the 21<sup>st</sup>. These talents will be needed to improve reductions in greenhouse gases and deliver the technologies to achieve net-zero by 2050. Our members will be engaged in safely decommissioning existing offshore and onshore installations whilst minimising the long-term environmental impact of our current energy generation methods.

Additionally, we will bring our expertise and transferable skills to evolving technologies such as offshore wind, geothermal energy, carbon capture, utilisation and storage, the hydrogen economy and the re-purposing of existing oil and gas infrastructure.

My message to all IOM3 members, whatever your profession and primary technical community, is to join us and share your knowledge as we undertake this journey. It is the greatest technical, financial and geopolitical challenge of our age. Please visit and engage with us on our Technical Community Group page on the IOM3 website. Encourage your work and academic colleagues, the young professionals you know, your students and your children to be involved in the energy transition. The IOM3 and the ETG are here to represent you all.

Sincerely

**Richard Oblath PhD CEng FIMMM FEI**

**Chair, IOM3 ETG Technical Community**

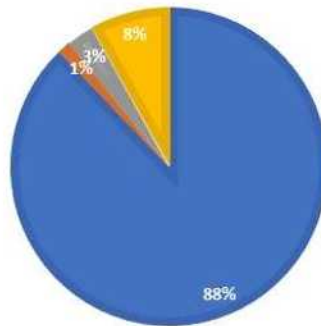
## Member Survey

The full survey report is available at [www.iom3.org/group/energy-transition-group.html](http://www.iom3.org/group/energy-transition-group.html), here are the key findings...

- The ETG membership is currently and not surprisingly dominated by oil and gas professionals
- They are broadly supportive of the changes but have understandable concerns that the importance of oil and gas in the energy transition is not receiving due credit
- The ETG should engage predominantly in the technical arena, government and NGOs
- The preferred theme for an ETG seminar is transferable oil & gas technologies with carbon capture & storage and hydrogen energy also being popular subjects
- The seminar should predominantly feature technical experts although industry experts would be welcome.

### SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Oil & Gas   Renewables   Nuclear   Other

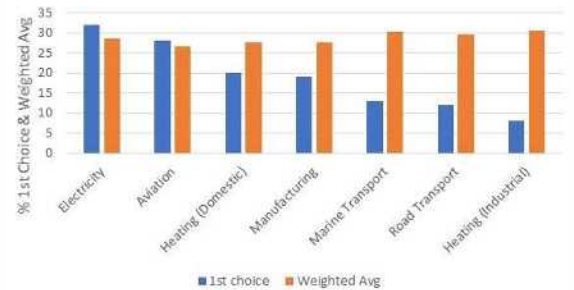


This was the first member survey conducted as the ETG, and followed on from previous Oil & Gas Division surveys in 2011, 2013 and 2016.

The purpose of this survey was to gather opinion on what interests members about Energy Transition and in particular what areas our pre-COP 26 seminar should consider. As with previous Oil & Gas Division surveys, it was conducted online by IOM3 communications and issued in mid-August. From approximately 900 emails sent, 74 responses (2016:93) were received by the time the survey closed on 25th September. The number of respondents was a little low but there were some problems with the email links and distribution that should be sorted out now that the new IOM3 member platform is up and running.

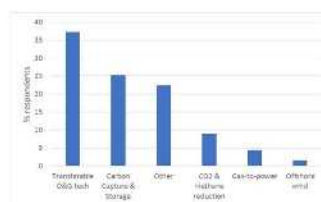
## Energy Transition Group Survey

### Biggest Energy Transition Challenge



Electricity Generation had the highest percentage of first choice votes although when the weighted average of 1st to 5th is considered, all were seen as relatively equal challenges (a weighted average score of 10 would be high and 50 low).

**“Unsurprisingly the ETG membership is still largely made up of those working in Oil & Gas”**



The majority felt that we should retain our focus on Technical & Engineering although engaging with Government and NGOs also featured highly. Several respondents commented on the need to engage with similar technical bodies such as the IChemE, IMechE and SPE. Surprisingly, school engagement ranked fairly low

As expected, the topics of most interest to members were transferable oil & gas sector skills and Carbon Capture and Storage. But “Other” topics included hydrogen and energy storage. It is intended that most if not all of these topics will be covered in the ETG seminar in October.



## Material Challenge: From Fossil Fuels to Net-Zero

Planning for the the ETG inaugural seminar in October has started. An enthusiastic committee chaired by Craig Durham held it's first meeting on 13 January.

The seminar will be held at IOM3 London HQ in October, just a few weeks before the COP 26 meeting in Glasgow.

The seminar will feature three keynote speakers from industry, Government, and someone at the heart of the energy transition plus three or four technical sessions covering the material challenges associated with CCS, hydrogen storage and transportation, repurposing oil and gas infrastructure and the transferable skills withing the Oil & Gas industry.

Of course, the biggest challenge at he moment is not material but physical i.e. when will be able to physically meet in person? Being optimistic, we are hopeful that this will be possible by the autumn and so we hope to hold the seminar as a physical event in London. But mindful of the feedback that not everyone is able or willing to travel, the whole event will also be live streamed from 297 Euston Road.

## OGA MER UK Strategy Consultation

### ETG as part of the IOM3 Response

The UK Oil & Gas Authority issued a consultation in May last year proposing to revise the Maximising Economic Recovery (MER) strategy to integrate relevant aspects of the UK Government's net-zero ambitions. IOM3 was the only UK professional institution to repond and our input focused on taking into account the UK government's legislation to achieve net-zero by 2050 highlighting, for example, the opportunity to utilise the current infrastructure for any carbon capture and storage projects.

## Save the date

**Tuesday 12 October 2021**

||

Our ETG Seminar will be held in person at the IOM3 London HQ and with live streaming. In the expectation that COVID social distancing rules will have been relaxed by then, up to 80 places will be available so make sure you book yours early if you would like to attend in person



## Comings & Goings:

The following have stepped down from the ETG Board:

- Craig Durham

I would like to thank Craig for his 13 years serving on the Oil & Gas Division then ETG board.

Richard M Oblath

## Upcoming Events

- **Henry Royce Institute online Conference: Developing Advanced Materials for a Sustainable Society, 22-23 March 2021**
- **IOM3 webinar: The Hydrogen Economy, 15 April 2021**
- **A Material Challenge: From Fossil Fuels to Net-Zero, 12 October 2021, 297 Euston Road & Live Streaming**  
A one-day seminar seminar organised by the IOM3 Energy Transition Group.