



## **OPITO APPROVED STANDARD**

### **Escape Chute Training**

#### **OPITO Course Code(s)**

Initial Training: 5770  
Refresher training: 5771

## **OPITO STANDARDS**

OPITO is an Industry-owned not-for-profit organisation that exists solely to service the needs of the Oil and Gas Industry.

OPITO is employer led in all aspects of what it does, therefore all standards development activities are at the behest of industry employers. The standards are driven by the needs of employers to help create a safe and competent workforce.

This standard is owned by the Oil and Gas Industry and maintained by OPITO who are the nominated custodians of all Industry standards within the OPITO portfolio which carry the OPITO logo.

The contents of this document were developed by an industry workgroup facilitated and supported by OPITO. The workgroup consisted of representation from a cross section of oil and gas industry employers, discipline experts working within the industry and members of the OPITO Approved Training network.

This standard has been verified and accepted through the governance and integrity management model for OPITO standards.

Guidance on this standard is available by contacting OPITO at: [opito.com](http://opito.com)

This standard has been designed to accommodate global variations in national legislation and regulations. In the absence of relevant national legislation and regulations, OPITO approved centres should use legislative and regulatory criteria specified within this Standard.

© OPITO

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval or information storage system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission in writing of the publisher.

Record of Changes to Standard				
Revision & Amendment	Date	Agreed by	Checked	Approved
Revision 0	<b>Rev 0</b> May 2012	Industry Workgroup	M. Carr	P. Lammiman
Amendment No. / Date	Section	Amended	Checked	Approved
Amendment 1 (19-July 2012)	Replace the terms evaluate and evaluation with assess and assessment respectively – to align with ER standards. Staff requirement amended accordingly.	M. Carr	M. Foo	P. Lammiman

Any amendments made to this standard by OPITO will be recorded above.



## CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION AND COURSE DESCRIPTION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>SECTION A INITIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME.....</b>	<b>6</b>
A.1 TARGET GROUP .....	6
A.2 DELEGATE PRE-REQUISITES.....	6
A.3 PHYSICAL AND STRESSFUL DEMANDS OF THE COURSE .....	7
A.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	8
A.5 LEARNING OUTCOMES .....	8
A.6 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT.....	8
A.7 DURATION AND TIMING OF TRAINING.....	9
A.8 THE ESCAPE CHUTE TRAINING PROGRAMME.....	10
<b>SECTION B REFRESHER TRAINING PROGRAMME .....</b>	<b>12</b>
B.1 TARGET GROUP FOR REFRESHER TRAINING .....	12
B.2 DELEGATE PRE-REQUISITES FOR REFRESHER TRAINING.....	12
B.3 PHYSICAL AND STRESSFUL DEMANDS OF REFRESHER TRAINING .....	12
B.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF REFRESHER TRAINING .....	13
B.5 LEARNING OUTCOMES OF REFRESHER TRAINING .....	13
B.6 DELEGATE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR REFRESHER TRAINING .....	13
B.7 DURATION AND TIMING OF REFRESHER TRAINING.....	14
B.8 REFRESHER TRAINING PROGRAMME.....	15
<b>SECTION C RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>17</b>
C.1 STAFF.....	17
C.2 TRAINER/DELEGATE RATIO .....	17
C.3 FACILITIES.....	18
C.4 EQUIPMENT.....	19
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION .....</b>	<b>20</b>
C.5 JOINING INSTRUCTIONS.....	20
C.6 PERIODICITY .....	20
C.7 CERTIFICATION.....	20
C.8 COURSE ADMINISTRATION.....	20
<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1 OPITO INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>22</b>

## INTRODUCTION and COURSE DESCRIPTION

Primary means of **evacuation** from an offshore installation or vessel in the event of an emergency are typically via helicopter, marine transfer, gangways between installations or lifeboats depending on availability and circumstances.

Means of **escape** are provided as a back-up in case evacuation arrangements fail. Such escape means, which provide a direct descent to sea level, may include fixed ladders, retractable ladders, stairways, liferaft davits, personal descender devices and/or escape chutes.

Escape chutes provide a means of safe emergency escape that permits rapid, mass evacuation from high structures such as offshore platforms and vessels during life-threatening emergencies.

This training course provides delegates with knowledge of the variety of escape chute systems used offshore and the knowledge and skill to descend an escape chute safely in the event of an emergency.

**Note:** This course does not instruct delegates on how to deploy escape chutes.

## **SECTION A INITIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME**

### **A.1 Target Group**

The target group for the Initial Training programme is personnel that require offshore installation and vessel escape chute training in addition to BOSIET, FOET, T-BOSIET or T-FOET.

### **A.2 Delegate Pre-requisites**

No prerequisites required.

### **A.3 Physical and Stressful Demands of the Course**

Training activities contained within this Standard may include physically demanding and potentially stressful elements. All personnel who participate in such activities must be physically and mentally capable of participating fully.

Therefore OPITO-approved training centres are required, as a minimum, to ensure that prior to participating in practical exercises, the delegate must either:

- a) Possess a valid, current offshore medical certificate **or**
- b) Possess an operator approved medical certificate, **or**
- c) Undergo medical screening by completing an appropriate medical screening form provided by the OPITO-approved centre (a list of medical conditions which could be included in a medical screening form is available on the OPITO [website](#)).

The OPITO-approved Centre shall keep a record of the delegate's/candidate's declaration of fitness in accordance with their document control policy(s) or procedures.

This information, along with summary details of the type of physical activities the delegate/candidate will be asked to perform, will be given to delegates/candidates by the OPITO-approved Centre and, if applicable, to their sponsoring company as part of the joining instructions. The responsibility for declaring any current or pre-existing medical conditions that could have adverse effects to the individual's state of health while undertaking the training and/or assessment activities lies with the delegate/candidate and/or company sponsoring the delegate.

Where doubt exists regarding the fitness of any delegate/candidate, the OPITO-approved Centre should direct the individual to consult a medical officer familiar with the nature and extent of the training.

**Note: Practical exercises should be designed and delivered solely to meet this standard, and must not place on the delegates any physical or mental demands other than those required to meet the Standard.**

#### **A.4 Aims and Objectives**

The aim of the training programme is to give delegates an understanding of how escape chutes are used as a means of tertiary escape from offshore installations and vessels and provide basic training in the use of a typical escape chute used offshore.

The objectives are:

- a) To make delegates aware of the various types of escape chutes used on offshore installations and vessels.
- b) To provide theoretical and practical training in the safe techniques for escaping through an escape chute.
- c) To ensure delegates understand what they are required to do when exiting the escape chute.

#### **A.5 Learning Outcomes**

To successfully complete this training programme, the delegate must meet all the following learning outcomes:

- 1) Demonstrate entering the escape chute safely using the correct body posture.
- 2) Demonstrate a controlled descent through the escape chute.
- 3) Demonstrate exiting the escape chute correctly onto a [collection raft](#) or [collection platform](#).
- 4) Demonstrate, on completion of the escape chute descent, clearing the egress point at the base of the escape chute by moving out of the way of descending personnel.

#### **A.6 Performance Assessment**

The delegates will be assessed against the learning outcomes specified in A.5 by training instructors observing delegates during their practical exercise.

Note: Each delegate must complete the escape chute descent at least twice – one descent must be completed with a permanent-buoyancy lifejacket.



**A.7 Duration and Timing of Training**

Note: These timings are for guidance only.

Module		Element		Expected (approximate) Duration (minutes)
1	Escape Chute Systems used Offshore			
		1.1	Escape chute systems and Escape Chute Use (Theory)	30
			Change clothing and practical brief	15
		1.2	Escaping via an Escape Chute (Practical)	50
			Change clothing, debrief and feedback	15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 hr. 50 mins</b>	

## A.8 The Escape Chute Training Programme

The training programme provided below is designed to help delegates achieve the stated learning outcomes specified in [section A.5](#). The order in which elements of the training programme are delivered are: Element 1.1 followed by Element 1.2. However, contents in [Appendix 1](#) must be covered before the training modules are delivered.

To make efficient use of time and ensure effective learning there should, wherever practicable, be an integration of the three phases of explanation, demonstration and practice. Full use should be made of audio/visual aids and course handout material. Training staff must give practical demonstrations for all training activities which delegates are required to practise and demonstrate.

Each module must be introduced by the training staff, and include:

- (a) **Aim** – The main purpose of the module
- (b) **Learning Outcomes** – What the delegates are expected to learn
- (c) **Timetable** – Training module duration and timing
- (d) **Assessment** – how delegates will be assessed and what they will be assessed against
- (e) **Staff** - who will be delivering the training and roles of training support staff.

The training course consists of the following **modules** and **elements**:

<b><a href="#">Module 1</a></b>	<b>Escape Chute Systems Used Offshore</b>
Element 1.1	Escape chute systems and escape chute use
Element 1.2	Escaping via the escape chute

## **MODULE 1      Escape Chute Systems Used Offshore**

### **ELEMENT 1.1      Escape chute systems and escape chute use**

Training staff to:

- 1.1.1 Identify different types of tertiary escape from offshore installations and vessels.
- 1.1.2 Show examples of different types of escape chute systems used offshore (pictorially or video).
- 1.1.3 State potential personnel descent rates for escape chutes.
- 1.1.4 Explain how typical escape chute systems are constructed.
- 1.1.5 Explain how typical escape chute systems are deployed from fixed and floating installations and method of descent through escape chutes; to include video demonstration.
- 1.1.6 Identify typical clothing and PPE required during an escape via an escape chute – for the particular region of operations.
- 1.1.7 Explain correct body posture positions and safe methods for entering, descending, regulating descent speed and exiting an escape chute, to include: making delegates aware of the effects of sea states on the base of the escape chute.
- 1.1.8 Explain the possible required actions of personnel first down the chute, to include assisting others exiting the chute and deploying liferafts (when required); these actions will be dependent on how quickly escaping personnel need to get away from the collection raft during an emergency (video to be shown demonstrating these actions).
- 1.1.9 Explain how to escape from an escape chute should the internal escape chute passageway be blocked.

### **ELEMENT 1.2      Escaping via an escape chute**

Following explanations and demonstration by training staff, delegates to demonstrate:

- 1.2.1 Entering the escape chute in a safe manner, adopting the correct body position.
- 1.2.2 Descending the escape chute in a controlled manner adopting the correct body position.
- 1.2.3 Exiting the escape chute into the collection raft or onto the collection platform, making sure that personnel don't block the exits point.

**Note:** Delegates are required to complete a minimum of two descents through the escape chute. The second descent must be completed using a permanent-buoyancy lifejacket.

## **SECTION B REFRESHER TRAINING PROGRAMME**

### **B.1 Target Group for Refresher Training**

The target group for Escape Chute Refresher Training is personnel who are required to refresh their escape chute training and revalidate their OPITO-approved Escape Chute Training certification.

### **B.2 Delegate Pre-requisites for Refresher Training**

Delegates undertaking the Escape Chute Refresher Training require a valid OPITO-approved Escape Chute Training or Refresher Training certificate.

### **B.3 Physical and Stressful Demands of Refresher Training**

Training activities contained within this Standard may include physically demanding and potentially stressful elements. All personnel who participate in such activities must be physically and mentally capable of participating fully.

Therefore OPITO-approved training centres are required, as a minimum, to ensure that prior to participating in practical exercises the delegate either:

- a) Possess a valid, current offshore medical certificate **or**
- b) Possess an operator approved medical certificate, **or**
- c) Undergoes medical screening by completing an appropriate medical screening form provided by the OPITO-approved centre (a list of medical conditions which could be included in a medical screening form is available on the OPITO [website](#)).

The OPITO-approved Centre shall keep a record of the delegate's/candidate's declaration of fitness in accordance with their document control policy(s) or procedures.

This information, along with summary details of the type of physical activities the delegate/candidate will be asked to perform, will be given to delegates/candidates by the OPITO-approved Centre and, if applicable, to their sponsoring company as part of the joining instructions. The responsibility for declaring any current or pre-existing medical conditions that could have adverse effects to the individual's state of health while undertaking the training and/or assessment activities lies with the delegate/candidate and/or company sponsoring the delegate.

Where doubt exists regarding the fitness of any delegate/candidate, the OPITO-approved Centre should direct the individual to consult a medical officer familiar with the nature and extent of the training.

**Note: Practical exercises should be designed and delivered solely to meet this standard, and must not place on the delegates any physical or mental demands other than those required to meet the Standard.**

#### **B.4 Aims and objectives of Refresher Training**

The aim of the Refresher Training programme is to ensure delegates maintain their knowledge and skills in the use of escape chutes as a means of tertiary escape from offshore installations and vessels.

The objectives are to update and maintain knowledge and skills in the following:

- d) To make delegates aware of the various types of escape chutes used on offshore installations and vessels
- e) To provide theoretical and practical training in the safe techniques for escaping through an escape chute
- f) To ensure delegates understand what they are required to do when exiting the escape chute.

#### **B.5 Learning Outcomes of Refresher Training**

To successfully complete this training programme, the delegate must meet all the following learning outcomes:

- (1) Demonstrate entering the escape chute safely using the correct body posture.
- (2) Demonstrate a controlled descent through the escape chute.
- (3) Demonstrate exiting the escape chute correctly onto a [collection raft](#) or [collection platform](#).
- (4) Demonstrate, on completion of the escape chute descent, clearing the egress point at the base of the escape chute by moving out of the way of descending personnel.

Note: Each delegate must complete the escape chute descent at least twice – one descent must be completed with a permanent-buoyancy lifejacket.

#### **B.6 Delegate Performance assessment for Refresher Training**

The delegates will be assessed against the learning outcomes specified in B.5 by training instructors observing delegates during their practical exercise.

## B.7 Duration and Timing of Refresher Training

Note: These timings are for guidance only.

Module		Element		Expected (approximate) Duration (minutes)
1	Escape Chute Systems used Offshore			
		2.1	Escape chute systems and Escape Chute Use (Theory)	30
			Change clothing and practical brief	15
		2.2	Escaping via an Escape Chute (Practical)	50
			Change clothing, debrief and feedback	15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 hrs. 50mins</b>	

## **B.8 Refresher Training Programme**

The training programme provided below is designed to help delegates achieve the stated learning outcomes specified in [section B.5](#). The order in which elements of the training programme are delivered are: Element 2.1 followed by Element 2.2. However, contents in [Appendix 1](#) must be covered before the training modules are delivered

To make efficient use of time and ensure effective learning there should, wherever practicable, be an integration of the three phases of explanation, demonstration and practice. Full use should be made of audio/visual aids and course handout material. Training staff must give practical demonstrations for all training activities which delegates are required to practise and demonstrate.

Each module must be introduced by the training staff, and include:

- (a) **Aim** – The main purpose of the module.
- (b) **Learning Outcomes** – What the delegates are expected to learn.
- (c) **Timetable** – Training module duration and timing.
- (d) **Assessment** – how delegates will be assessed and what they will be assessed against.
- (e) **Staff** - who will be delivering the training and roles of training support staff.

The training course consists of the following **modules** and **elements**:

<b><a href="#">Module 2</a></b>	<b>Escape Chute Systems Used Offshore</b>
Element 2.1	Escape chute systems and escape chute use
Element 2.2	Escaping via the escape chute

## **MODULE 2      Escape Chute Systems used Offshore**

### **ELEMENT 2.1      Escape chute systems and escape chute use**

Training staff to:

- 2.1.1 Identify different types of tertiary escape from offshore installations and vessels.
- 2.1.2 Show examples of different types of escape chute systems used offshore and typical launch mechanisms (pictorially or video)
- 2.1.3 State potential personnel descent rates for escape chutes.
- 2.1.4 Explain how typical escape chute systems are constructed.
- 2.1.5 Explain how typical escape chute systems are deployed from fixed and floating installations and method of descent through escape chutes; to include video demonstration.
- 2.1.6 Identify typical clothing and PPE required during an escape via an escape chute – for the particular region of operations.
- 2.1.7 Explain correct body posture positions and safe methods for entering, descending, regulating descent speed and exiting an escape chute, to include: making delegates aware of the effects of sea states on the base of the escape chute
- 2.1.8 Explain the possible required actions of personnel first down the chute, to include assisting others exiting the chute and deploying liferafts (when required); these actions will be dependent on how quickly escaping personnel need to get away from the collection raft during an emergency. (video to be shown demonstrating these actions)
- 2.1.9 Explain how to escape from an escape chute should the internal escape chute passageway be blocked.

### **ELEMENT 2.2      Escaping via an escape chute**

Following explanations and demonstration by training staff, delegates to demonstrate:

- 2.2.1 Entering the escape chute in a safe manner, adopting the correct body position.
- 2.2.2 Descending the escape chute in a controlled manner adopting the correct body position.
- 2.2.3 Exiting the escape chute into the collection raft or onto the collection platform, making sure that personnel don't block the exits point.

**Note:** Delegates are required to complete a minimum of two descents down through the escape chute.

The second descent must be completed using a permanent-buoyancy lifejacket.



## SECTION C RESOURCES

In order that a training programme may be delivered successfully it is essential that the right people are there to support the programme and that the appropriate facilities and equipment are in place.

### C.1 Staff

Theory training staff must:

- (a) Be competent in delivering the theory of escape chute systems and correct and safe methods of use.
- (b) Have been trained in training or instructional techniques.
- (c) Be included in an ongoing training and development programme, which ensures that are aware and knowledgeable of all relevant changes to legislation, industry requirements and developments in escape chute equipment.

Instructors demonstrating and supervising practical exercises must:

- (a) Be competent in the theory and skills for entering, descending and exiting escape chutes. Trained in the safe recovery of delegates that may become trapped in the training chute.

Assessors will be discipline experts trained and qualified in assessment techniques.

### C.2 Trainer/Delegate Ratio

It is recommended that the maximum number of delegates attending this programme is **16**.

During practical exercises there must be a **minimum** of one instructor supervising delegates at the escape chute entry point and one instructor supervising the escape chute exit point.

### **C.3 Facilities**

It is important to ensure that the full ranges of facilities are made available to ensure delegates get the most out of their training. The following facilities criteria must be adhered to:

**Administration arrangements** appropriate for enrolment and certification of delegates and all aspects of the delivery of training in accordance with this standard.

**Theory training area(s)** so designed to enable each delegate to view, hear and participate fully in the subject matter being taught.

**Practical training areas** so designed to enable each delegate individually, or as part of a team to safely complete the required exercises.

This must include the following:

- (1) A safe and clean area for donning the appropriate PPE.
- (2) A secure and safe structure for housing and supporting the escape chute.
- (3) A means of safely recovering delegates that may become trapped in the escape chute.

#### **Changing Area**

A clean, safe and screened area/room for changing into and out of clothing required for the exercises.

#### **First Aid Facilities**

Appropriate first aid facilities and equipment as specified in the training centre's risk assessments, and sufficient staff, trained in the use of the facilities and equipment.

**All facilities must be maintained and where appropriate, inspected and tested in accordance with current standards, relevant legislation and manufacturers' recommendations.**

**Risk assessments must be conducted and documented for all training facilities and equipment.**

## **C.4 Equipment**

The following equipment, which must be of a type currently used in the oil and gas industry, is required for the training programme:

- (a) PPE appropriate to region of operations.
- (b) Escape chute – with safe access to entry point and suitably safe exit point surface.
- (c) Escape chute height: minimum: 3.5m, maximum: 7m.

All activities associated with training equipment used during exercises must be risk-assessed to ensure the health and safety of the delegates and training staff.

All equipment must be maintained, and where appropriate, inspected and tested in accordance with current standards, relevant legislation, guidance and manufacturer's recommendations.

## ADMINISTRATION and CERTIFICATION

### C.5 Joining Instructions

All joining instructions must contain information which indicates that certain aspects of the course are of a physical nature and contain potentially stressful elements.

Prior to each course commencing, delegates must sign a declaration indicating they have read and understood a written statement regarding the physical and potentially stressful nature of the programme, and the need for delegates to be in good health.

### C.6 Periodicity

To maintain OPITO certification in Escape Chute Training, the training must be repeated every 4 years. The initial and refresher certificate has a four year expiry period.

### C.7 Certification

Training Centres are responsible for issuing a certificate direct to the delegate completing the programme and to the sponsoring company (when required). Each certificate must indicate that the delegate has been assessed against and met the learning outcomes and must contain the following:

- (a) Training Centre name
- (b) Full OPITO course title stating that it is OPITO-approved
- (c) OPITO course identification code
- (d) Delegate's name
- (e) Course dates
- (f) Expiry date (Four years minus one day following the date that the delegate successfully completes the course)
- (g) Unique Certificate Number (UCN) – Refer to [OPITO UCN Guidance doc.](#) for details
- (h) Training Centre Signatory.

### C.8 Course Administration

Each delegate attending any OPITO-approved programme must be registered with the Central Register (CR) operated by OPITO. Registration must be made by the training centre to OPITO within one week following the course.

OPITO confirms that information on the registration form will be contained in a computerised register which will be available to employers, prospective employers and training providers in the oil and gas industry to verify training records. At all times, use of this data will be strictly in accordance with principles laid down in relevant data protection legislation.

## Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

<b>Collection raft</b>	A raft forming the base of the escape chute into which escaping personnel can climb out into when they have fully descended the escape chute.
<b>Collection platform</b>	A secure surface at the base of the escape chute, onto which escaping personnel can safely terminate their descent and move out of the way of personnel still descending the chute.

## Appendix 1 OPITO Information

The topics listed below are to be delivered as part of the introduction to this course and included in the lesson plans/instructor guides/exercise plans. Additional introduction topics may include training centre layout and alarms, emergency actions, first aid and domestic arrangements

Mandatory OPITO Information:

- a) Medical Fitness
- b) CR/Vantage
- c) Training Provider Registration
- d) Certification Periods
- e) OPITO Customer Service Statement (provided by OPITO)
- f) What is OPITO's role in industry? (provided by OPITO)
- g) The OPITO global organisation (provided by OPITO)
- h) Current Global Network of training providers (available from OPITO website)