

Undercurrents 14

Welcome to the 14th issue of Undercurrents. As you can tell from the gap since the last edition, the team at MSI has been extremely busy around the world and we showcase just some of these projects in this edition. These include work in Namibia, Ivory Coast and the UK.

We also report on MSI gaining ISO 9001:2008 certification for both companies and obviously the team are very proud to have had our existing procedures and *modus operandi* checked and certified by an internationally recognised body.

As usual, we welcome any comments or suggestions at info@metoceanservices.com. If you have any colleagues interested in subscribing to our newsletters they can do so by e-mailing us or via our website. Interested clients, suppliers and colleagues can now also follow our activities on Facebook.

Much of the information contained in this newsletter is available on our website and we encourage you to check www.metoceanservices.com regularly for updates.

MSI Achieves ISO 9001 Certification



MSI is pleased to announce that both its South African and Australian offices now have fully ISO certified ISO Quality Management Systems (QMS). Although both companies have always operated a QMS which conforms to ISO standards, the certification provides additional reassurance to MSI's clients that the whole organisation takes quality management extremely seriously.

For both companies SGS were used as the auditing body – the South African company achieved certification in August 2013 whilst in Australia the certification was received in December. Various personnel within the organisation have also received formal auditor training and the system is being strengthened on an ongoing basis.

Neither auditors found any corrective action requests, with the auditor in South Africa stating that "the quality management system was well entrenched and supported by the direct involvement of top management". The Australian auditor commented that "everyone within Metocean Services International is to be congratulated on their exceptional efforts and on such an excellent result".

100% Data Return For Namibian Deepwater Current Measurement Programme



MSI has recently completed a deepwater current measurement programme offshore Namibia for Repsol Exploration (Namibia) (Pty) Ltd (Repsol), with 100% data return.

Repsol as operator of a Partnership including Tower Resources Plc. and Arcadia Expro Namibia Pty Ltd will drill its first well offshore Namibia in 2014, and as input to the design of the drilling programme required detailed current profile data at the expected well location. To ensure maximum chance of a successful measurement programme, Repsol contracted MSI to deploy 2 complete current profile moorings, in 1,145m and 1,240m water depth.

Each mooring comprised 3 upward looking TRDI 75kHz Longranger ADCPs deployed at 8m, 408m and 808m above the seabed. Each mooring also had a surface spar buoy fitted with satellite tracking beacon, to ensure that its position could be continuously monitored throughout the programme for security.

One of the challenges was the short mobilisation period, especially given the significant quantity of equipment required. The contract was awarded and the moorings were ready to be loaded onto the vessel in Walvis Bay in less than 4 weeks. Another challenge was the notoriously bad weather off the Namibian coast, but with daily forecasts provided by MSI's partner Aerospace and Marine International, a suitable window was identified in early October. The moorings were deployed in early October using the DP Star.

There were no vessels available on the spot market in Walvis Bay for recovery of the moorings so MSI chartered the PSV Taraska out of Cape Town, completing the fieldwork with no HSE incidents to report. Data was returned to MSI's Data Centre in Cape Town where processing and reporting was undertaken confirming another project successfully completed with 100% data return. This again reaffirms MSI's capability of working in deep water, at short notice, and providing the client with all of the required data they need for their development.

Speaking on behalf of Repsol, Juan Pablo Pita Gutierrez commented as follows: "Working with MSI has been a positive experience. They have been keen to proactively incorporate suggestions to our initial plans and Repsol felt that MSI was constantly on our side to overcome all the challenges that came from working in remote locations".

MSI Awarded One Year Project To Support Statoil's Hywind Scotland Pilot Park Development In The UK

Metocean Services International (MSI) is pleased to announce that it has recently deployed a current



profile mooring in 107m water depth approximately 25km off the coast of Peterhead, Scotland, to support Statoil's Hywind Scotland Pilot Park development. The measurement programme is expected to last for 1 year and the mooring will be serviced initially in March 2014 to provide preliminary data for engineering design.

Due to better wind conditions and reduced conflict potential when applying for acreage, the wind industry is currently moving offshore. Hywind (pictured left courtesy of www.statoil.com) is a floating wind turbine, consisting of a turbine placed on top of a ballasted steel cylinder which is fastened to the seabed by three mooring lines.

It was developed by Statoil by combining technology from the wind industry with technologies from the oil and gas industry and drawing upon Statoil's longstanding offshore experience.

This led to them installing the world's first full scale floating wind turbine off the island of Karmøy, north of Stavanger. After two years of testing, Statoil reported that the concept was verified, performance was beyond expectations and believe that with few operational challenges, excellent production output, and well-functioning technical systems, the Hywind concept could revolutionise the future of offshore wind by taking it into deeper water. The Hywind Scotland Pilot Park development is the next phase in Statoil's development of this system.

Although current profile measurements are relatively straightforward in this water depth, the challenge on this project was to design a system to enable recovery of the anchor weights, this in order to comply with environmental legislation. MSI's project management team therefore designed a mooring configuration that uses Sonardyne acoustic releases to recover the main instrumentation mooring (comprising TRDI ADCP and Nortek Aquadopp current meter for data validation), with the subsequent recovery of the anchor components using a separate acoustic release and rope canister system.

The mooring was deployed in early November 2013 from the vessel C-Salvor and MSI ensured rigorous HSE planning and communication with the vessel crew and Statoil HSE representative to minimise any risks.

MSI Builds On 7 Year Relationship With Tullow Oil Through Current Measurements In 2,400m Offshore Cote D'Ivoire



MSI has been providing metocean measurement services to Tullow Oil in Uganda since 2006, and more recently in Gabon. In late 2013, MSI was awarded a contract by Tullow Oil to measure near surface and near seabed current profiles in approximately 2,400m water depth, during a drilling programme by the West Leo semisubmersible rig in Block CI-03 offshore Côte d'Ivoire (CI). For these measurements MSI provided a combination of rig and seabed based systems.

The rig based system comprised a combination of upward and downward looking TRDI ADCPs deployed in a frame suspended 18m below the sea surface. Both ADCPs were cabled to a Campbell Scientific datalogger which was connected to the rig's network, enabling MSI to remotely retrieve the data and display it on a password-protected website for the client to access. Daily summary reports of the data were generated and automatically e-mailed to a client-supplied distribution list throughout the measurement programme.

The seabed system comprised an upward looking TRDI 75kHz ADCP mounted into a Mooring Systems Inc flotation buoy.

Personnel were mobilised to both CI and Ghana to not only ensure the equipment was mobilised to the rig efficiently but also that all systems were ready for installation when the rig arrived from Ghana. Both systems were successfully recovered in December 2013 and data processing, analysis and reporting is ongoing at MSI Cape Town data centre.

This latest project extends our 7 year relationship with Tullow into CI, where we have previously completed projects for PMI and CGGV, and again confirms our ability to successfully provide metocean measurement services in Africa, where logistics are often very challenging.

Come and Visit MSI in Perth or London



If you are Perth (WA) based or visiting there 19th to 21st Feb. 2014, come along to the Australasian Oil & Gas (AOG) exhibition and conference and meet Stefan and Sidney from MSI as well as Chad MacIsaac from AXYS Technologies. They will be on stand Q34 and would be happy to discuss the services we offer and demo some of the equipment we sell in Australia exclusively on behalf of RBR, MetOcean Data Systems, Joubeh Technologies and AXYS Technologies.

Following AOG, MSI will again be exhibiting at Oceanology, being held at the ExCel centre in London's Docklands. This is the premier oceanographic conference and exhibition, held every 2 years, and all 3 directors of the company will be present to meet with clients, colleagues and suppliers.

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