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Lifting Offshore

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By the time this edition of Decom News is published our annual Decom Offshore Conference will be about to start.

We gather for this industry leading event at the AECC 27th May and I would like to express my gratitude to the conference committee for organising a compelling, challenging and informative agenda. The conference theme is “Decommissioning: the Economic & Operational Challenges” fully in the context of the current particularly challenging circumstances for the UKCS.

The conference is but one aspect of the work Decom North Sea (DNS) undertakes on behalf of its 280 members as we continue to facilitate knowledge sharing, collaboration, efficiency and cost reduction in decommissioning. Collaboration has been and remains one of the most important strands of DNS strategy. I am particularly proud of the organisation’s recognised ability to bring together the practitioners from the decommissioning sector - the operators, contractors, consultants and service specialists responsible for planning and executing current and near term decommissioning programmes. I think this is probably unique in the industry.

In recent months we have accelerated the pace of our delivery to this agenda and have some notable successes.

A key aspect of our work is joint industry projects in response to the market and member needs. Our project selection, management and delivery process is extremely robust on page six you will find an overview from board member Stewart Davies, Chair of the Project Sub Committee. We will soon be publishing the results of three projects that will have a real impact on the efficiency of the industry. These, as for all our projects, rely on contributions from our members and I am constantly encouraged by the willingness of decommissioning professionals to consider participation in our joint industry projects and other forms of co-operation.

We have reviewed and reset our strategy, cognisant of key market developments, including the OGA’s recent call to action. We are working closely with the OGA, BIS, DECC and O&GUK to ensure alignment of our respective agendas moving forward.

Most importantly our strategy and forward plan is also informed by our membership. In February and March we undertook a far reaching member survey via independent web based questionnaire and face to face interviews, in all over 100 members gave very constructive feedback, with 82% saying they would recommend DNS to others and 80% very satisfied with their membership and the work we are doing. We are not complacent and we will be acting on your feedback and publishing this on our web site. I thank all members who took part.

As a membership organisation, Karen Seath (DNS General Manager) and I have particularly valued our time with individual member companies, learning about the highly professional approaches being taken by operators and contractors in their planning and preparation, and also about the multiple technologies, techniques, equipment types, facilities and skills that are required to support safe, responsible and cost effective decommissioning projects.

My aspiration is to support our members in developing their business and to ensure we develop a world class decommissioning “centre of excellence”. To achieve this more collaborative work is required to further improve efficiency, contain costs, stimulate innovation and ensure compliance.

The small and exceptional team at DNS are here to help and we are always pleased to see you and hear your feedback. We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the Conference.

Nigel Jenkins
Chief Executive
Decom North Sea

Design & Production
PR & Copywriting

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Decom North Sea would like to thank Shell for supplying the front cover image for this issue.

Nigel Jenkins

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A day in the Life as a DNS intern

Connor Brady
My name is Connor Brady and I am currently interning at Decom North Sea as part of my study abroad placement program. I have come to Aberdeen for the spring semester of my junior year (third year) to study at Robert Gordon University from the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma. I began both my internship at DNS and my courses at RGU in February, and have had an excellent experience with both.

Back at home, my major is Energy Management which focuses on the private ownership of onshore minerals in the US, which has been quite the change to make to the government ownership and focus on offshore assets in the North Sea. Throughout my time at the University of Tulsa I have had the opportunity to work in the oil and gas industry over the summers through similar internships and I have been so pleased with the opportunity to expand my industry experience to the North Sea and the decommissioning sector with DNS.

During the semester here with DNS I have had the opportunity to work on two projects, each with their own experiences and skills that I have been able to gain by being involved with them.

The first is a decommissioning ‘Lessons Learned’ project that focuses on gathering lessons learned from recently completed decommissioning projects and organizing it into a valuable, user-friendly case study format for all DNS members to access and utilize when considering new decommissioning projects. The goal of this project is to increase the efficiency and ultimately cut down the estimated £60 billion of decommissioning costs over the next 30 to 40 years in the North Sea. Because there will always be new lessons learned about decommissioning this project will be constantly adapting and will hopefully assist industry stakeholders well into the future for the decommissioning sector in the North Sea.

My second project that I have been involved with is a decommissioning initiatives review that was started to identify industry initiatives and research being carried out by all industry stakeholders, including operators, contractors, regulators, academia and other trade associations. The idea behind this project is that with so many different organisations and stakeholders involved with decommissioning, there will be areas of overlap or duplicated efforts that could be connected to save time and money and further develop the decommissioning sector.

During my time at Decom North Sea I have also been presented with numerous opportunities to attend industry events such as DNS Lunch and Learn as well as industry conferences and networking events. These opportunities have been invaluable to my overall experience this semester as it has allowed me to further develop my networking and communication skills in a professional setting and has helped prepare me for a promising career in the energy industry.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Decom North Sea this semester and I look forward to returning to the US and sharing my knowledge and experiences that I have gained in Aberdeen to my university as well as my future internships and career in the industry.

Connor Brady

Andrea Gusmita
My name is Andrea and I am Italian. I came here to Scotland as a student two years ago and I fell in love with this place.

I started my internship at Decom North Sea in January. Last December I completed my Master’s in International Business at the University of St Andrews. Thanks to the entire team, whom are really friendly and the interesting/engaging projects that I am working on, I wish I knew how to slow down the clock and spend more time in the office.

Furthermore, I have met and I am sure I will meet a lot of people from the industry that inspire me. Decom North Sea have given me the opportunity to attend to two of their lunch and learn events, where I met several key players of the decommissioning sector. I would say that these events are definitely a great learning and networking opportunity if you want to know more about decommissioning and if you want to meet industry experts and develop business opportunities.

I am currently working on 4 different projects. But because our lovely marketing team, composed of Zoe and Jennifer, told me to keep this short & interesting, I will just tell you about two of them.

The first one, Market Intelligence, is a project that aims to provide our members with a breadth of key information about the decommissioning world. I am currently project manager for this project and our Chief Executive, Nigel Jenkins, is the Project Sponsor.

My second project is a decommissioning initiatives review that was started to identify industry initiatives and research being carried out by all industry stakeholders, including operators, contractors, regulators, academia and other trade associations. The idea behind this project is that with so many different organisations and stakeholders involved with decommissioning, there will be areas of overlap or duplicated efforts that could be connected to save time and money and further develop the decommissioning sector.

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In my opinion, the opportunity to work at Decom North Sea provides a great starting point to help people grow their skills and gain experience in the decommissioning industry.

Andrea Gusmita
Decom North Sea (DNS) continues to lead and facilitate knowledge sharing, collaboration, efficiency and cost reduction in decom on behalf of its 280 members and the wider industry.

A key aspect of our work is joint industry projects delivered in response to the market and member needs. Our project selection, management and delivery process is extremely robust and we are encouraged that DNS is recognised for its ability to bring together operators, contractors, consultants and service specialists responsible for planning and executing current and near term decom programmes.

In response to a growing demand for such projects from members and stakeholders such as the OGA, Scottish Enterprise and Zero Waste Scotland the Board has renewed arrangements for delivering projects. A new Board sub-committee has been established, chaired by Dr Stewart Davies of Augean plc. Stewart together with the committee comprising board members Alex West, Ian Whitehead, Dick Lagerweij and Andrew Sneddon is responsible for driving the selection, management and delivery of projects. Projects are tracked across six phases: Ideas Hopper, Proposal, Start-Up, Early Stage, Late Stage and Review & Publicise. Each one has a DNS Board Director as Project Sponsor providing leadership and guidance to the project as well as championing it internally and externally.

A summary of projects is on the website, www.decomnorthsea.com/projects all members can see progress and results. Organisations interested in suggesting new, contributing to and/or co-funding projects in the Ideas Hopper stage should contact Karen Seath kseath@decomnorthsea.com

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
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<th>KEY DELIVERABLES &amp; BENEFITS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Multiparty Well P&amp;A</td>
<td>Ideas Hopper</td>
<td>Develop collaborative P&amp;A campaigns with OGA, DECC and DNS members.</td>
<td>Incentivised pilot multi-party project. Reduced costs/efficient Well P&amp;A.</td>
<td>Align and co-ordinate activities with OGA and DNS. Workshops held with DNS operators.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaboration – Why, What and How</td>
<td>Ideas Hopper</td>
<td>There is much talk about collaboration. Industry appreciates the need to define the why, what and how as a foundation for efficiency.</td>
<td>Improved collaboration in decom programmes; provide industry best practice references; Training &amp; Development for culture changes. The foundation for MER and efficient execution.</td>
<td>DNS members to develop why, what &amp; how guidance with case studies. Investigate cultural change programmes and best practices. Coordinate with NPF Bergen workshop output.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Well P&amp;A Technology</td>
<td>Ideas Hopper</td>
<td>P&amp;A is forecast to be circa 10% of costs. New technologies have the potential to significantly reduce costs.</td>
<td>Market review of current and future technologies with SWOT, references and guidance. Reduced cost Well P&amp;A.</td>
<td>Review industry activity, streamline and coordinate with TIB, ITT, OGA, DECC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIA Template</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>Standard template for delivery of Environmental Impact Assessments.</td>
<td>A template format and example version available via DECC website.</td>
<td>Charter to be revised. Agreement with DECC that a roadmap document collating existing guidance as a support to the Decom program would be of more benefit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption of novel solutions (with O&amp;GUK)</td>
<td>Early stage</td>
<td>Study into barriers to adoption of new technology in decom and how these will be overcome.</td>
<td>Report with guidelines and best practise. Reduced costs; Ways to increase update of new technology.</td>
<td>Information gathered by Nov 2015. Form Steering Committee to develop process to gather future learnings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattress Solutions</td>
<td>Early stage</td>
<td>Identify efficient removal methods; Assess basis for derogation/ removal/ reuse; Identify opportunities for Circular Economy.</td>
<td></td>
<td>AIB/DNS/ZWS Report to be published 28th May 2015 at the DNS “Decom Solutions and the Circular Economy” event, AEC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Removal, Inventory &amp; Reuse</td>
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<td>Report on assets to be decommissioned, innovative removal and disposal approaches; Impact assessment on CE outcomes. Cost, innovation, understanding of CE approach.</td>
<td>Capturing market intelligence from a variety of sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Intelligence</td>
<td>Early stage</td>
<td>Provision of key market intelligence including business opportunities.</td>
<td>Online market intelligence data for members via the DNS website. Wider understanding of market and opportunities for members.</td>
<td>Online market intelligence data for members via the DNS website. Wider understanding of market and opportunities for members.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reuse Late Stage</td>
<td>Late stage</td>
<td>Overcome reuse challenges and determine enablers; show the extent and understand viability of reuse in O&amp;G market.</td>
<td>Develop “Guide to Reuse”, CE/Reuse case studies booklet. Enhanced understanding/knowledge of reuse options in O&amp;G market.</td>
<td>CE/Reuse case studies booklet. Enhanced understanding/knowledge of reuse options in O&amp;G market.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decom Roadmap</td>
<td>Late Stage</td>
<td>Creation of planning tool for transition from late life to decom, combines learnings of operations and major contractors.</td>
<td>Online integrated roadmap, structured repository of standards, practices, tools, templates, learning increase effectiveness and efficiency of industry.</td>
<td>Launch prototype demo at Decom Offshore 21th May 2015. Launch Decom Roadmap at the DNS/OGUK St Andrews conference.</td>
</tr>
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Decom North Sea-ECITB Charter Underpins Future Skills Collaboration

Decom North Sea (DNS) has reinforced its commitment to the future of decommissioning by signing up to the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board’s (ECITB) Skills Charter.

Karen Seath, general manager of DNS and Andy Brown, director of regional operations at the ECITB signed the Charter the DNS Lunch and Learn event that took place on 18 March 2015.

Safeguarding the future workforce is of particular importance to the UK decommissioning sector. During the next 35 years, over 5,500 wells, 400 facilities and 10,000km of pipelines are forecast to be decommissioned. At an aggregate estimated cost in excess of £50 billion (2014 prices), it is imperative that the next generation of skilled workforce is in place to ensure this work is undertaken as efficiently and cost effectively as possible by the UK market. Decommissioning also represents an excellent opportunity for specialisation and international competitiveness of the UK supply chain (equipment, services and facilities), thus having a significant impact on employment and the broader economy.

The ECITB Skills Charter provides public recognition of commitment to skills development to ensure the long term competence of the workforce. The signing of the Charter between DNS and the ECITB signals the start of a new partnership approach between the two organisations, for collaboration across a range of areas that will benefit the decommissioning industry. The many shared member companies of the two organisations will help ensure the transferability of a competent workforce for the benefit of the future oil and gas industry.

Nigel Jenkins, Decom North Sea chief executive welcomes the Charter: “Decommissioning is a growth area for the offshore industry and this new relationship is highly significant for future skills development, with the potential to pioneer new industry standards and the extension of the range of approved training courses and providers available to members.”

“DNS is committed to a collaborative skills agenda and will promote the principles of the Skills Charter to its member companies.”

Andy Brown, director of regional operations for the ECITB said: “We are delighted to be part of this new collaborative relationship with Decom North Sea. We look forward to working together to develop new industry-wide solutions that meet the long-term skills requirements of the oil and gas industry.”

DNS New Website

Decom North Sea will launch a ground-breaking new website – designed as the go-to hub for all decom information, developments and contacts.

Crucially, the new website will feature a directory of the 270+ DNS members, providing the opportunity for all to showcase exactly what they can offer the decommissioning process, from planning right through to eventual removal and disposal, and all associated.

The site will also provide a platform for market intelligence, progress reports on DNS-led initiatives and information on relevant events. By compiling this comprehensive repository of decommissioning information, DNS continues to drive and promote the benefits of knowledge sharing, collaboration and innovation with the overall focus on reducing decommissioning costs within the context of MERUK (Maximising Economic Recovery in the UK).

Decom North Sea chief executive, Nigel Jenkins, believes that the new website will support the strategic objectives of the industry and the new Oil and Gas Authority, ensuring that future decommissioning activity is successfully delivered with significant cost benefits to both industry and the UK tax payer.

“Decommissioning is a growing business that is new to many, and misunderstood by even more. We drive and promote collaboration and knowledge sharing, we contribute to, respond to and interpret market activity and vitally, we are constantly working to maximise the potential benefits for all our members.”

www.decomnorthsea.com

Partners in Mattress Solutions Project

Decom North Sea (DNS) are collaborating with both Jee Ltd and Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) to determine efficient solutions for the recovery of concrete subsea mattresses and consider re-use and Circular Economy options.

This project will research mattress removal solutions, define mattress condition, address reuse options and values and explore the derogation case for non-recoverable mattresses. This will involve Decom North Sea and Jee’s expert engineers conducting an economic and environmental assessment of the condition of the mattresses, and identifying the best techniques for their recovery.

In order to identify innovative solutions to a challenging industry problem, DNS and Jee hosted two industry workshops in February, engaging operators and suppliers across the oil and gas industry and other sectors.

Nigel Jenkins, CEO of Decom North Sea looks forward to the results from this project: “This project was implemented in direct response to our operator member requests. What to do with Mattresses as part of an efficient decommissioning solution is an often discussed “thorny” issue. Leaving them in situ is not ordinarily an option, although we will revisit this.”

Concrete mattresses provide pipelines, cables and umbilicals with protection from dropped objects, and add weight and stability. Jee’s analysis will identify the potential Reuse and Circular Economy applications for the mattresses, as well as highlighting guidance on best practice for recovery and key points for derogation cases to leave in situ.

DNS commission and facilitate a number of projects that deliver meaningful results for its members and improves the efficiency of future decommissioning activity. Read our comprehensive projects update on pages 6 & 7.
Murchison Decommissioning Project

Deconstruction of an old North Sea Giant and building new relationships.

How do we learn?
We Learn By Example... and there are no sauces tougher to follow than the decommissioning of North Sea assets. That's why the decommissioning of CNR International's (CNRI) Murchison platform is attracting great interest as decommissioning in the North Sea sector gathers pace. There's a lot to learn on this significant project, with a jacket, and topside facilities weighing in at an impressive 53,000 metric tonnes.

by Doing It Right
As with all inaugural projects, CNRI knows that effective decommissioning can only be preceded by an intense level of planning. Commencing with the engagement of DECC, the fishing industry and other key North Sea stakeholders in 2010, another priority emerged to appoint a Decom Services Contractor (DSC) that was not only in tune with the decommissioning process but - vitally - also with CNRI as a company.

To achieve this, CNRI invested significant amounts of time in pre-contract engagement, referring to both FPAL and Decom North Sea (DNC) as a blueprint. CNRI believes that forming strong relationships between operator and service companies is key to the success of any project – not least for the one for which there was no precedent.

We met with the CNRI/DECC project team to find out what they were doing to encompass that statement, and how they’re ensuring that Murchison becomes a decommissioning blueprint. Crucially, the project encapsulates key Decom North Sea objectives - Maximising Economic Recovery and the promotion of cost reduction, knowledge sharing, innovation, planning and co-operation.

Aker Solutions has found CNRI's waterside planning approach and culture is paying huge dividends. Aker Solutions, Project Manager, Mark Geraghty highly commends this attention to detail: “The Murchison decom services contract is the most detailed and strongest in terms of structure that I have ever encountered and as such, we all refer to it again and again – it's the manual for the entire project and absolutely invaluable.”

by Developing People
Having appointed the Decom Services Contractor (DSC), Aker Solutions, plus a host of other service providers, CNRI resolved to stay true to its mission statement throughout the engagement processes and going forward.

Canadian Natural Resources, Corporate Mission Statement:
“...to develop people to work together to create value for the Company’s shareholders by doing it right, with fun and integrity.”

The Murchison project is very much about people and the hundreds of personnel now engaged in this project. Huge emphasis is placed upon the behaviour and work ethic of the DSC. Aker Solutions, CNRI believes that forming strong relationships between operator and service companies is key to the success of any project – not least for the one for which there was no precedent.

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A project like Murchison is a learning curve which develops staff in tandem within this unique engineering activity. It is vital to retain the knowledge and experience that's being gained on this project by developing existing staff and making the most of internal opportunities. This ethos is highly motivated by two MSc students who arrived on a placement and have now become full time members of staff on the Murchison project.

by Working Together
The transition into decommissioning for any operator is always going to be emotive for the operator and its workforce, but CNRI has mitigated this by breaking down traditional departmental silos and incorporated a significant number of CNRI staff within the project, as opposed to a singular "decom department". This has given the entire company ownership of the project.

Additionally by providing an integrated office for CNRI company representatives, Aker staff and associated service companies to inhabit, a strong core nucleus of individuals and teams is now working together. Not only does this embed the project teams within the operator company, it also allows for unrestricted face time between operator and service company.

Mark explains the benefits of this sharing a physical space:
“30 years ago, a huge gap existed between operators and contractors. From the very beginning this project has shown how closing that gap has made a hugely positive impact upon a project's success. From all-inclusive briefings, including subcontractors to even ensuring the team wears the same colour of overalls, the culture behind the Murchison project creates a cohesive team that exudes enthusiasm and dedication. And because of that, it's become a real catalyst for career development.”

The importance of communication in any project may seem obvious, but for those involved in the Murchison project, it cannot be overstated. The dedicated offshore offices are key benefit to communication. Complimentary to this are a programme of regular scheduled meetings, (strictly adhered to), and these meetings take input from project team members, senior management, subcontractors, on and offshore (via video link).

Frequent and regular engagement is not only key to communication but the teams also believe they are extremely motivating. This regime has built relationships and an environment and that has led to swift decision making and straightforward resolution of issues.

No longer exporting oil but producing barrels of talent
With decommissioning activity on Murchison due to continue until 2018, and on-going monitoring and surveys to be undertaken for several years after that, the platform continues to provide work to our industry, as well as setting standards for how safe cost effective decommissioning can be executed.

Donald Martin explains there is an upsurge of energy and appetite for decommissioning engineering challenges:
“We understand how valuable the experience accrued on the platform was during its production life, but by refocusing operation and production skills within the context of decommissioning, Murchison perfectly illustrates how decommissioning isn’t the ‘end’. In fact, it’s the start of learning new skills and experiences that are full of opportunity.”

www.cnri.com

Donald Martin, CNRI Decom Contract Sponsor

Mark Geraghty, Project Manager, Aker Solutions
Decommissioning Brent, a prolific national asset

The Brent oil and gas field, lying north-east of the Shetland Islands, has been a cornerstone of the UK’s oil and gas industry for almost 40 years. It has created and sustained thousands of jobs and contributed billions of pounds in tax revenues.

At its peak in 1982 the field was producing more than half a million barrels a day, which is enough to have met the annual energy needs of around half of all UK homes. Investment by Shell and Esso totalling £3 billion, including a £1.2 billion redevelopment in the 1990s – which was the world’s largest depressurisation at the time - has extended the life of the field well beyond original expectations.

Now, though, after many years of service to the UK, the field is reaching the end of its life. 99.5% of the economically recoverable reserves of oil and gas have been retrieved. Decommissioning is the only viable option.

“Shell is now carefully planning the Brent field’s decommissioning process, following a tightly defined regulatory process. It will be the biggest decommissioning project Shell has undertaken so far and one of the largest to be undertaken in the North Sea,” Duncan Manning, Business Opportunity Manager at Shell, said.

The field’s infrastructure is extensive and includes four platforms – Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta - over 140 wells and 28 pipelines. Delta ceased production in late 2017, Alpha and Bravo in November last year, while Charlie will continue to produce for the foreseeable future.

Elements of the Brent field infrastructure present particular decommissioning challenges and have been the focus of detailed research. Three of the platforms sit on gravity based structures that stand in 140m of water, with legs made of concrete several metres thick. Each leg is about 170m long, from the seabed to just underneath the deck of each topside.

The legs are anchored to the sea bed by concrete bases, which together weigh almost the same as the Empire State building. The three bases are made up of a total of 64 very large concrete cells, 42 of which have been used for storing crude oil for periods over the last 35 years. These cells are 60 metres high (taller than Nelson’s Column) and 20 metres wide, with walls of heavily steel reinforced concrete nearly a metre thick. Accessing the cells to remove this sediment presents a significant technological challenge. This is because of their location deep beneath the ocean’s surface, their size and the thickness of the cell walls.

“The size and scale of the infrastructure involved coupled with the North Sea’s extremely harsh marine environment of strong winds and rough, cold seas means decommissioning the field will be a complex major engineering project that will take over ten years to complete,” said Manning.

“But it’s important to remember that over one third of decommissioning activity takes place below the seabed,” adds Alistair Hope, Brent Decommissioning Project Director.

Brent decommissioning involves plugging and making safe the 140 wells that have been drilled over the decades, including more than 400 well bores. Guidelines Oil & Gas UK guidelines, which Shell has strictly followed, govern the way in which this process should be carried out: Once plugged, Shell will monitor the wells for three months to ensure they are secure.

“The well plugging and making safe on Delta is now complete,” says Hope. “We are a third of the way through the Bravo wells and will move on to the next phase of the project – the decommissioning of the Delta topside.”

With Delta’s wells plugged Shell can move on to the next phase of the project – the decommissioning of the Delta topside. Earlier this year, Shell put forward our plan to DECC for the removal of the topside using Allseas’ dedicated heavy lift and pipe laying vessel, the Pioneering Spirit. The topside will be returned to shore, where more than 97% of the material will be reused or recycled by Able UK’s Seaton Port, where a superized quay is being built.

“Safety is critical to success. I want everyone who works on the project to be safe. Lifting the Delta topside in one go and bringing it to shore where it can be dismantled will substantially reduce the exposure of our people,” said Manning.

Shell is working to find the best solutions for decommissioning the remainder of the field’s infrastructure.

“Each option involves different risks, challenges and benefits. Inevitably, difficult decisions will need to be made, where differing options compete – which is why consultation and collaboration with all interested parties is vital to the project’s success,” says Manning.

In 2006, Shell set up an independent group of externally appointed experts and scientists, called the Independent Review Group (IRG). Its role is to review objectively all the scientific and engineering methods that we use to assess the decommissioning options, and verify that they are based on sound science.

“We will make our final detailed recommendations on how best to decommission the Brent oil and gas field when we are confident the proposals are safe, technically achievable, environmentally sound and financially responsible,” said Manning.
**Challenge to Launch North Sea Campaign**

A challenge to start the multi-billion pound campaign to dismantle hundreds of redundant platforms and wells in the North Sea by the end of the year has been made to east of England companies.

Decommissioning the 500 plus wells and installations in the southern North Sea alone offered an “enormous opportunity” for the supply chain in the region, a government spokesman said.

But it must come up with cost-effective and innovative solutions to halve the costs – estimated to be anywhere between £34bn and £100bn – to tackle the “huge amount of work to be done” Bill Cattanach, of DECC, said.

And new partnerships respecting individual companies’ expertise and needs must be forged to secure work in such a competitive market, Baker Hughes director Julian Manning told the East of England Energy Group Decommissioning Special Interest Group at SNECS13 conference.

“If you look at the local supply chain capability, 90-95pc don’t touch wells. The majority of suppliers will be chasing the minority of the scope,” Mr Manning said, adding that recycling or re-using installations needed to be investigated.

Geographically, the east of England was perfectly placed with ports to tackle the decommissioning task, he said.

But Mr Cattanach said the challenge demanded a totally fresh approach to meet his target of cutting costs by 50pc.

Well plugging and abandonment accounted for 50-60pc of decommissioning costs but only a minority of companies could carry out the specialist work.

“We need to find a completely new way of looking at it and true collaboration. I would like to think I could get some traction here and get a campaign running by the end of the year,” Mr Cattanach said.

The predicted costs of decommissioning were simply not sustainable, he said. It was “dead money” for operators.

Taxpayers faced an average of 67pc of the cost of decommissioning so the campaign must be driven by innovative low-cost solutions to plug and abandon (P&A) the wells to a common standard and tackle groups of wells instead of the expensive one-off approach.

Subsea UK Champions Technologies and Innovation

The £9billion UK subsea sector, which supports 60,000 jobs, is in for two years of tough times but will weather the storm if it embraces innovation and new technology, says Subsea UK.

The industry body, which champions the UK subsea sector and has over 300 members, is urging companies to turn to the re-launched NSRI (National Subsea Research Initiative) in their quest to get new technology to market.

The focal point for subsea research and development, NSRI is bringing academia and industry together in a much more meaningful way to collaborate on quicker, more effective development of technology.

NSRI has announced key areas on which it will be focusing new subsea R&D:

- Dr Gordon Drummond, project director of NSRI said, “Our themes support the need to reduce exploration and operational costs, increase efficiency and productivity and reduce decommissioning costs as outlined in the Wood Review.

- Subsea technology which enables or improves decommissioning methods and techniques and reduces the environmental impact of decommissioning are among these themes.

- Dr Drummond added, “NSRI is industry-led. Our board has extensive experience in and understanding of what is required in the subsea sector. Through our technology advisory groups and in consultation with industry, we know these are the key areas where new technology and innovation are required.”

- Paul Charlton, chief executive officer, PDE Solutions (Europe) Ltd and director of Decom North Sea is one of NSRI’s industry champions.

- NSRI facilitates the creation of collaborative needs to address industry challenges, thereby safeguarding the UK’s world-leading position and helping deliver global growth as competition from other provinces increases. It deals with R&D at all stages, from initial concept through to market readiness.

www.subsea.uk.com

**Supporting the Decommissioning Supply Chain**

As the UK’s leading trade association that helps UK energy companies understand, identify and pursue business opportunities worldwide, the Energy Industries Council (EIC) remains at the forefront of the tracking and promoting of decommissioning activities in the North Sea and beyond.

Today, the EIC numbers over 700 UK companies among its members with many involved in decommissioning.

At EIC Connect Oil & Gas 2014 - held at the end of last year and consisting of 900 delegates, two days of conference sessions and over 700 supplier-buyer meetings - the mood was upbeat with continued investment expected in both upstream and decommissioning activities in the foreseeable future.

The EIC noted that £470 million was spent on decommissioning in 2013 with £1.46 billion forecast to be spent between 2014 and 2023.

Representatives from Decom North Sea joined speakers from ConocoPhillips, Premier Oil, Shell, WorleyParsons and SNC-Lavalin in what was a thought provoking conference.

Furthermore, although the latest EIC Monitor which tracks over 10,000 energy projects proposed or under development worldwide, pointed to growing volatility in the upstream sector and a decrease in the number of contracts placed, decommissioning projects still remain an important part of North Sea activities.

One such example, cited in the Q2 2014 EIC Monitor, which tracks over 10,000 energy projects proposed or under development worldwide, pointed to growing volatility in the upstream sector and a decrease in the number of contracts placed, decommissioning projects still remain an important part of North Sea activities.

www.the-eic.com
No Heavy Lift Vessel? No problem!

The day rate cost of heavy lift vessels, even today in a low oil price environment, is a major cost for Operators seeking to decommission North Sea platforms. That is why decommissioning “Piece Small” is currently receiving a lot of attention from Operators and contractors alike.

For Prezioso Linjebygg - formerly LBO, this is really good news! This innovative contractor has been using piece small methods, like diamond wire cutting, special lifting, rigging and cross hauling techniques for many years and has considerable skill sets and experience in piece small decommissioning.

While many of the larger platforms will require heavy lift vessels, there is a place for these piece small techniques in all decommissioning activities. For example, many of us in the decom sector are looking forward to seeing the Allseas “Pioneering Spirit,” the world’s largest vessel, in action later this year when she will decommission the Yme platform in Norway.

Next year she will be deployed in the UK North Sea sector for the Brent decommissioning team. Piece small techniques are already being used on Brent, to remove caissons and brackets and boat landings and boat bumpers etc. so that the Allseas vessel can come alongside the Brent jackets without damage to her hull.

Similarly, Prezioso Linjebygg has used piece small decommissioning operations to remove, flare tips and flare stacks, drilling derricks, lifeboats, accommodation modules, platform cranes, topsides equipment, pumps and scrubber vessels etc. Using piece small techniques like this really helps to drive down the weight of the eventual lift required to be made by the heavy lift vessels.

Perhaps the biggest potential area to benefit from Piece Small decom techniques is the Southern North Sea sector, where NULS - Normally Unmanned installations lend themselves to removal in this way. Removal of the helideck, the crane, the lifeboats, the accommodation modules, the complete topsides can be achieved in this way with clever lifting, rigging and cross hauling techniques. If you are able to operate off a low cost jack up with or even without a crane, this provides accommodation and support for the piece small decom crew. This drives down the size and of course the day rate cost of the lift vessel you eventually need to take away the jacket.

While many of the larger platforms will require heavy lift vessels, there is a place for these piece small techniques in all decommissioning activities. For example, many of us in the decom sector are looking forward to seeing the Allseas “Pioneering Spirit,” the world’s largest vessel, in action later this year.

Cyberhawk Extends Global Footprint

Cyberhawk is extending its global footprint with the appointment of two new Sales Managers in Asia and the Middle East.

Chen Choon How, based in Kuala Lumpur, has been appointed to grow the customer base in the Oil and Gas sector in South East Asia, while Ajay Sethi, based in Abu Dhabi, will conduct the same role in the Middle East.

Cyberhawk is the world leader in industrial inspection and survey using Remotely Operated Aerial Vehicles (ROAVs) and has led the development of the industrial ROAV industry, having performed the first ever industrial ROAV inspection, and achieved over 25 world firsts since 2008. Combining ROAVs, highly skilled pilots and engineering experts, the company provides close-up inspections of hard to reach and live structures, in a manner that is faster, safer and more cost effective than ever before.

Cyberhawk has completed projects for all six Oil and Gas supermajors throughout Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

www.cyberhawkinnovations.co.uk

Our offices in Kuala Lumpur and Abu Dhabi are key to effectively serving our rapidly growing customer base in the Middle East and South East Asia. While ROAV technology is now well established in the UK and Europe, interest in the methodology is rapidly increasing in other parts of the world, particularly within the Oil and Gas and Utilities markets.

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www.cyberhawkinnovations.co.uk

Former Linjebygg Offshore (LBO) and Prezioso subsidiaries, are now united under the new Prezioso Linjebygg brand name. The group has more than 5000 employees world-wide.

"Piece Small" Decommissioning

In almost 25 years, we have changed the way lifting and rigging is performed in areas with limited or no crane support. Call Tim Eley (07709 330 150) or Kristian Ohr (07708 716 776) at our Aberdeen office for more information.

Core competence, cutting & removal of structures high & low.
Decommissioning Key Focus for Aberdeen Harbour

Aberdeen Harbour is a major, commercially successful and sustainable Trust Port, reinvesting all surpluses in order to safeguard the future of the Port for the benefit of its many stakeholders.

Over the last five years, this investment in infrastructure has amounted to more than £35 million and secured Aberdeen Harbour's position as the principal Port supplying the oil and gas sector in Western Europe. Even amidst the prospect of a lower oil price over the longer term, the impact on the North Sea oil and gas sector may well accelerate decommissioning projects, leading to potential new business streams. Indeed, Aberdeen Harbour experienced one of its busiest ever years for scrap imports and exports in 2014, with a 26.8% increase in shipments compared with 2013.

Aberdeen Harbour chief executive, Colin Parker said: “Decommissioning is already having a positive impact on our activity levels and we very much welcome discussion with any parties interested in bringing further work of this nature to the port. The reality is, however, that this sector will only continue to grow and so it is important that we have the capability to provide the space to accommodate new traffic streams, both in terms of larger vessels and extended lay-down areas, to ensure that the port remains technically relevant. If we don’t act now, we may find that this business is lost to other deep-water ports, in Norway, for example.”

As a result, Aberdeen Harbour has continued to investigate the feasibility of constructing a second harbour at Nigg Bay, the benefits of which would be considerable. The development would provide an additional 1,700 metres of quay, a minimum draft of nine metres, a wide entrance and turning circle, and a lay-down area of more than 125,000 square metres. It would also have heavy lift capabilities, fully serviced berths, and the capability to accommodate larger vessels.

In order to develop the plans, the Board has undertaken a major consultation programme with its key stakeholders, to assess all possible opportunities that the development of additional facilities may have. Simultaneously, technical, economic and environmental assessments are being finalised.

“Subject to all necessary consents and Board approval, Aberdeen Harbour could be inviting tenders during 2016 and construction could commence in early 2017 with a view to full completion by 2020 – 21.”

www.aberdeen-harbour.co.uk

Sky-Futures USA Awarded Section 333 Exemption

Sky-Futures USA, a Houston based company offering drone inspection services to the Oil and Gas industry has been awarded a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Section 333 Exemption permitting the use of its Ascending Technologies Falcon 8 drone in the United States National Air Space (NAS).

Sky-Futures is the world leader in Oil and Gas drone inspections and will now begin commercial operations in the USA. Sky-Futures has a strong track record in the global drone inspection market and has delivered commercial inspections to the world’s largest Oil and Gas companies that include Talisman, Chevron, ConocoPhillips and Apache amongst others.

It now adds the USA, the biggest potential single source marketplace for commercial drone technology, to its global operations footprint and looks forward to working with its substantial existing client base in the USA.

Heading up the team is Sky-Futures USA Vice President Business Development Jason Forte (USAF retd). Responding to the Section 333 Exemption, Jason Forte commented; “Now Sky-Futures USA can operate commercially, this technology will provide jobs, promote innovation and most importantly lead to improved safety for the Oil and Gas market in America. Our unique blend of veteran unmanned technology expertise and significant Oil and Gas experience is already enhancing safety with proven savings of US $4m+ for offshore drone inspections.”

“Drone technology allows infrastructure inspections to take place without putting rope climbers at risk and significantly reduces inspection times and associated costs. These inspections substantially increase the efficiency of inspection and maintenance routines saving clients millions.”

www.sky-futures.com

Specialised Oilfield Services Ltd (S.O.S) are focused on providing pipe recovery, well plugging and wellbore cleanout services covering the entire well life cycle including well P&A operations.

All pipe recovery equipment is non-explosive, non-Hazmat rated. This plasma based technology is established as the most effective high speed, clean cutting system on the market today. It has the capacity to cut and perforate all pipe from coiled tubing to casing including ultra heavy wall targets such as Hevi-Wate drill pipe. As it is non-explosive/non-hazmat this reduces risk to personnel, provides fast and flexible movement to the well site and eliminates the secure storage requirements, associated with explosive and chemical pipe recovery systems.

These systems can be deployed on wiper, tractor, jointed pipe and coiled tubing. To reduce operational cost, S.O.S can deploy on slickline utilising a programmable slickline firing system. Specifically for P&A operations SOS is able to provide the following services:

- Large flow area casing slotting to maximise annulus entry for improved Perf & Wash operations
- Tubing cuts for completion recovery
- Trip saver/plug cement retainer setting
- Deployed on Perf & Wash BHA
- Deployed on Cement stinger assemblies
- Deployed on section milling BHAs
- Large flow area casing slotting to maximise annulus entry for improved Perf & Wash operations
- Casing cutting/slotting
- Wellbore jetting/washing tools, magnets and reamers.

SOS work with their clients to develop innovative approaches using existing and new technologies to the well abandonment arena.

www.sos-energy.com

MEMBER NEWS
Imenco Changes the Subsea Camera Game

Imenco is set to bring its latest camera platform, the SubVIS Orca, to market. This will feature HD over Ethernet compatibility. Essentially a smart phone with a commercial subsea lens and housing rated to 4000 meters, the camera will be Apps driven and will be capable of communication with all sensors installed on Remote Operated Vehicles (ROV).

After successful testing by a major ROV manufacturer, five prototypes have been manufactured and are being shown at major regional exhibitions across the USA, Australia and in the UK at Ocean Business and Offshore Europe.

www.imenco.com

Adding to Lerwick Harbour’s Deep-Water, Heavy-Lift Facilities

Lerwick Port Authority’s £11.95 million project to expand facilities supporting decommissioning and subsea developments is underway for the extension of a quay at Dales Voe South. It will provide deep-water, versatile berthing and heavy load capacity capable of taking an offshore structure in a single lift.

Main contractor, BAM Nuttall, will lengthen the quay by around 75 metres to 110 metres. Civil engineers, Arch Henderson LLP are responsible for design and project management.

A load-bearing capacity of 60 tonnes per square metre will make the quay unique in Scotland. It will ultimately have 12.5 metres water depth alongside, like the existing quay, amongst the deepest of its type in Scotland.

With completion due in April 2016, BAM expects up to 40 people to be employed directly at peak, with wider benefits locally.

An ongoing expansion of adjacent laydown will total 45,000 square metres by 2016.

Lerwick has been servicing the offshore industry for over 50 years and now also has an established reputation as a location for decommissioning.

“The contract marks an important step in further developing Lerwick’s role as a leading centre of offshore industry operations,” said Captain Calum Grains, Port Authority Harbourmaster and Deputy Chief Executive.

“Dales Voe South is another value-added expansion and reflects our confidence in future activity, including ongoing subsea projects, particularly west of Shetland, and the developing decommissioning and offshore renewable markets.”

www.lerwick-harbour.co.uk

John Lawrie Group host leading Reuse Organisations

John Lawrie Group recently welcomed a group of visitors from the Royal Society of Arts and Zero Waste Scotland, the organisation set up by the Scottish Government to support the delivery of its Zero Waste Plan.

The guests visited the company’s facilities in Aberdeen and Montrose where they witnessed at first hand some practical and innovative examples of reuse and how they fit in with the ‘Circular Economy’ model - an emerging solution to the world’s projected resource crunch.

The highly-valued tour was arranged after Ray Grant, John Lawrie’s Environmental Director, delivered a presentation of the company’s expertise at last year’s reuse event - jointly organised by Decom North Sea and Zero Waste Scotland – which prompted a great deal of interest in the company’s reuse activities.

Following a comprehensive tour of John Lawrie Group’s extensive storage and processing capabilities, Zero Waste Scotland’s Circular Economy Manager Maurice Golden said:

“The John Lawrie Group is a great Scottish example of conducting business in a more economical and sustainable way by choosing to reuse redundant oilfield pipe and tubulars to the construction sector rather than sell them for scrap, for example.”

The Royal Society of Arts has also been collaborating with Zero Waste Scotland in a bid to explore opportunities to use design as a means of incorporating Circular Economy thinking into the Oil and Gas decommissioning process in which John Lawrie Group has a key role to play. www.johnlawrie.co.uk

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Maurice Golden, Circular Economy Manager, Zero Waste Scotland

www.lerwick-harbour.co.uk
Lucion Expand Laboratory Operations

North East based Asbestos Management company, Lucion Environmental are continuing with plans for growth after recently completing a quarter of a million pound expansion to their existing laboratory in Gateshead.

The plans for expansion came after a successful year for the company which saw an exponential growth in demand for laboratory services. Along with an additional two specialist laboratories, the expansion also included the investment in an extremely powerful microscope (scanning electron microscope) which is able to magnify up to 200,000x more than commonly used microscopes found in most asbestos laboratories.

The delivery of the state of the art microscope now makes Lucion, Environmental one of the UK’s only Asbestos Management companies that are able to carry out specialist testing such as fire treated asbestos fibres.

Financial Director Charles Pickles said, “The radical expansion and large investment to our existing laboratory at Head Office will ensure Lucion has the capacity and very best in technology to support our clients for years to come. We are experiencing an important period of growth and this expansion will help us strengthen our offering not only across the North East but additionally at our 11 nationwide locations.”

Alongside laboratory services Lucion also specialise in the surveying, air testing and consultancy relating to asbestos in sectors ranging from offshore decommissioning through to contaminated land projects.

www.lucion.co.uk

MMS Boosts Oil and Gas Team

Maclay Murray & Spens LLP (MMS), the UK-wide commercial law firm, has appointed Jill Reid, the former general counsel and company secretary of Dana Petroleum Limited, as a partner to lead its oil and gas team in Aberdeen.

Jill has worked her entire career in the oil and gas industry, the majority in Aberdeen, initially as in-house legal counsel at Shell and Chevron and latterly with Dana. She brings more than 25 years’ deep client-side industry experience and market knowledge to MMS, at a time when the sector faces up to low oil prices, changes in the wake of the Wood Review and the creation of the new Oil and Gas Authority.

Kenneth Shand, chief executive of MMS, said: “Jill brings vast legal experience and commercial understanding of the oil and gas sector, both in the UKCS and overseas. Her insight is particularly important during what is a challenging time for the industry and will help clients chart a path through the challenges that lie ahead.

“We enjoyed working with Jill as a client during her time at Dana and look forward to welcoming a lawyer of her calibre and experience to our growing oil and gas team.”

Commenting on her appointment, Jill Reid added: “These are challenging times and legal advisers need to be even more aware of clients’ priorities. MMS is building an oil and gas legal team of experienced lawyers, which includes several senior individuals who have worked in house and who know what it feels like to manage legal risks, alongside the technical, financial and other demands of companies. I am very much looking forward to being part of the MMS oil and gas team and joining such a prestigious law firm.”

MMS has taken a series of steps over the last 18 months to grow its oil and gas team and Aberdeen office. Guy de Spievke, a London-based oil & gas partner, joined from Hesk Corporation, where he spent 12 years as in-house counsel in the Far East, USA and London.

Partner Bill Fowler is now mainly based in MMS’ Aberdeen office. He recently spent four months on secondment to Premier Oil’s Falkland Islands team, assisting with preparations for its 2015 drilling project.

Craig Purves joined the firm’s Aberdeen office from Andrews Kurth, the US boutique oil & gas firm in September 2014, having previously been with Ashurst and Centrica.

www.mms.co.uk

Jee Secures Six-Figure Contract

Jee Ltd, a leading independent multi-discipline subsea engineering and training firm, has secured a six figure contract with EON Exploration and Production (EON E&P), to deliver subsea integrity management and engineering services for its North Sea assets.

The three year contract, which was awarded in March 2015, involves Jee supporting EON E&P’s Subsea Technical Authority, by providing annual integrity management services for its subsea assets. The scope of work includes flowlines, manifolds, umbilicals and structures on EON E&P’s Huntington, Babbage, Hunter/Rita and Johnston assets.

Vivek Chhabra, Senior Engineer at Jee Ltd, said: “This is a significant contract win for Jee, with the scope of work involved reinforcing our integrity management and engineering reputation and capabilities.

“Effective integrity management can lead to significant cost saving potential for companies by minimising operational interruptions and reducing downtime. At a time when cost saving is so imperative to the industry, and as subsea assets are maturing and reaching the end of their design lives, good integrity management has never been more important.

“We are delighted to be working with the EON E&P team, and believe our experience positions us perfectly to support this project. We look forward to strengthening our relations with EON E&P now and into the future, by successfully delivering optimum engineering services for the company,” concluded Mr Chhabra.

Jee is an independent subsea engineering and training company with offices in Aberdeen, London and Torridge. Jee’s multi-disciplined capabilities and integrated services cover the spectrum of subsea engineering for the whole life-of-field for the global oil, gas and renewables industries.

www.jee.co.uk
Waste Treatment Technology Increases Efficiency

Leading industrial cleaning and waste management specialist, Sureclean, has been utilising its bespoke closed loop cleaning technology to minimise boat transportation and reduce onshore treatment costs of oily water waste.

The Sureclean Water Treatment System mechanically separates out solids and recycles wash water at source, allowing this water to be reused for further cleaning programmes. This technology was recently used during the Murdoch Decommsioning project and it has saved an estimated 1.4 million litres of water over a 5 month period. The Sureclean Water Treatment System is improving operational efficiency at site, minimising transportation and reducing onshore disposal costs.

Sureclean’s approach ensures that all waste streams are managed according to best practicable environmental option (BPEO), and wastes, including those resulting from the cleaning process, are treated on-location, whenever possible. By treating waste at site, this enables a reduction in the required level of effluent pollutants to be discharged. Sureclean is helping clients ensure they achieve compliance with legislative requirements, while enhancing performance, decreasing environmental impact and maximising project up-time.

Sureclean’s approach ensures that all waste streams are managed according to best practicable environmental option (BPEO), and wastes, including those resulting from the cleaning process, are treated on-location, whenever possible.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Assystem UK
- Attvic Ltd
- BG Group
- Bryant Personnel & Eng Svcs
- Conbit
- Datum 360
- E.ON E & P UK Ltd
- Ecosse Subsea Systems Ltd
- Forth Ports Ltd - Port of Leith
- Genoa Black
- GRA Projects Ltd
- Highlands & Islands Ent (Shetland)
- HR Wallingford
- IndBulk Technologies Ltd
- Interface Engineering Solutions
- JBS Group/Sea-Axe (Subsea Division)
- Master Marine AS
- Matrix Risk Control (UK) Ltd
- MGR Fluid Power Ltd
- N O'Donnell Safety Sol Ltd
- Nordic Chemical Solutions
- Nordic Shipping Svcs Ltd
- Offshore Independents B.V
- Oned Consulting
- OOS International bv
- Optimus Seventh Generation Ltd
- People Positive Ltd
- Pipelines 2 Data (PJD) Ltd
- Reverse Engineering Svcs Ltd
- Scaffpad Europe Ltd
- Seaenergy PLC
- Sinclair Marine Ltd
- Specialised Oilfield Svcs Ltd
- The Clyde and Tay Group
- TSG Marine
- Utility ROV Services
- Wilhelm Borchert GmbH
- Wipro Technologies

Seaenergy PLC

Under a Global Agreement with BP, R2S has been used on nine assets to date in the UKCS and GOM. The R2S Visual Asset Management (VAM) photographic capture of the Miller completed in December 2014 marked BP's first use of this technology in support of asset management during this last phase of asset lifecycle. The ways in which R2S will be utilised for the Miller decommissioning project will differ to those in which it would be utilised, for example to plan a TAR or maintenance activities.

Alistair Chapman, Projects Manager for SeaEnergy explained:

“It will be interesting to see how BP will utilise R2S for the Miller project. To date it has been used in various ways by our clients in decommissioning projects in both the UKCS and Canada. It gives the operator the ability to share detailed, virtual access with contractors without the requirement to visit the asset. Application extends from, the planning of any activities. It has transferable value. An example of how innovative technologies proven during earlier phases of asset life cycle have transferable value.

R2S Visual Asset Management (VAM) is a system used by operators globally in the planning and execution of projects throughout the lifecycle of an asset from front end design, throughout operation to eventual decommissioning. The system, delivered by SeaEnergy PLC, provides a highly defined, photographic front end for asset management systems. Complex assets are captured in 360° degree spherical photography providing a comprehensive set of images that are then delivered using R2S’s interactive software, providing users with an intuitive, desk top, visual walk around capability.

www.seaenergy-plc.com

Exhibition “Lite” Opportunity

We are now offering DNS members the exciting new opportunity to exhibit at a DNS Lunch & Learn. This new opportunity is based on member feedback. The cost will initially be £95 + VAT per exhibitor.

Companies exhibiting will benefit from:

- Significant exposure at these well-established events, making it easier for key players from the decommissioning industry to see what your company does at a glance.

For more information please contact Jennifer Mann on j.mann@decomnorthsea.com or 01224 914044

www.decomnorthsea.com

MEMBER NEWS

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

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Ecosse Subsea Systems

Ecosse Subsea Systems is a leading technology provider with an advancing reputation for project support, execution and delivery in the oil & gas and renewables markets.

ESS has recently become a Member of Decom North Sea as it sees many synergies with its current business lines and the decommissioning sector. DNS provides ESS the opportunity to showcase the versatility and creativity of their people whilst meeting and developing relationships with prospective customers and partners. The ESS team has a wealth of knowledge and this membership will allow collaboration, knowledge sharing and the ability to participate in specialist working forums.

ESS’s ethos is to design technologies based on safe, simple, robust and cost-effective techniques. For the decommissioning market, these centre on the lifting, shifting, recovery and burial of subsea infrastructure of any size. Such technologies focus on utilising readily available and more cost-effective vessels and techniques compared to traditional heavy lift vessels.

Technologies on offer from ESS include: Ambient Lifting, a fully scalable subsea lifting system for controlled lifting of <1Te to >1000Te; SCAR Seabed System, a multi-functional plough capable of seabed clearance and the burial of pipeline, umbilicals and bundles in arduous conditions; Ambient Lifting, a fully scalable subsea lifting system for controlled lifting of <1Te to >1000Te; SCAR Seabed System, a multi-functional plough capable of seabed clearance and the burial of pipeline, umbilicals and bundles in arduous conditions; PRP and Olympic Spoolbase, technologies that provide the benefits of a mobile pipeline/umbilical recovery system and the use of a mobile spoolbase for storage, cleaning, recycling or decommissioning of pipelines or umbilicals.

Membership of DNS will help drive innovation and creativity in companies like ESS and that can only add value to this growing sector. And that can only add value to this growing innovation and creativity in companies like ESS.

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Membership of DNS will help drive innovation and creativity in companies like ESS and that can only add value to this growing sector.

Bryant Group identified in ‘1000 Companies to Inspire Britain’

Aberdeen-based recruitment consultancy, Bryant Group (Scotland) Ltd, has been identified as one of London Stock Exchange’s 1000 Companies to Inspire Britain.

The report is a celebration of the UK’s fastest-growing and most dynamic small and medium-sized businesses. The advanced FPAL-registered supplier, which celebrates its 35th year in business this year, was recognised in the second edition of London Stock Exchange’s 1000 Companies to Inspire Britain report 2015. To be included in the list, companies needed to show consistent revenue growth over a minimum of three years, significantly outperforming their industry peers.

Brenda Bryant, managing director of Bryant Group, says, “All of us here at Bryant are delighted to have been included and recognised in the London stock exchange 1000 companies to inspire Britain. It is testament to our consistent high standards of service, brought to bear continuously throughout our 35 years of business, providing personnel to the oil and gas industry and beyond.”

Bryant supplies permanent and temporary staff, onshore and offshore, locally and internationally. We support businesses to secure experienced personnel to assist with any stage of a project and decommissioning programme, from planning and design, installation, commissioning and repairs to maintenance. Our on-going success in this area can be attributed to all of our members of staff who have worked so hard to achieve the standards of service that continue to attract our clients’.

Bryant Group identified in ‘1000 Companies to Inspire Britain’

The Clyde & Tay Group

The Clyde & Tay Group is an innovative new company specifically developed to support their clients within the Oil and Gas industry specifically within the UKCS and decommissioning.

They are dedicated to developing a collaborative approach and the development of innovative companies, technologies and solutions is at the very core of their business. The Clyde & Tay Group offer a wide range of services through The Oil & Gas Toolbox (www.oilandgas-toolbox.com). This is a unique concept that The Clyde & Tay Group has developed to enable collaboration between companies with the ultimate goal of driving up efficiencies while reducing costs within the Global oil and gas industry.

The Oil & Gas Toolbox ensures that the right companies and technologies are engaged and utilised at the earliest possible stage therefore reducing costs and increasing success.

Their services to clients and partners including:
- Specialist Consultancy in:
  - Decommissioning
  - Marine and Logistics
  - Lean Six Sigma
  - Safe Working
  - Management Coaching
- Business and Commercial Development
- Project Management
- Engineering
- Fabrication
- Electrical, Mechanical and Instrumentation commission
- International representation via their global offices and sales team located in the UK (Aberdeen and London), UAE (Dubai), Norway, Angola and Singapore

Ecosse Subsea Systems: screenshot and text

The Clyde & Tay Group: screenshot and text

Global Wells Decommissioning and Abandonment services

Well Engineering and Project Management specialists in a range of operations:
- Onshore and offshore projects
- Feasibility reviews and engineering studies
- Rig based and rigless operations
- Operations management and project wrap up
- Working with Petrofac to provide integrated decommissioning capability worldwide.

E: info@spdltd.com
W: www.spdltd.com
T: +44 1224 650570

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Utility ROV Services

As a new member of Decom North Sea, Utility ROV Services provides a solution to the growing demand for efficiency in the offshore market.

After seven years of ongoing development, whilst carrying out multiple marine salvage operations, the Utility ROV (UTROV) has been developed and is now available for rental.

Utility ROV Services has focussed on developing an efficient and cost effective system, capable of carrying out multiple operations in the offshore sector as an alternative to current diver & ROV practices. This system eliminates the requirement to mobilise multiple sets of equipment for a single project, instead utilising the Utility ROV multifunction tool carrier combined with a versatile range of tools.

The UTROV is remotely guided and monitored through a lead bearing fibre optic umbilical. This allows the operator real time acoustic and high definition footage of the tool and work area combined with a payload capacity of 12T.

Utility ROV Services have identified that the operating platform is the highest expense in most offshore projects. The UTROV system has been designed with the ability to be installed on vessels of opportunity such as Platform Supply Vessels which offer good sea and position keeping capabilities at commercially competitive rates. The addition of a 35T A-Frame to the UTROV system and our new affiliation with Fletcher Shipping means that an extremely competitive subsea services package may now be offered for the following operations: mattress removal and laying, boulder clearing, subsea demolition, dredging, trenching and cable burying.

www.utrov.com

Scaffpad Europe Ltd

Scaffpad Europe Ltd is a provider of scaffolding and protruding hazard protection systems to the oil, gas and construction industries.

A simple and easy to use product, Scaffpad® is used worldwide to help reduce the risk of worksite related impact injuries.

Made of flexible foam with integrated hook & eye fastener straps, Scaffpad® provides a quick and easy to use padded covering for any protruding hazard, from scaffold joints to pipe valves.

Scaffpad comes in high-visibility orange as standard providing immediate hazard identification onsite. This, together with their durability and ease of use have made the original Scaffpad® a fixture on many worksites.

The standard Scaffpad is 24 x 10 x 5cm and is the perfect size for covering most protruding worksite hazards. Scaffpad is now available in a larger ‘double’ size (24 x 20 x 5cm) and as a metre long pad (24 x 100 x 5cm) offering protection from larger worksite hazards and a way to cover multiple hazards in one go. Both products have proved popular and successful additions to the Scaffpad® product line and continue to help in reducing impact related incidents.

www.scaffpad.com

Time to think about life extension of existing fields?

Increased Oil Recovery/Enhanced Oil Recovery, tie ins and other modification activities like life extension of existing fields and facilities are key offerings from Aker Solutions.

Vast experience with maintenance and modification projects for the oil and gas industry has enabled us to develop technologies and front end specialist teams. These collaborate closely with our engineering experts globally to secure synergies for the client’s benefit in both greenfield and brownfield projects.

Having in-house technology and front end specialist teams at our disposal benefits you as our client in every area from efficiency to price and technical solutions.

These specialist services are staffed by highly qualified experts in the specific areas, and are incorporated in projects as required and when performing standalone projects/studies.

Talk to us today for further details:

Aker Solutions

Freedom House
Old Ford Road
Aberdeen AB11 9RJ

Tel: +44 (0) 1224 247000
Fax: +44 (0) 1224 247111
E-mail: rnmull@akersolutions.com

www.akersolutions.com
Events Update

DECOM NORTH SEA

Lunch & Learn

Decom North Sea Lunch & Learn events offer members an exciting and interesting opportunity to hear about innovative approaches and developments in the decommissioning sector, including opportunities for collaboration, followed by networking over lunch with the key players involved.

24 June 2015

AECC, Aberdeen

Intervals UK, Optimus, Seventh Generation Ltd & Sealenergy PLC

26 August 2015

AECC, Aberdeen

Genesis Europe, Oceanengring International Services Limited & KODILUS Group

Get involved!

We are delighted to offer our members the opportunity to present at a Lunch and Learn Event in 2015/2016. Exhibitor opportunities are also available – offering companies significant exposure at these well-established events, making it easier for key players from the decommissioning industry to see what your company does at a glance. For further details, please contact Jennifer Mann on 01224 914044 or jmann@decomnorthsea.com

SAVE THE DATE

Offshore Decommissioning Conference 2015

17 – 19 November 2015, Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews

Jointly organised with Oil & Gas UK.

Decom Offshore 2016

25 May 2016, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre

ASRANet - International Conference on Decommissioning of Offshore & Subsea Structures

22 - 23 June 2015, The Corinthian Club, Glasgow

The conference aims to explore the newest trends and innovative technologies in use in the decommissioning of Offshore and Subsea Structures. This conference will feature high quality papers which will draw on the experiences of leading projects to showcase new innovations in technology for the future of offshore and subsea industries with the particular focus of their decommissioning.

www.asranet.co.uk

NOF Energy - Meet the Buyer and Exhibition

23 June 2015, Hilton Top Tops Hotel, Aberdeen

The NOF Energy Meet the Buyer and Exhibition formerly known as the NOF Energy Annual Supplier Day is for the first time being held in the global energy hub Aberdeen. The event is designed to give you access to key players from across the energy sector and we would like to invite you to the opportunity to meet and sell to key opportunities using an appointment system.

www.nofenergy.co.uk

TRAINING COURSE

An Introduction to Decommissioning - From Planning through Execution

Decom North Sea in partnership with Strategic Decom have created an interactive two day training course offering an introduction and overview of offshore oil and gas decommissioning. This course provides an excellent opportunity to increase your knowledge of this burgeoning sector, introducing the main aspects associated with all stages of offshore decommissioning, through sharing of experiences and lessons learned to facilitate timely and efficient planning and execution for this inevitable task.

Dates for your Diary:

10 – 11 June 2015, Doubletree by Hilton Aberdeen

7 – 8 October 2015, Aberdeen

If you are interested in booking, more information or would like to participate at one of these events, please visit our website www.decomnorthsea.com or contact Jennifer Mann on 01224 914044 or jmann@decomnorthsea.com

Our Members

Membership of Decom North Sea includes the opportunity to be involved with decommissioning. Associate membership is open to non-commercial organisations and individuals who wish to be kept informed of Decom North Sea activity and attend networking events and conferences. For further information, visit www.decomnorthsea.com

Full membership of Decom North Sea is open to any commercial organisation involved with decommissioning. Associate membership is open to non-commercial organisations and individuals who wish to be kept informed of Decom North Sea activity and attend networking events and conferences. For further information, visit www.decomnorthsea.com

AS AT 4 APRIL 2015

• ABB CONSULTING • ABERDEEN HARBOUR BOARD • ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL • ACCENTUR • ACORN UK LTD • ACU ENERGY LTD • ADDAX PETROLEUM UK • AG DECOM OFFSHORE AS • AGIOREX UK LTD • AGI ENGINEERING LTD • ALMER SPAIN S.A. • ALPHASTRUT LTD • ALMEN FOSTER WHEELER • ANALTEC • APPLIED DRILLING TECHNOLOGY INT LTD (ADT) • ARCADIS UK LIMITED • ARGON SIMOTAN LTD • ARGUS • ASYST 

- www.decomnorthsea.com

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Unlock the stranded value before you close the door.

Prolong production and delay well decommissioning in the North Sea.

Our dedicated production enhancement and plug & abandonment (P&A) team has the expertise and extensive technology portfolio to help you prolong production of your reservoir.

And, with our Total Cost of Ownership approach, we will reduce costs and maximise value from your maturing assets before we help you smoothly transition to final P&A.

Contact us or visit BakerHughes.com/WellAbandonment and learn how to enhance your production and unlock more value from your reservoir.

LateLifeSolutions@BakerHughes.com