

Shell Underwater Services Contract (USC)



Client:
Shell

Location:
All of Shell's North Sea
assets in UK, Dutch, Irish
and Norwegian waters

Project Type:
Life-of-Field/SURF

The Underwater Services Contract is the continuation of an ongoing long-term relationship between Subsea 7 and Shell which commenced in 1984. It is an example of the type of long-term, value adding partnership which Subsea 7 is renowned for across the globe.

Subsea 7 provides a variety of work for Shell from inspection, maintenance and repair programmes, capital projects and decommissioning works across its European offshore fields and facilities.

Shell Underwater Services Contract (USC)

Project

Shell Underwater Services Contract

Client

Shell Upstream International Europe

Location

All of Shell's North Sea assets in UK, Dutch, Irish and Norwegian waters

Water depth

15m to 1,200m

Project Type

Life-of-Field/SURF

Date Awarded

March 2008

Date Completed

February 2014

Vessels/Spoolbases Utilised

Toisa Polaris
Rockwater 1
Normand Subsea
Seven Atlantic
Skandi Bergen
Skandi Seven
Seven Spray
Kommandor Subsea
Seven Seas

Overview

The Underwater Services Contract includes the following elements:

- Inspection, maintenance and repair
- General Light Construction
- ROV Support
- Diving Support
- Well Treatment
- Tooling Support
- Other Specialised Services

The contract covers the supply of diving and ROV services to Shell, 365 days a year, via dedicated support vessels. The main scope of work is centred on the ongoing inspection, maintenance and repair of Shell's North Sea assets, including well scale squeeze activities, assuring asset integrity and production continuity.

A wide variety of light construction tasks are also carried out for Shell in support of new developments, such as manifold installation and new well tie-ins. Some workscopes are supported by the *Seven Spray*, a modern, highly manoeuvrable, safe and compact shallow diving support vessel. The *Seven Spray's* relatively small footprint and its autonomous diving capability allows access to areas around jackets and alongside FPSOs which would not be possible with larger vessels.

Increasingly, Subsea 7 is also undertaking decommissioning work for Shell involving extensive engineering studies and the use of customised remote technology solutions developed to tackle these challenging scopes.

In late 2009, the *Normand Subsea* - a new world class state of-the-art remotely operated vehicle support vessel (ROVSV), specifically designed for inspection, maintenance and repair work, joined the Subsea 7 fleet. The vessel, which works exclusively on the Shell underwater services contract, has undertaken a variety of operations and activities in her first year of operations including construction, inspection, and survey work. On occasion, during a structural inspection campaign, she has even had all six of her ROVs in the water working simultaneously.

In early 2010, the new-build *Seven Atlantic* dive support vessel also joined the Subsea 7 fleet to service this contract. The vessel is one of the world's largest and most capable vessels of its kind, specifically designed for saturation and air diving support works.

Both of the vessels' crews, project teams, as well as the client, have reported that the new vessels' station keeping and weather working capabilities have exceeded expectations.

Separate to the USC, in September 2010, Subsea 7 was also awarded a 4-year single contractor framework agreement with Shell for subsea pipeline installation services across its European offshore fields and facilities - providing the same safe, timely, value-adding and best-in-class project delivery as demonstrated on the USC.



Air Diving from the Curlew FPSO



Toisa Polaris and Seven Spray at Shell Brent C



Seven Atlantic Saturation Divers