

# Leith Spoolbase

subsea 7

Subsea 7  
North Sea  
Spoolbase,  
Leith, UK



Set on the shores of the Firth of Forth, Leith Spoolbase has become an integral part of Subsea 7's North Sea portfolio. It's prime location allows Subsea 7 to offer clients cost effective solutions for projects across the region.

## Key points

- Facility revitalised by a £7 million build programme in 2013 to provide more cost-effective shorter style tie-back solutions in the North Sea
- Single and double joint fabrication
- Provides fabrication and storage capabilities for oil and gas pipelines of up to 16" diameter and 530m length for spooling onto reeled pipelay vessels
- Covers an area of over 30,000m<sup>2</sup>
- 170m fabrication building
- 14 production line stations
- Fully automated Selmers pipe handling system
- Three pipe storage areas capable of holding 80km of 8-inch pipe
- Excellent access to site via road and sea.

Leith spoolbase offers clients' significant financial and operational benefits. The spoolbase's east coast location allows for short transits offshore, making it ideal for shorter style tie-in projects. Additionally the wide range of material handled, such as 22% chrome and 316 inconel clad, has enabled an increase the range of specialist welding, fabrication and inspection activities on offer.

Leith's refurbishment also further strengthens Subsea 7's offering in the North Sea & Canada region. It also compliments Vigra spoolbase in Norway which will continue to fabricate complex work such as pipe-in-pipe.

### Pipe Storage/Handling

Both single and double joints can be handled and stored at Leith. Stalks are pulled by a wheeled loading shovel with a custom pipe pulling attachment. Handling is performed by 360 excavators with roller boxes. Pipes are stored within the stalk rack using support posts. Rack dimensions: 530m x 9m.

Concrete plinths are positioned at both ends of the stalk rack allowing winch operations during piggings and gauging etc.

### Firing Line

The main fabrication line contains 14 production line stations for single joint fabrication. The facilities include a fully automatic Selmers pipe handling system, from the outside feed-in rack, through the pipe-in-waiting system, through the line-up station, then through the powered rollers to the end of the fabrication line.

The fabrication line produces stalks, which are up to 530m long, that are directly loaded onto the stalk racks.

### Spooling Line

The spooling line is 745m long in total, with the tie-in station 220m from stern of vessel.

The tie-in station has two areas within it. Area one is equipped with an automated line-up station for welding. Non-Destructive Examination (NDE) is also performed in this area. Area two is where Field Joint Coating (FJC) operations take place. During spooling operations there is a 12m pull between welding/NDE and FJC operations.

The spooling line passes underneath a 70m culvert to the vessel.

### Vessel Berthing

Located in the port of Leith the site benefits from non-tidal deepwater, allowing continuous spooling onto pipelay vessels. A stand off frame is placed between the quay and the vessel which keeps the vessel at a 13 degree angle, in line with the spooling line.

This allows for simultaneous pipe reeling and the load out of project materials, helping to minimise the duration of both mobilisations and demobilisations.

### Contact Details

Visiting/delivery address:  
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Leith, Edinburgh, UK

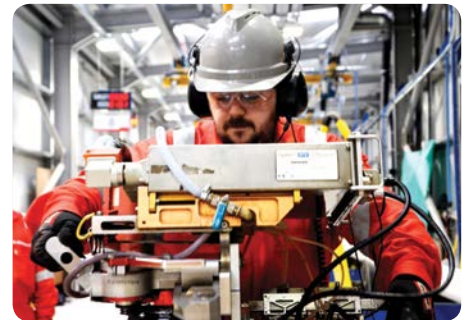
Postal Address:  
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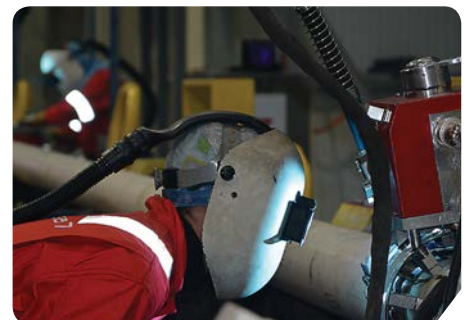
Caption required



Pipe stalks



Non Destructive Examination tests weld quality



Welding