Established in 1978, Subsea 7’s Pipeline Bundle Fabrication Site is located 6 miles north of the town of Wick, Caithness in the far North of Scotland. This unique site runs 7.8km inland, covers a total area in excess of 300,000m² and has a sheltered bay in which to launch the Pipeline Bundles.

**Fast Facts**

- Geographically situated to service West of Shetland fields, North and Norwegian Seas.
- Site length - 7,800 metres.
- Site area - over 300,000m².
- Longest Pipeline Bundle length - 7.7km.
- Heaviest structure/manifold assembly - approx. 600t.
- Site/track bearing capacity - 25t/m².
- Two fabrication shops plus modern office, maintenance and storage facilities.
- Four construction tracks providing a total capacity of almost 28km for Pipeline Bundles and associated work.
- Two launch way systems providing launch scheduling options.
What is a Pipeline Bundle?

Subsea 7's Pipeline Bundle product integrates the required pipelines (including production, water injection and gas lift) and control lines (hydraulic and chemical tubes, power, signal and fibre optic cables) necessary for any subsea development and assembles them within a single steel carrier pipe. At each end of the pipeline, towhead structures are attached incorporating piping, valves and control equipment, designed specifically for the requirements of the field. The bundle can be fully tested prior to launch and towed to the installation location using the Controlled Depth Tow Method. Once installed no trenching or rock dumping is required.

Storage and Handling

There is a total of 58,000m² of pipe storage areas. The main line pipe storage area is serviced by two 10t Goliath Cranes. There are also a number of dedicated areas for the storage of project materials and consumables, including the main store and dedicated satellite stores where smaller items are contained.

Fabrication Shops

The site has two fabrication shops utilised for the welding and fabrication of Pipeline Bundles. Both fabrication shops contain overhead cranes and firing lines to facilitate production of pipelines. Fabrication shop 2 contains four firing lines which can be used simultaneously to allow efficient assembly of the inner bundle pipelines.

Insulated pipe-in-pipe flowlines, which are regularly included in bundle designs are assembled from this facility.

Fabrication shop 1: 133m x 15m
Fabrication shop 2: 350m x 15m

Tracks

The site has four separate railway tracks, which total 27,200m, on which dedicated bogies run. These are used for the movement of pipes and pipeline bundles.

Track 1 length: 7,700m
Track 2 length: 7,700m
Track 3 length: 6,000m
Track 4 length: 5,800m

Launchway

The site has two 240m launchways which are used to support and guide bundles and their towheads as they are launched from Wester Site into the sea as the first phase of the journey to their offshore destination.

Plant and Equipment

The Wick site is fully equipped with vehicles, plant and heavy lift pipe layer side booms and only limited equipment is hired in as required.

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