

Premier Catcher is the largest-ever Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Installation (EPCI) contract in the UK & Canada region. The award of the Catcher Area Development is another clear example of Subsea 7's ability to successfully deliver large-scale projects.

Subsea 7's Bundle technology and ability to provide a fully integrated service to Premier Oil assisted in winning the contract. Subsea 7 has full EPCI responsibility for the Catcher Area subsea facilities including three pipeline bundles, a challenging dynamic riser system and a 62km gas export/import pipeline.

Premier Catcher Area Development

Project

Catcher Area Development

Client

Premier Oil UK Limited

Location

North Sea, Block 28/9

Water depth

85–120m

Project Type

SURF

Date Awarded

May 2014

Date Completed

Ongoing

Vessels Utilised

Seven Petrel
Seven Pelican
Seven Osprey
Seven Navica
Skandi Acergy
Normand Oceanic
Leith Spoolbase
Wick Bundle
Fabrication Facility

Subsea 7 and Premier Oil Partnership

Subsea 7 has a long term partnership with Premier Oil providing concept engineering, FEED, SURF, project execution and Life of Field operations in the UK and Falklands.

Overview

The Catcher Area Development is located in Block 28/9 of the UK Continental Shelf approximately 180km east of Aberdeen. The development consists of three discoveries, Catcher, Varadero and Burgman, located in a water depth of approximately 90m.

Each field will be linked via a subsea tie-back to a Floating, Production, Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessel, exporting oil by shuttle tanker and gas by a 10" pipeline connected to the existing Fulmar pipeline. Gas for gas lift and fuel will be imported through the gas export pipeline when the Catcher Area reservoirs become gas deficient.

The FPSO will be located centrally between the three subsea developments and will be designed to receive and process up to 60,000 barrels of oil a day. The development will comprise of 14 production and eight water injection wells. Two drilling templates will be installed at each drill centre as part of the work scope.

Three individual Bundle systems will transport fluids and controls between each drill centre and the FPSO location. At one end of each Bundle, a towhead manifold will be tied-in to the drilling templates to commingle production streams and distribute injection water, chemicals and controls. Towheads at the FPSO end of each Bundle act as SSIV riser base structures, which are connected to the FPSO turret via individual flexible risers and umbilicals.

A 62km long 10" gas export pipeline and end manifold structure will be tied into the existing Curlew Deep Gas Diverter Structure. The gas export pipeline will be trenched along its length except for rockdumped crossings over the existing Langedale and CATS Everest gas pipelines and the Gannet to Fulmar oil pipeline. The gas export pipeline will then be connected to the FPSO by a flexible riser via the Catcher bundle SSIV structure.

Subsea 7's Aberdeen office is undertaking the engineering and project management, whilst fabrication is taking place at the company's Wick and Leith facilities. The project also includes managing large value procurement and fabrication subcontract packages.

Scope summary:

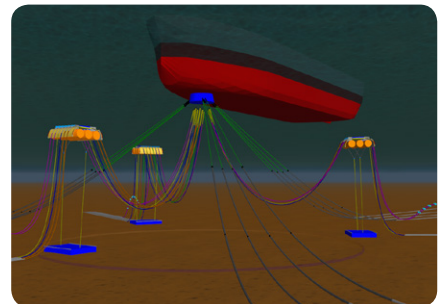
- 3 x 37" Bundles: 3.6km, 3.4km and 3.2km in length (totaling approximately 50km of steel pipe, including 10km of BuBi linepipe and 10km of plastic lined pipe)
- 3 x Manifold towheads (approx. 250 tonnes each) and 3 x SSIV towheads (approx. 150 tonnes each)
- 62km x 10" Gas export pipeline, trenched and buried using Subsea 7 Variable Multi-pass Plough (VMP)
- 4 x Pipeline crossings (rock dumped)
- 10 x Flexible Risers (approx. 470m each) and 3 x Umbilicals (approx. 480m each) grouped over three tethered mid-water arches
- 13 x Diverless bend stiffener connectors
- 1 x Pipeline end manifold structure (approx. 130 tonnes)
- 48 x Pipeline tie-ins spools and 13 x well tie-ins spools
- 6 x Drilling templates weighing 150 tonnes (installation only)
- Testing and pre-commissioning



A total of 112km of pipe will be welded on the Catcher project



Towhead launch at Wester



Premier Catcher riser system



Seven Navica