

Evening Technical Meeting: Light Well Intervention, Flowlines Buckle Management and the Low Motion Floater

Report on SUT Perth Branch Evening Technical Meeting
Wednesday 9th August 2017

By Nick McNaughton, Perth Branch Committee Member

The August 2017 SUT Technical Evening at the Parmelia Hilton was opened by SUT Perth Branch Vice-Chairman, Rex Hubbard and chaired by SUT Committee Member Nick McNaughton. The event was kindly sponsored by ATV, INTECSEA and Rosen.

The evening was designed to showcase new technologies that have global application, but are particularly relevant to challenges faced in this region.

The first presentation of the evening was given by Bevan Morrison, Sales Manager – Light Well Intervention, TechnipFMC. Bevan's presentation provided an overview of the maturity and merits of light well intervention, giving examples of situations in which it is an effective choice compared to rig-based interventions. He presented the advantages and disadvantages of each method, highlighting the benefits of the deep integration possible between vessel and intervention systems when the vessel is dedicated to the task full time. Bevan made the point that while the capabilities of light well intervention spreads are expanding, there are still relatively few complete systems in the global market.

Our second presentation was by Adrian Lim, Asia Pacific Regional Manager for Integrity Management and Engineering Services, Rosen Australia. Adrian's presentation provided a background on the drivers for planned pipeline curvature and the sources of unplanned curvature, before diving into the details of how in-line inspection tools can be used to monitor curvature and associated strains. He provided an overview of the development of Rosen's technology using their inspection tool test loop, and shared data showing the repeatability of measurements. Adrian closed by summarising the real world benefits to pipeline integrity management offered by this new form of surveillance.

The final presentation of the evening was by Yuriy Drobyshevski, Technical Advisor for Floating Systems, INTECSEA. Yuriy presented an overview of the conventional FPSO, associated motions and impact on riser system options before introducing the newly developed Low Motion Floater. Along with an array of benefits of the new design, Yuriy presented details of the system components, and reviewed the background simulation and tank testing work used to develop the design. The agreement between tank test results and simulation-based predictions was identified as a key milestone for the design team, and has led to subsequent engagement with Classification Societies and major energy companies.

There were questions from the floor after each presentation that challenged the presenters and led to interesting discussion after the session closed. The presentations were very well received from 120+ attendees, many of which stayed afterwards to network and enjoy refreshments.

Thank you to the SUT members, new members and guests for their attendance during the evening. Also, to the three presenters that in their own time volunteered to speak at the event.

I would like to conclude by thanking again our ETM sponsors, ATV, INTECSEA and Rosen for providing continued backing. Events like these cannot be realised without key sponsorship and support.