

Evening Technical Meeting:

PROPOSED MARINE GROWTH (MG) ISSUE

Report on SUT Perth Branch Evening Technical Meeting

Wednesday 15th June 2022

By Bukkie Orugun, Perth Branch Committee Vice Chair



The June 2022 SUT technical evening at the Parmelia Hilton was opened by SUT Perth Committee Member, Brett Phillips and chaired by SUT Perth Branch Vice Chair, Bukkie Orugun.

The event was not kindly sponsored by any of the presenters nor attendees.

Marine Fouling Challenges in Australian Waters: An operator perspective was presented by Harvey Smith from Woodside for Subsea Equipment Australia Reliability – SEAR Joint industry project based in Perth. Harvey opened his presentation by highlighting all equipment manufacturers base their design on 4deg when carrying out testing in other locations. Marine fouling can either be marine growth and calcareous deposits. Significant impact on controls, spools and other hardware if coating is removed or penetrated by marine deposits due to the corrosion caused. Damage to connector rubber bladders from calcification creating vacuums due to increased force to retrieve structure. What is different in AU intervention is the time spent at depth unsticking the hardware as cost to bring the boat and the cost to get to depth is similar to other locations. Understanding marine growth impact will improve the economics of Australian intervention. Industry collaboration was accredited to the success of the JIP and Harvey highlighted that Woodside just retrieved their anti marine growth structure. Further findings from the retrieved marine structure will be shared by Woodside once available.

Marine Growth Prevention, Remediation, Techniques and Development was presented by Brett Phillips, Technical Solutions Manager Oceaneering and Mark de Castro of Total Marine Technology TMT, both based in Perth. Mark captured the audience by kicking off with the importance of considering marine growth at FEED stage, highlighting that prevention is the most important pillar in marine growth containment. He built on that to further emphasize acid washes/treatment is part of the Environmental plan approval and cannot be changed on the fly and parking receptacles need to be default as many proposed short interventions has been seen to become long interventions with unforeseen MG consequence. Brett continued the presentation explaining marine growth management from prevention to contact cleaning, water jetting and/or chemical treatment. Override tooling options are available as last resort where applicable. Presentation came to a close after presenting case studies that used the different management methods and images of the success shared.

In- water Hull cleaning with complete capture, containment and filtration was presented by Peter Maidment of CleanSubsea Australia based in Perth. Peter started the presentation by talking through Port Authorities preferences not wanting Vessels to get rid of Marine Growth directly into their waters as it leads to the transfer of marine species across jurisdictions. On sustainability impact, Peter explained that half a millimetre of marine growth deposit can increase ship emissions by up to 25%. Peter expanded on the capability of the envirocart, a technology revolutionizing in-water hull cleaning system that completely clean, capture, contain and filters all discharge matter from a vessels hull without damaging the antifouling paint or polluting the surrounding marine environment. Legislation is being prepared to standardize IWHC which will include requirements for complete capture, containment and filtration.

After each presentation, questions were asked by the audience using slido with the options of microphones taken around by SUT staff available as backup. Asking questions this was very effective, gaining considerable audience involvement throughout the Q&A after each session. The depth of knowledge of each of the presenters proved itself through their ability to respond to the questions directly and sometimes expand further. The presentations and whole evening was well received by a total of 85 registered attendees.

Thank you to the SUT members, new members and guests for their attendance during the evening, especially to all the presenters that volunteered their time to speak at the event.