

**PROJECT:**

# Montara WHP Riser Inspection Campaign

**under-promise  
over-deliver**



**CLIENT:**  
PTTEP AA  
**LOCATION:**  
Timor Sea  
**DATE:**  
2012

IDENTIFY

SELECT

DEFINE

EXECUTE

OPERATE

Following the Montara well blowout, the pre-installed Montara WHP was badly fire damaged. This effectively made the Topsides unserviceable, but left the Jacket and risers structurally intact. During removal of the damaged Topsides, and at the time of riser cutting, gas alarms were triggered and it transpired that H<sub>2</sub>S gas was present. Water samples from the five risers were taken, with the subsequent discovery that significant Sulfate-Reducing Bacteria (SRB) contamination had occurred. Concerns about the potential for accelerated internal corrosion of the carbon steel risers, potentially leading to loss of integrity, were raised.

Linch-pin was invited by PTTEP AA to assist in developing and managing an inspection campaign utilising the field located assets: The Ensco 109 drill rig and the Rockwater 2, drilling over the new Topsides and engaged in installing the field infrastructure respectively. The Ensco 109 rig was dedicated to Linch-pin for the inspection activities for a two week period.

The following activities were carried out by Linch-pin:

- Development of an inspection methodology for each riser using high resolution internal inspection tools, launched from purpose built launchers and receivers installed on the Topsides and subsea respectively.
- Development of a detailed budget, schedule and scope of works.
- Management of the tendering process for all contracted labour and specialist services.
- Design of all temporary works and supervision during the temporary equipment fabrication.
- Development of detailed procedures, SIMOPs plan, mobilisation and execution plans.
- Supervision of the offshore work, including provision of the overall company representative, project engineers and HSE representatives. All the associated subcontracted labour were run by Linch-pin.

The outcome was a fast track, technically challenging but high successful flushing, cleaning, inspection and protection campaign that was executed within the prescribed duration, under budget, and with output of high quality data. It demonstrated that while corrosion was incipient it was not detrimental to riser integrity. The work was executed while PTTEP AA was under considerable regulatory scrutiny, increasing the criticality of both technical and project performance.