



Rough Alpha Platform Decommissioning

In January 2020, EXCEED was awarded a full Well Management Services contract by Centrica Storage for the Rough Alpha six well abandonment campaign. In a short time frame, planning progressed through Identify, Select and Define to the READINESS phase, which commenced in March 2022.

Planning

In September 2021 the project kicked off and in a short time frame planning progressed through to the readiness phase, which commenced in March 2022. The onshore team (8-10 personnel) completed procurement activities (rig, bundled services, platform interface), engineering studies and prepared key deliverables such as the Decommissioning Programmes, Well Control Bridging Documents, Operational Risk Assessment and HSE Notifications, ahead of the planned rig arrival in September 2022.

In addition, as the Rough Alpha had been cold stacked since 2019, a self-propelled elevating barge was contracted in June to complete WITs and interface work scopes (structural inspections, dropped object survey, escape routes) ahead of the rig arrival. Crucially, the barge visit answered significant unknowns about the platform (integrity of decks, dimensions etc. and wells) without which offline wireline would not have been a success.



LOCATION

Southern North Sea (47/8)

DURATION

161 days



COST SAVING

£4.4M through P&A design & operations optimisation



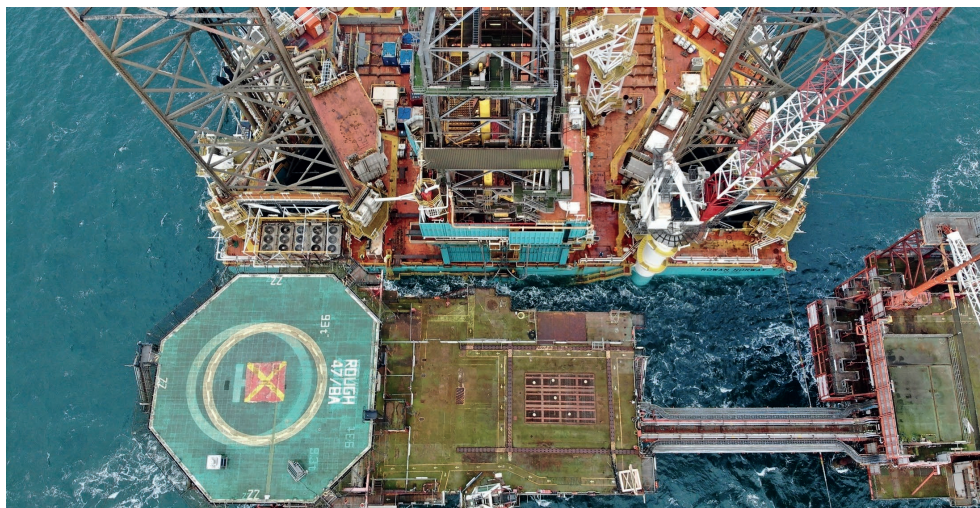
INNOVATION

Wells abandoned to facilitate future re-development of Rough Field for CCUS and/or Hydrogen storage



ENVIRONMENT

Zero spills





Operations

The Valaris Norway was mobilised to the Rough Alpha in January 2023. After completing the complex rig move alongside the asset (<1m tolerances), and platform interface, well P&A operations commenced which included:

- Rigging slickline up on both the platform (4 wells) and on the rig floor (2 wells) to recover/set plug(s), pump a through tubing CO₂ resistant separation cement barrier (required for potential reservoir re-use) and to cut tubing.
 - 3 out of the 4 slickline operations completed on the platform were completed “offline”, reducing overall campaign duration by 13 days.
- Removing the suspension flange, installing the BOPs, recovering the 5 ½” x 4” completion tubing, setting a separation cement barrier (if not done previously), section milling a 200ft window in the 7 ⅝” casing and underreaming prior to setting the reservoir barrier using CO₂ resistant cement.
- Cutting and recovering the 7 ⅝” x 8 ⅝” and 10 ¾” casing prior to setting a 150ft environmental cement plug inside the 16” casing to +/-250ft bellow seabed.

Result

- Majority of platform/rig interface completed prior to rig arrival using a self-propelled elevating barge, significantly reducing exposure to unknown risks with the rig on hire.
- Rig interface with cold stacked platform completed with no requirement for basket transfer of personnel.
- Offline slickline operations completed on 3 wells, which included pumping through tubing cement plugs.
- Drilling BOPs hopped between well slots utilising a 2nd lower riser installed offline, significantly reducing rig up/down time and personnel exposure to heavy lifts.
- Suspension flanges removed offline using hydraulic jacks just prior to installing the drilling BOPs.
- **6x wells on Rough Alpha Phase 1 & 2 abandoned as per OEUK guidelines.**



Enhancing
SAFETY



Preserving
ENVIRONMENT



Assuring
INTEGRITY



Improving
EFFICIENCY



Reducing
COSTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Ian Mills | Managing Director +44 (0) 1224 577944 | mills.i@xcd.com

Bart van de Laar | Head of Decommissioning +44 (0) 1224 470319 | vandelaar.b@xcd.com

www.xcd.com



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