
Guidelines for the management of integrity of subsea facilities

GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
INTEGRITY OF SUBSEA FACILITIES

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FOREWORD

This document provides all those with an involvement in subsea systems – managers, designers, equipment manufacturers, fabricators, installers, operators, integrity and maintenance engineers, etc. – with good practice guidance on how to ensure that any subsea facility retains its integrity: i.e. continues to function as was originally intended, for the duration of the required field life, which might be significantly longer than the original design life. It will also be a useful introduction for those who wish to become involved in the subject.

Although instigated by, and produced for, the UK offshore industry, it is regarded as being applicable to similar industries throughout the world and also to onshore terminals.

This document was written and compiled under the direction of a Steering Group comprising personnel from a cross section of UK Offshore Operators and independent verification bodies who play a key role in the design and operation of subsea facilities for the offshore oil and gas industry. Members also provided input to the development via discussion at meetings, individual contributions and with provision of industry experience and other selected information.

Part A of the document presents the high level management policy and principles, and the framework under which a successful Integrity Management process can be achieved. It is recommended reading for all senior managers whose responsibilities are associated with the design or operation of offshore assets.

Part B provides recommendations to operators and contractors regarding how to manage system integrity and reliability 'from cradle to grave'. It addresses the consideration, at the design stage, of the features that will encourage integrity and reliability, and support maintainability, throughout field life. It also addresses how to manage integrity and reliability throughout the operating life and into the decommissioning phase, so can be applied to any subsea facility at any stage in its life, and is not applicable only to new facilities. The recommendations can also be applied to the process of acquisition of an existing facility.

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This Guideline may be reviewed from time to time and it would be of considerable assistance for any future revision if users would send comments or suggestions for improvements to:

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