



**SUBSEA TECHNOLOGY**

# Wide Area Hydrocarbon Leak Monitoring, Offshore Papua New Guinea

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Sonardyne International Ltd.

Adapting to the Digital Future  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2018  
Aberdeen, UK

**POSITIONING  
NAVIGATION  
COMMUNICATION  
MONITORING  
IMAGING**

### Agenda

- Very brief introduction to Sonardyne
- A look back at the history of Pasca-A offshore Papua New Guinea
- What the client needed to perform during a new drilling program
- What was delivered in terms of hardware and daily reporting
- What does it all mean for the digital future and for the subsea industry in 20 years?

## Introduction to Sonardyne

Leading independent provider of underwater acoustic, inertial, optical and sonar technology

**70+**

The number of countries where we operate

**250**

Sonardyne employees worldwide

**46**

The age of our company

**10,000**

Transducers manufactured each year

**10mm**

Positioning accuracy of 6G acoustic technology

**156,000**

Total square footage of our facilities

**Up to 500Mb/s**

The speed we can transfer data subsea

**12,000m**

How deep our equipment can operate

**100%**

Deep water fields where Sonardyne technology is used

**80%**

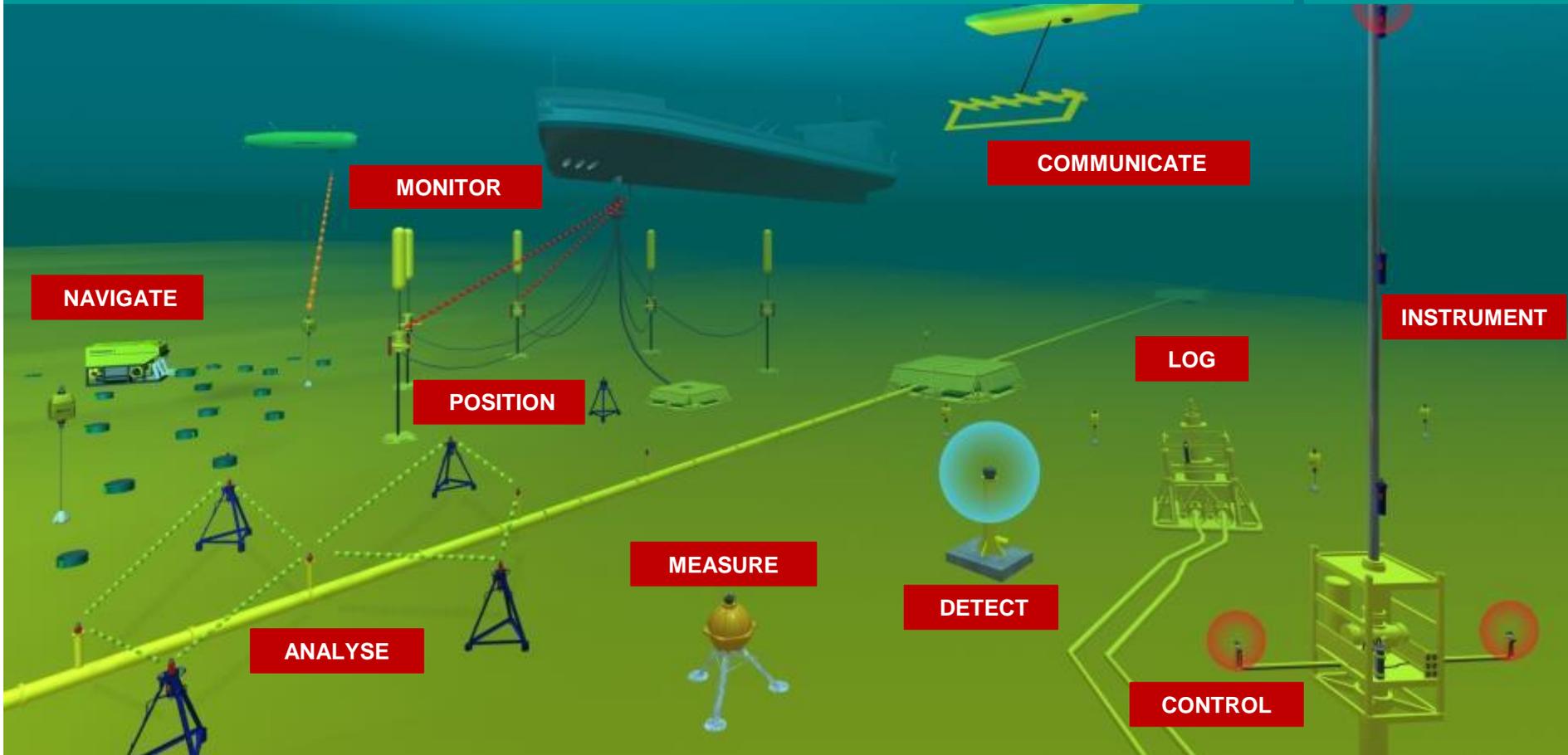
Percentage of products we export

**24/7**

Support any time you need it



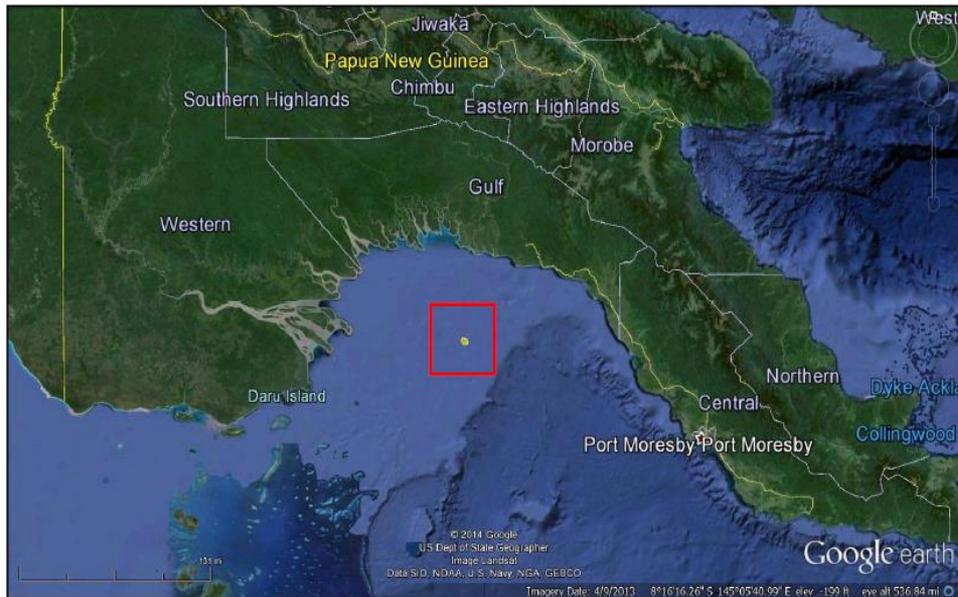
## What do we do?



### Agenda

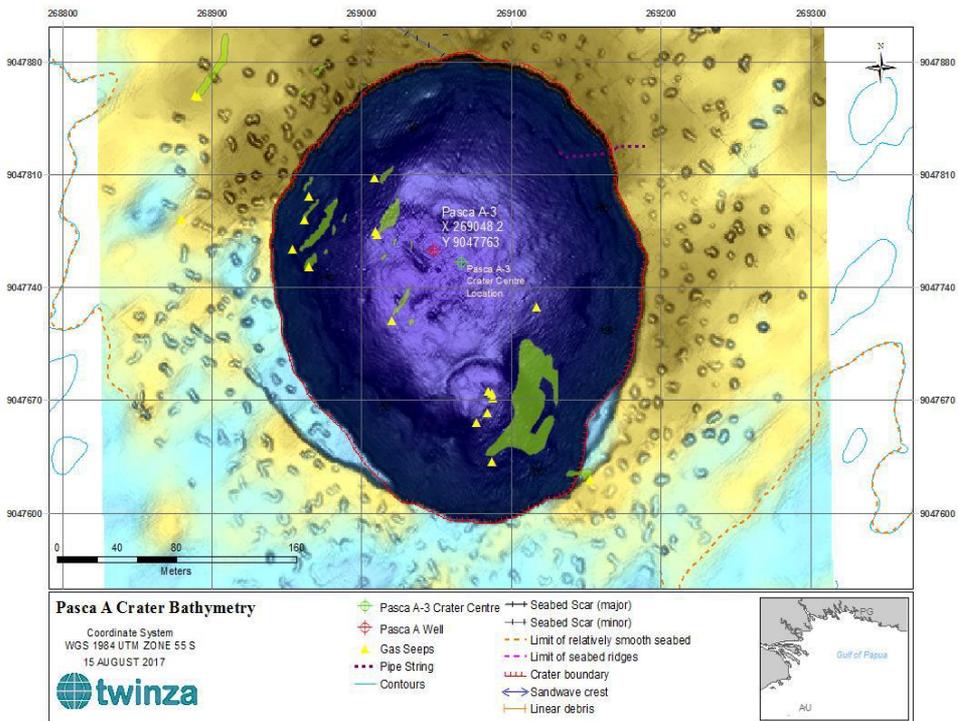
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## History of the Pasca-A Field Development



- Pasca-A is situated offshore PNG between Port Moresby and Daru in approximately 95m of water depth
- Site was a rich gas condensate discovery
- High flow capacity and liquids rich with >50% condensate and LPG's
- Originally the Pasca-1 discovery well was drilled by Philips in 1968
- Pasca-A2 appraisal well was drilled in 1969, experiencing high mud-losses in a high pressure reef with high flow capacity on test
- Superior Oil took over Pasca licence in 1979, drilling only 1 well in 1983 which experienced a loss of well control
- Licence for the block changed hands several times until Twinza Oil and partners were awarded the block in October 2011

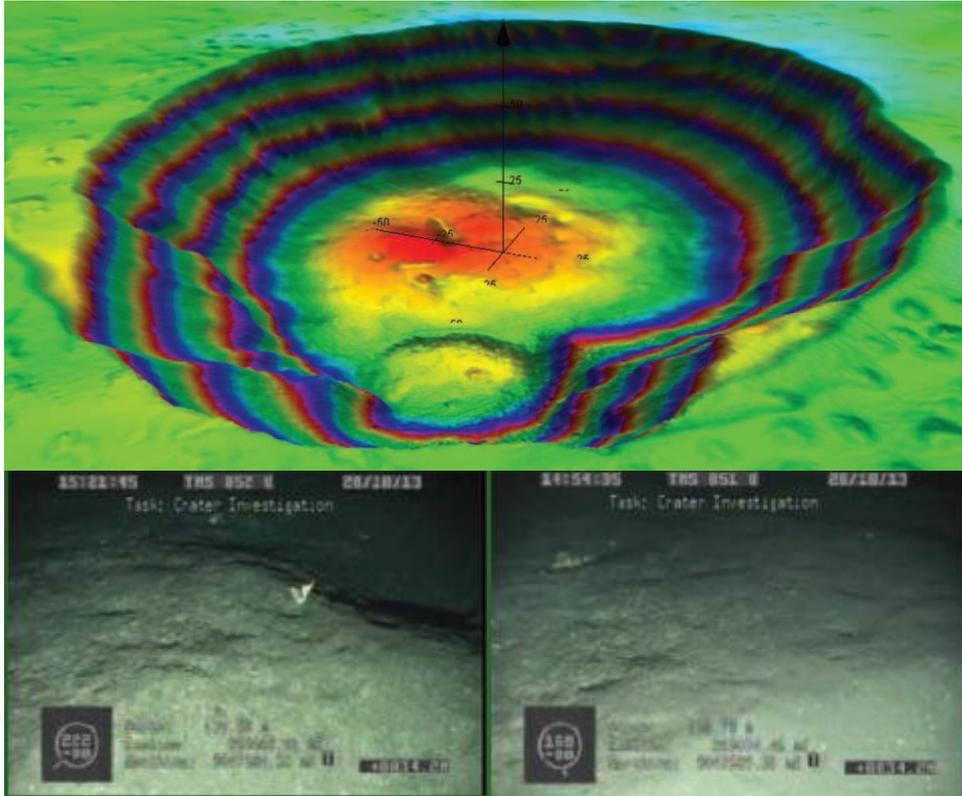
## History of the Pasca-A Field Development



- The blowout in the early '80's was significant, leaving a crater roughly 250m in diameter by about 40m deep
- No real intervention tool place and the well was deemed to have sealed during the blowout
- Due to concerns relating to the new proposed drilling program by Twinza, a survey was conducted by Fugro to show base-map seepage
- The results of Fugro's study indicated several bubble stream locations with roughly 9.8 bubbles per second, largest in the SE area of the crater
- As Twinza Oil's new drilling program was taking place close to this crater the authorities wished continuous monitoring to ensure no increase of gas leakage occurred

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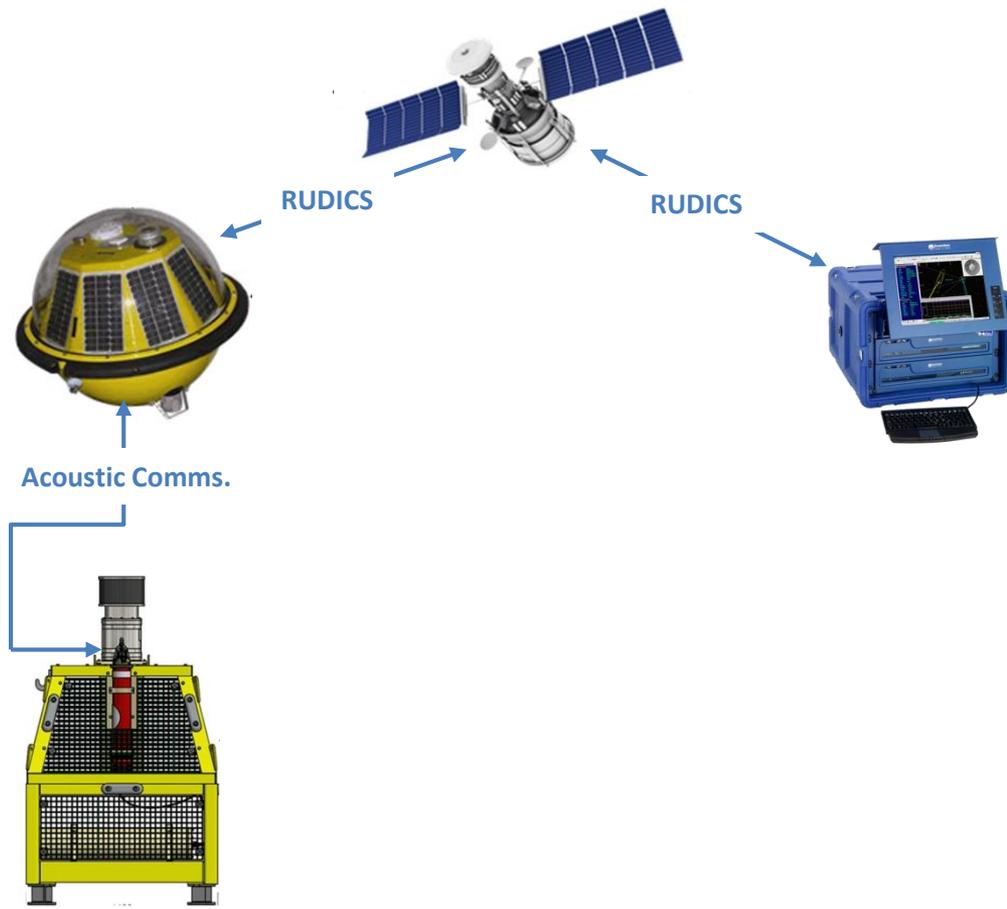
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- Twinza Oil were confident that drilling could be done without disturbing the crater's residual seeps using new drilling techniques and blowout prevention
- Even so the PNG regulators insisted that continuous monitoring was to take place during operations
- Any increase in the rate of seepage from the crater would lead to a cessation of the drilling program, costing downtime and cost to the operator
- Twinza turned to Resolve Subsea to conduct a study of available technology including using cameras, methane sniffers, ROV monitoring, and unmanned surface vehicle monitoring amongst other techniques
- Finally, Resolve Subsea selected the Sonardyne Sentry wide area integrity monitoring sonar, but in doing so many challenges still had to be addressed

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- Little to no infrastructure meant power could only be supplied by batteries
- The Sentry-B (battery) system was designed to last for just over 6-months of continuous operation
- All automatic target detection computations had to be performed subsea using low-powered SMART technology
- Summary data could then be wirelessly transferred from the lander-based SMART to the surface buoy
- Data was then transferred to the shore (UK and Singapore facilities) via satellite
- Sentry was set for 3 minute 'looks' per hour with uploads every 6 hours to shore via surface buoy and satellite comms.

Wide Area Hydrocarbon Leak Detection

Sentry Integrity Monitoring Sonar (IMS)



**SUPPORTING IMAGERY:**

A Sonar PPI image was successfully requested from look ID 970 (UTC 12:30PM 29 SEP 2017).

(SNIPPETS, REFERENCE MAPS, OR DETECTION MAPS IF ANY REQUESTED):

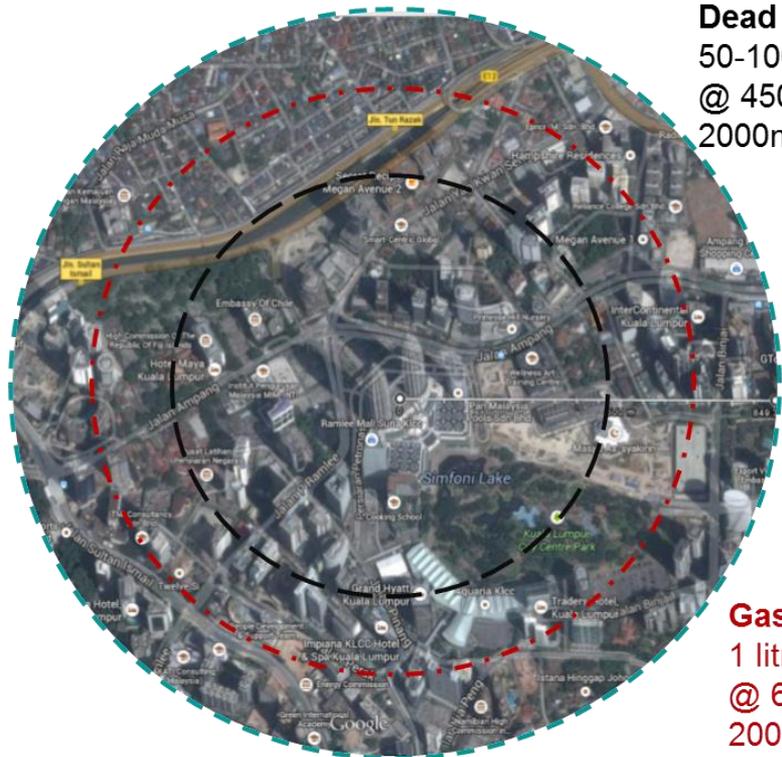


- Sentry-B (or the wired, Sentry-W) is capable of monitoring more than one billion cubic feet of seawater
- The sonar has 360° of coverage from a single ping with an operating frequency of 70 kHz and an 11° viewing angle
- Has the ability to automatically detect changes or alerts by comparing the operational scene to a base map
- During the Pasca-A deployment over 2,500 hourly looks were made across the crater
- Four (non-consecutive) automatic detections occurred around same location, post-mission this was probably moving fauna
- Based on mission reports no significant leaks were detected over and above the threshold levels of the existing and known seeps

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## What Does it all Mean Digitally and for the Future?



### Dead oil (2012)

50-100 bpd  
@ 450 m range  
2000m depth

### CO<sub>2</sub> (2014)

2 litre/minute  
@ 850 m range  
10 m depth

### 'Live' oil (2013)

1.5 bpd  
@ 670 m range  
2000 m depth

### Gas (2013)

1 litre/min at 1 bar DP  
@ 670 m range  
2000 m depth

- Automatic wide area, sonar-based, technology can detect and monitor subsea assets for the presence of oil and gas leaks
- This provides greater environmental comfort and early warnings of potential loss of integrity
- Low-powered electronics need to be used to prolong battery life for monitoring older, brownfield, sites (or those like Pasca-A)
- Data analysis needs to get smarter, with more data processing taking place subsea
- Robust, reliable and high bandwidth wireless acoustic and optical communications will play a part in securing cost-effective field developments



**SUBSEA TECHNOLOGY**

**Thank you.**

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