Offshore Optimisations – Lessons learnt from installing an FSO

The speakers spent six months offshore supervising the installation and commissioning of a replacement FSO which gave an excellent insight into the impact of engineering on the installation phase of the project. Despite a mature design and using state of the art installation vessels, the project revealed a number of areas where the operations could be improved and streamlined.

The 6 month installation campaign included the installation of a complete subsea system from flexible flowlines, power cable, Mid Water arch, subsea structures, FSO mooring, turret connection and retrofit risers work. The modest scale of the project allowed personal oversight of almost every aspect of the work, much of which was captured in video and still format.

The Project is now successfully installed, commissioned and received first oil and power despite all the involved challenges.

Sherif El Gebaly
Dr. Sherif is a subsea engineer with about 15 years of experience in the oil and gas sector. He specialised in subsea field developments with extensive experience in pipelines, spools and risers. He has been involved in several deep water, HTHP and highly insulated pipeline projects as a technical consultant, Lead Engineer and engineering manager. His main passion is the use of numerical simulation to tackle engineering challenges to better quantify the risk element. HE was involved in a subsea installation campaign as the SURF manager for a project in the Mediterranean Sea which involved subsea pipelines, risers and FSO hook up operation. Previously he was the advanced analysis group manager for INTECSEA UK and currently he is a Product Lead for the full field development and Trunklines for XSIGHT by Saipem.

Nick Allen
Nick is a Subsea Engineer with over 20 years of experience spanning conceptual studies, through FEED and detailed design to brownfield modifications. He has a background in Naval Architecture and worked for several years providing Marine Engineering support prior to joining INTECSEA. Nick has worked on many technically challenging projects including deep water and HTHP Pipe-In-Pipe risers. Nick’s first involvement in this FSO replacement project was back in 2006 completing the FEED design and specifications, re-joining the project at vessel sailaway for the installation, commissioning and follow-up phases.