

Khuff Gas progress

Complex offshore project

Foster Wheeler's project management consultancy team has been working with ADMA-OPCO on this complex offshore project in the United Arab Emirates for over two years.



Richard Calling, project manager, FW.

This development involves two major offshore complexes, and includes the installation of a new gas gathering network, two new gas processing platforms and modifications to existing facilities.

Engineering and procurement are essentially complete and both the client and contractor's teams are now located at the fabrication contractor's facilities at Mussafah, close to Abu Dhabi City.

The majority of the equipment packages and bulk materials have been received at site or are in transit.

The three decks for the new platform (TA) for the Umm Shaif complex have all been lifted into position and equipment is being installed as it is delivered.

Equipment installation is well underway on the topsides (NKPP) for the Abu Al Bukhoosh complex and pipe erection is in progress.

Both NKPP and TA topsides and their respective jackets have been designed to enable "float-over" offshore installation rather than by offshore crane barge. This involves

both topsides being fabricated on runway beams, when completed they are moved slowly from the quayside onto a cargo barge using winches. The barge will be towed to the field and steered between the jacket legs.

When correctly positioned the topsides are lowered onto the jacket by adjusting the ballast of the barge. All pre-commissioning and 80% of the commissioning activities are required to be completed prior to load-out.

A great deal of work offshore has been completed, including pipelines, flowlines and riser installation. Also all jackets have been installed offshore. What remains are load-out of the new platform topsides and their offshore installation, and that of their respective bridges and flare towers.

The next challenge is the start of offshore modification work on both Abu Al Bukhoosh and Umm Shaif complexes. This work starts in earnest in September.

Modification work on the existing facilities will continue for approximately 18 months, with a series of campaigns on both offshore complexes involving a total of 15 platforms.

