

CASE STUDY

VERTECH GROUP

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ICHTHYS VENTURER FPSO FLARE TIP REPLACEMENT





1 / Introduction

In 2021, during the INPEX turnaround, Veritech was enlisted to replace the flare tip on the Ichthys Venturer FPSO (Floating Production and Offloading Facility). This complex project required expert

coordination, specialist equipment, and a highly skilled team to successfully and safely replace the flare tip positioned at an impressive elevation of 176m.

2 / Innovation

Veritech rose to the challenge, employing a custom-designed Conbit flare tip lifting system explicitly tailored for the 3.2-ton flare tip. The team's proficiency was showcased through the IRATA rope access tradespersons, who ensured the safe and efficient coordination between the deck level and flare tip, which involved installing a lifting system comprised of 2,600 individual components.

Facing the challenges presented by the offshore environment, the Veritech team demonstrated adaptability and precision. They managed the intricacies of the sea state and vessel movement, adhering to strict guidelines. Their commitment to safety was evident, not just in the success of

the main lifts but in the meticulous management of potential hazards, having managed over 3,500 potential dropped objects and covering a cumulative distance of 300km during ascents and descents.

The foresight demonstrated by the INPEX team was a crucial component of the success of the project. By arranging a replica of the flare tip platform in Darwin, the team could engage in practical training and familiarization with the system. This proactive approach ensured that the team understood the lifting system thoroughly and was primed to function as a cohesive unit when the project commenced offshore.

3 / Project Summary

The success of this endeavour was underpinned by thorough planning and the proactive involvement of INPEX from the outset. This proactive engagement guaranteed a holistic understanding of the project's objectives and potential challenges, ensuring all stakeholders were synchronized in their efforts to ensure safety and efficiency.

Post the project's completion, the efforts of the Vertech Flare Tip Replacement Team were recognized with the awarding of the Corporate HSE Activity Award by INPEX's executive body. Representatives from Vertech, Adam Haling and Tom Brennan, graced the award ceremony at INPEX Headquarters in Tokyo, underlining their commitment to upholding the highest safety standards.

The success of the flare tip replacement is a

testament to the robust and evolving relationship between Vertech and INPEX. Beginning in 2015, this collaboration has seen Vertech play integral roles across various phases, from structural inspections during the construction phase in South Korea to providing a broad spectrum of services as INPEX asset transitioned to operations in Australian waters.

To acknowledge this collaborative journey and show appreciation, Vertech gifted a unique memento to INPEX's senior executives. This token, a blend of framed project images and a woven djeng (fish) was sourced from Darwin's traditional custodians, the Larrakia people, echoing the symbolism of the word "Ichthys". The djeng itself was procured from Darwin's Aboriginal Bush Traders, bridging tradition with the spirit of collaboration.



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