

CASE STUDY

ICHTHYS VENTURER FPSO FLARE TIP REPLACEMENT

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VERTECH

INTRODUCTION

In 2021, during a major turnaround, Vertech was engaged by the client to carry out the replacement of the flare tip on the Ichthys Venturer FPSO (Floating Production Storage and Offloading facility). Positioned 176 metres above sea level, the task demanded expert coordination, specialist equipment, and a highly skilled team to ensure safe and effective execution.

PROCESS

Vertech utilised a custom-engineered Conbit lifting system, designed specifically to handle the 3.2-tonne flare tip. Rope access tradespersons played a critical role, assembling and operating the 2,600-component lifting system while coordinating operations between the flare tip and deck level.

Working in challenging offshore conditions, the team displayed precision and resilience, carefully managing sea-state impacts and vessel movement. Safety was prioritised at every step, with over 3,500 potential dropped object hazards addressed and 300km collectively covered during ascents and descents. A major factor in the project's success was the client's foresight in commissioning a flare tip platform replica in Darwin, enabling thorough hands-on training before offshore mobilisation.

OUTCOME

The project was completed successfully and safely, thanks to detailed planning and early engagement with the client. The Vertech team's outstanding performance earned them the client's Corporate HSE Activity Award, presented at the company's Tokyo headquarters.

This project also marked a continuation of Vertech's long-standing partnership with the client, which began in 2015. To commemorate this collaboration, Vertech presented a framed memento featuring project images and a traditional Larrakia djeng (fish), symbolising "Ichthys" and celebrating shared respect for local culture and teamwork.

