

CASE STUDY

VERTECH GROUP

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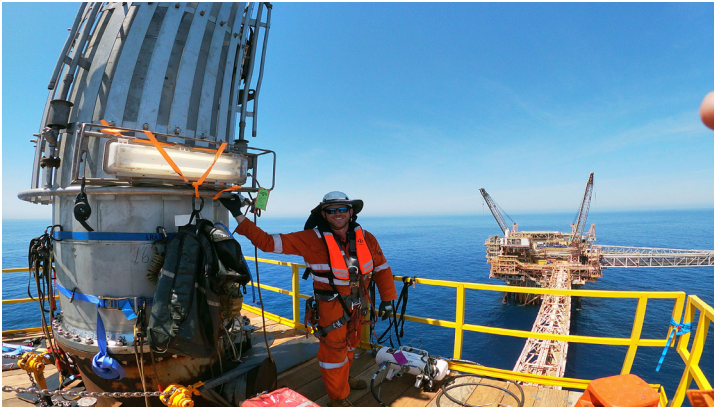
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NRC HP & LP FLARE TIP CHANGE





1 / Introduction

In 2019, a significant operation was undertaken to replace the HP Flare tip of the North Rankin Alpha site. Given the intricacies involved, the project entailed a unique approach: using a helicopter to remove the flare tip. The operation was not

just about innovation but also focused heavily on safety, efficiency, and minimising risks to the plant and personnel.

2 / Innovation

The initiation of using a helicopter brought along its own set of requirements and challenges. Essential components included an ultra-lightweight scaffold system with a capacity of 2.5 Tons, fibreglass-made handrails, and a custom lifting davit designed for this particular task. To validate these innovative approaches, a replica of the flare tip was established in the training facility of Veritech. This allowed for a comprehensive

trial with critical stakeholders like Woodside and Wood present. This proactive approach enabled the identification of potential challenges and efficiencies optimised for the actual task.



3 / Project Summary

The central goal of the project was the replacement of the HP & LP flare tips at the North Rankin Alpha site, executed with a dual focus on speed and safety. Vertech Group, known for their expertise, was roped in to offer temporary rope access platforms, thereby assisting with the flare tip replacement.

Vertech offered various services ranging from project management, engineering, lift planning, and HAZIDs to procurement as part of their exhaustive preparation. Their meticulous approach was further underscored by setting up a replica flare structure at their training facility. This mock setup allowed for rigorous trials, ensuring optimal efficiency during the execution phase.

When it came to the actual execution, Vertech's rope access solutions proved invaluable. These solutions

facilitated the construction and deconstruction of the scaffolding platforms at the flare tip and base, ensuring minimal disruptions to other site activities.

Feedback from the client, as shared by Project Superintendent Paul Challis, was overwhelmingly positive. The Vertech team managed to recover a significant portion of the project's schedule and adeptly navigated challenges, such as weather-induced downtimes. In addition, they successfully implemented the Flare Bellows scope, further underlining their efficiency and professionalism.

Overall, the project was marked by innovative solutions, meticulous planning, and a keen focus on safety, leading to its successful completion.



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