CASE STUDY

VERTECH GROUP

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PLUTO FLARE MAINTENANCE







1 / Introduction

During a UAV inspection, critical damage was detected in a CHS member within the PLUTO LNG flare tower structure at the +114m level. This damage was observed along the tongue plate to the CHS member connection point. Recognising the potential risks associated with such injuries, a dedicated project was promptly launched, aiming to remove the damaged member and address other members who might be exposed to similar stresses.

2 / Innovation

Vertech, known for its multi-disciplinary approach, swung into action with its specialist maintenance teams. Operating around the clock, the team took on a multitude of tasks. These tasks encompassed replacing 12 CHS members and the installation of DROPS protection for all horizontal members using a clamp chain assembly. Furthermore, the team employed advanced

ECI MPI NDT techniques for a comprehensive inspection. This intensive maintenance operation replaced flare ignitor frames, cables, and pilot gas hoses. To top it off, a meticulous close visual inspection of the flare tips was carried out to ensure comprehensive safety and functionality.

3 / Project Summary

The timing for the maintenance was crucial. An impending shutdown of Pluto Train 1 in April/May 2019 presented a strategic opportunity for preventative and corrective maintenance operations. Given the flare structure's paramount significance to the overall production of the project, there was no room for error. Vertech rose to the occasion by deploying personnel with the right expertise, ensuring that the flare's integrity and functionality

were not compromised. The highlight of their solution involved executing non-destructive testing (NDT) procedures on the flare tips. This step was instrumental in obtaining precise data, which was pivotal in guaranteeing the flare's longevity and, by extension, the project's continued success.



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