CASE STUDY

PLUTO FLARE MAINTENANCE

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VERTECH

INTRODUCTION

During a UAV inspection of the PLUTO LNG flare tower, critical damage was discovered in a CHS member at the +114m level, specifically at the tongue plate connection point. Given the potential risks, a dedicated project was rapidly initiated to remove the damaged member and assess others potentially subjected to similar structural stresses.

PROCESS

Vertech mobilised its multi-disciplinary maintenance team to work around the clock. The team replaced 12 CHS members and installed DROPS protection for all horizontal members using clamp chain assemblies. Advanced Eddy Current and Magnetic Particle Inspection (ECI MPI) techniques were employed to carry out detailed non-destructive testing. The scope also included replacing flare ignitor frames, cables, pilot gas hoses, and conducting close visual inspections of the flare tips.

OUTCOME

Timed with the planned Pluto Train 1 shutdown in April/May 2019, this window allowed for efficient preventative and corrective maintenance. Vertech's deployment of expert personnel ensured that structural integrity and operational reliability were maintained. Their comprehensive inspection and testing approach helped extend the flare's service life and reinforced the safety and resilience of the PLUTO LNG facility.