

CASE STUDY

RTM CLUMP WEIGHT RETRIEVAL

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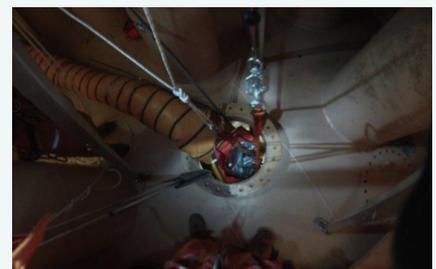
VERTECH

INTRODUCTION

VerTech was contracted to lead a confined space, multi-discipline retrieval operation for the client's FPSO clump weight, lodged over 70 metres below sea level in the central shaft of the Riser Turret Mooring (RTM). The lodged clump weight, suspended by a 141mm wire rope, prevented the FPSO from detaching and sailing away—posing a significant operational risk.

PROCESS

VerTech partnered with Furmanite to access and support mechanical intervention deep within the RTM. Rope access teams abseiled through seven gas-tested compartments, each with tight, congested hatches, using long-line BA systems. Multiple rescue stations were installed due to complex access constraints. After failed dislodging attempts, the team cut into the shaft and used specialist milling tools to reduce the clump weight's diameter from 480mm to 440mm, enabling its movement.



OUTCOME

Despite extreme access, atmospheric, and weather challenges, VerTech's 24-hour operations successfully freed the clump weight. The shaft was then repaired with an engineered clamp system. The project's success was driven by strong collaboration, rapid mobilisation, expert planning, and adaptive offshore execution.

