

## **Mixing Dynamic Positioning and Moorings**

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### **Abstract**

In the past the term dynamic positioning has been used when thrusters are automatically controlled to reduce mooring line loads or to help keep a tighter watch circle. In the new ISO document on station keeping a clear separation has been made between dynamic positioning and thrusters assisted moorings. This paper outlines the key elements of this new standard and then provides some feedback on an FMEA and full-scale trials of a thruster assisted system installed on a DP class 3 drilling semisubmersible. During this process several potential pitfalls based on older systems used for flotels were investigated and the ways of getting round them fully tested during a week when the rig was fully moored at a dummy location specifically for this purpose.

The results and a dramatic drive off have caused some rethinking by the system designers. The history station that was also installed and working enabled all the parameters to be checked and the incident to be graphically displayed and easily understood. It also enabled a close out by simulating all the contributory factors and showing how a drive off from these circumstances can be avoided in future. This paper will illustrate the causes of the incident and the great be

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