

Abstract 022 – Maersk Training

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Presentation Title: Competence Building while Migrating Technology and Operations

Abstract:

As the technology behind Dynamic Positioning continues to evolve it is finding new uses in the Maritime industry where it was never considered before. One of these areas is renewable energy and the construction of offshore wind farms. The original wind farms were built using conventional jack up barges that had to be towed into place. This was costly and labor intensive. About 8 years ago the first purpose built DP jack-up vessel was built for turbine installation operations. A whole new industry came into being with its own unique operational hurdles.

Some of the differences between turbine installation vessels and traditional DP vessels will be addressed. Modifications to the DP control system will be highlighted as well as the concern that an experienced DPO may not have the knowledge required to safely operate the vessel due to the new features. How is a DPO expected to get the experience in the new operational mode? Currently there are no DP jack-up turbine installation vessel training schemes that address this need. DP Sea time accrual is also a concern because these types of vessels only perform a limited number of DP jacking operations per year. The need for a new, pragmatic approach to jack up vessel DP operations will be covered as well as methods to possibly meet this need.

Offshore wind farms are now being built in the United States. The technology is proven in Europe so how can the information and experience from the operations in Europe be leveraged to ensure safe operations elsewhere in the world? Solutions to how to bring local knowledge, local authorities (regulations), and vessel operators together to ensure a smooth start up of a proven industry in a new region will be highlighted. An example of how a company can do this will be included.