DP FPSO: A Dynamically Positioned FPSO for Ultra Deep Waters



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Turret Moored FPSOs for Deep Water







DP FPSOs for Ultra Deepwater



DP FPSO: Pros & Cons

Advantages:

- Utilizes Proven Offshore Technology
- Adapts to Ultra-Deepwater
 - No anchor leg system
 - No interference with equipment on seabed
 - Deepwater allows large offsets – easier control
 - Hybrid riser system suited for ultra deep water
- Candidate for an Early Production System
- Diconnectability allows for Easy Evacuation during Hurricanes



Issues:

- Stationkeeping Reliability
 - Power generation system
 - Thrusters
 - Control system
 - Operators
- Disconnectable Riser
 System
- Maintenance
- Life of Field Costs



DP FPSO: Integration of Proven Technology











Hypothetical Field Design Basis

Gulf of Mexico					
Water Depth	2,500 m (8,200 ft)				
Drill Centers	3				
Oil Production Rate	125,000 barrels/day				
Production Risers	6 x 12" PIP				
Water Injection	3 x 10"				
Gas Injection / Gas Lift	2 x 10"				
Gas Export	1 x 12"				
Umbilicals	4				





Design Basis (continued)

- Vessel 1,000,000 bbl storage
 - 20-year service life w/o dry-docking
- Offloading tankers around 500,000 bbl capacity
- Disconnectible Riser Turret
 - Controlled Disconnect: 12 hours
 - Emergency Disconnect: 15 30 minutes
- Environments representative of the Gulf of Mexico, West Africa & Brazil





Metocean Data for Design

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS	NORMAL OPERATION	EXTREME OPERATION			OFFLOADING	DISCONNECTION	RECONNECTION
Description	99% Exceedance GOM	Loop Current GOM	10-year hurricane GOM	Squall WOA	99% Exceedance GOM	10-year hurricane GOM	99% Exceedance GOM
Significant Wave Height	4,0 m	3,8 m	8,6 m	2,0 m	4,0 m	8,6 m	4,0 m
Peak Period	9,0 s	9,0 s	12,3 s	6,0 s	9,0 s	12,3 s	9,0 s
Wind Speed	15 m/s	15,0 m/s	29,5 m/s	30,0 m/s	15 m/s	29,5 m/s	15 m/s
Current Speed	0,35 m/s	2,13 m/s	1,0 m/s	0,35 m/s	0,35 m/s	1,0 m/s	0,35 m/s





DP FPSO Vessel

- Displacement: 190,000 MT
- Length:
- Breadth:
- Depth:
- Storage:

260 meters 46 meters 28 meters 1 million bbls







StationKeeping System



- DNV Notation "DYNPOS AUTRO" (IMO Class 3)
- 6 Azimuthing Thrusters (5 MW each)
 - Single failure results in 2 forward and 2 aft thrusters available
 - Overhauling of all thrusters possible in machinery space
- Redundant Power Generation and Switchboards
 - Dual Fuel Turbines and Dedicated Diesel Generators





Terra Nova Disconnectable Turret System

Swivel Stack Manifold Decks Upper Bearing Turret Shaft Connector-Tensioner Spider Buoy Anchor Legs Risers ĴÅ

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nergySystems

Turret – Buoy Interface







Single Leg Riser System







System Feasibility & Stationkeeping Performance Evaluation

- Numerical Simulations
 - MARIN program DPSIM for System Stationkeeping
 - FE program OrcaFlex for Riser Buoy System performance
- Model Tests
 - Conducted at MARIN's deepwater Offshore Basin
 - Complete Physical Model including DP-thruster system
- Workshops with Industry
 - Feedback on Offshore Operations
 - Concerns & Focus





Stationkeeping Time Domain simulations

- Initial Evaluation of DP-Thruster System
 Performance
 - Thruster lay-out and allocation
 - Evaluation of stationkeeping performance
 - Focus model test program
- Initial settings for DP control coefficients
- Comparison with model test results
- Final Design simulations after input data updated





DP FPSO Model Tests

- Full Physical Model
- Waves, Wind and Current (collinear and crossed)
- DP Control System including Kalman filter (RUNSIM)
- Six Azimuthing Thrusters
- Riser System and Buoy Modelled
 - Disconnect and Reconnect of Buoy-Riser System
- Tandem Offloading to tankers of opportunity
- Measurement of LF & WF vessel motions, Thruster loads and Riser loads

-FMC EnergySystems



DPSIM/RUNSIM Control Loop





FMC EnergySystems

Thruster Allocation Algorithm

- Minimum power (minimum emissions)
- Delivery of required forces and moment
- Based on LaGrange multipliers
- Forbidden zones applied to minimize thruster interaction effects and interaction with risers





Theoretical DP Capability Plot: 10-Year Winter Storm



DNV

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6 Thrusters
4 Thrusters
2 Thrusters

Hs=5.8m, Tp=10.6s Wind = 20 m/s Current = 0.6 m/s

FMC EnergySystems

DP FPSO Model (1:60)







DP FPSO in 10-Year Hurricane Condition







10-Year Winter Storm







DP Performance: 10-Year Winter Storm







Observations: DP Performance in Severe Seastates

- Heading window assessment for all tested sea states
- Excellent DP performance in operational conditions
 - For operational sea states (£ 99% exceedence):
 - Large heading window possible
 - Mean power consumption < 3 MW
- Ability to deal with maximum single failure (2 thrusters) for seastates up to 10-Year Winter Storm
- Acceptable DP performance in survival conditions
 - Intact System Offset less than 7% of water depth
 - 10-Year Hurricane + damaged condition results in drift-off





Offloading to shuttle tanker



Hs=4.0m, Tp=9.0s Wind = 15 m/s Current = 0.4 m/s





Offloading to Tanker







Observations: Offloading Model Test

- Conservative Case Tested: conventional shuttle tanker with back thrust only
- Offloading possible in sea states up to Hs = 4 m
- Only 4 thrusters needed
 - redundancy for maximum single failure
- Possible to select FPSO heading to minimize:
 - bow hawser loads
 - shuttle tanker motions





Riser Disconnection in 10-Yr hurricane



Hs=8.6m, Tp=12.3 Wind = 30 m/s Current = 1.0 m/s





Observations: Disconnectable Buoy Tests

- Predictable behaviour of buoy during disconnection
 - Orcaflex FE model predicts behavior very well
- No impact between Buoy and FPSO in 10-Year Hurricane Environment
- Minimal Overshoot of Final Buoy Position after
 Disconnection
- Disconnected Behavior of Buoy-Riser System as Predicted
- Reconnect possible in 4 m sea state (99% exc)
- No issues during reconnect procedure (high loads, interference)





Conclusion: Technical Feasibility Demonstrated

- Integration of Proven Technology
- Stationkeeping performance demonstrated for a variety of harsh operating conditions and system failure scenarios
- FPSO Vessel designed to allow easy Maintenance and Replacement (if necessary) of Thrusters
- Adequate Redundancy in Thrusters and Power Generation
- Detailed Risk & Reliability Study in Progress
 - Initial finding is that specific design elements of proposed system has reduced risk of failure compared to existing DP vessels





Current & Future Work

- Complete Detailed Design of DP FPSO Specific Components
 - Final Numerical Simulations
 - FPSO Vessel Design almost complete (current focus on power generation optimization)
 - Optimization of Disconnectable Riser-Turret System
- Develop Costs (+/-15%) for DP vs Passive Turret Moored FPSO
 - Capital Expenses
 - Operational Expenses
 - Life of Field Costs















