

# Design and Operational Experience with FPSOs Offshore NW Australia

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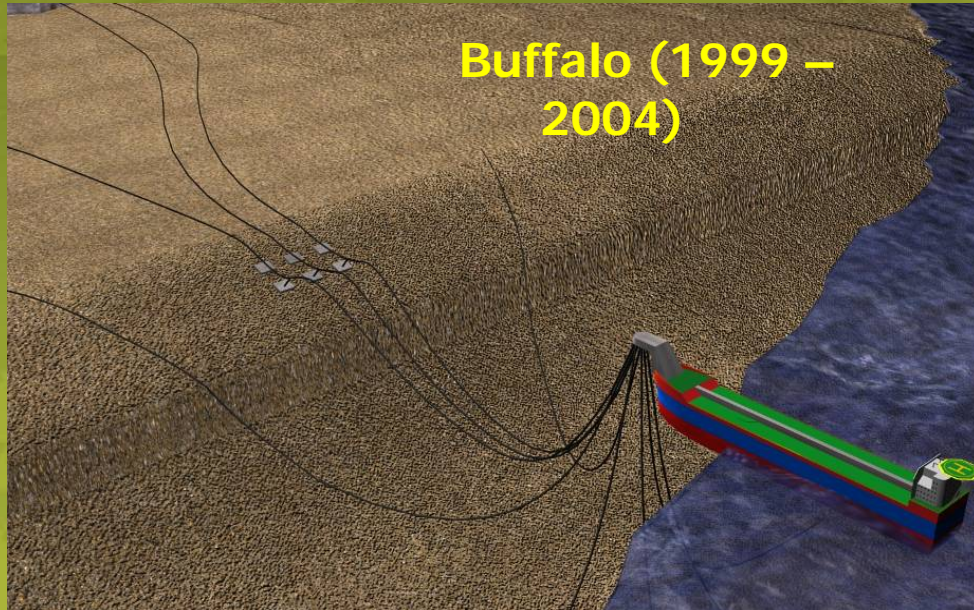
Perth, Australia



# Outline

- Overview of Systems Designed and Installed
- Design Features, Challenges and Lessons Learnt
- Operating Performance in Cyclones (2005 - 2008)
- Summary

# Installations Offshore NW Australia

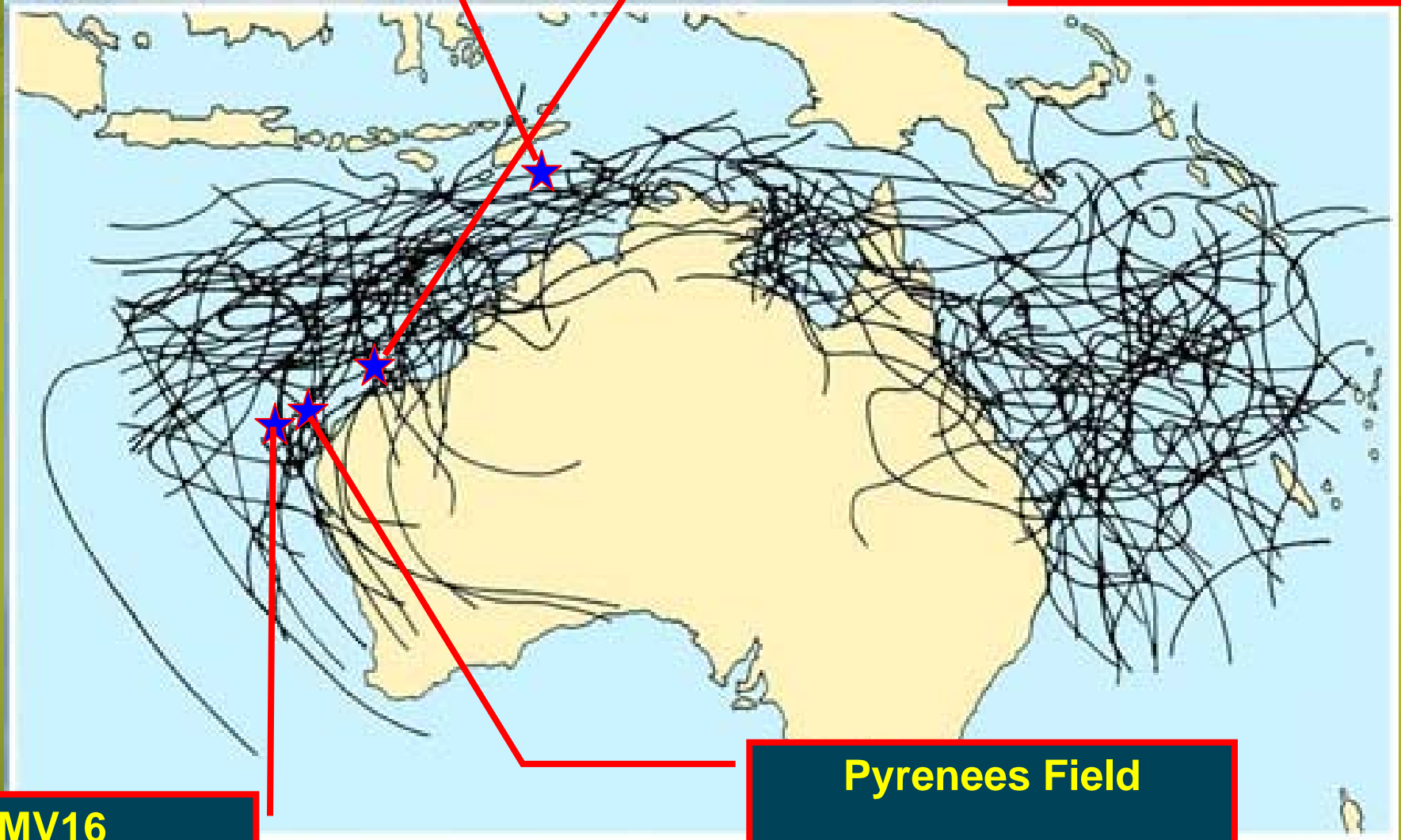




# Cyclones around Australia

**Buffalo Field**

**MV11 @  
Mutineer/Exeter Field**



**MV16  
@ Stybarrow  
Field**

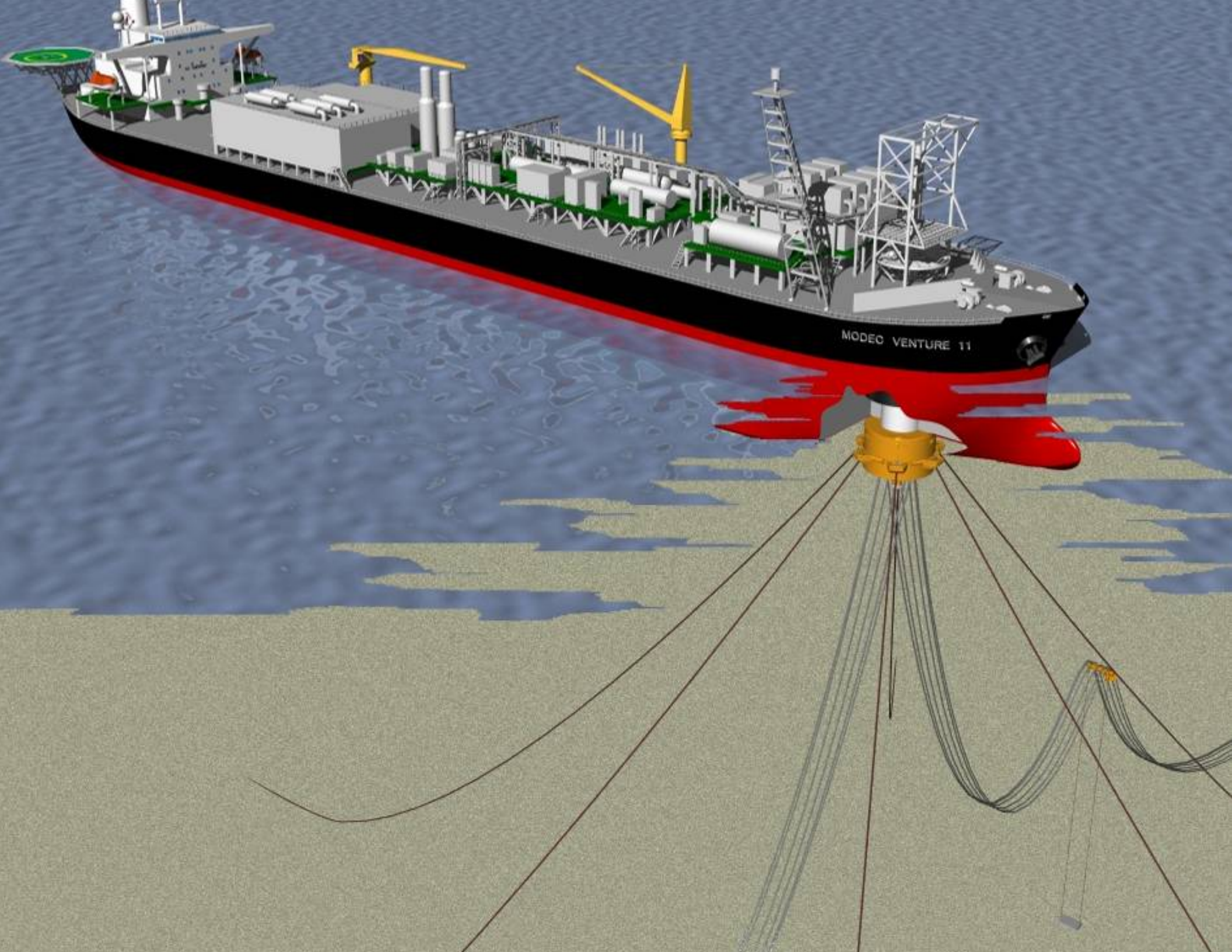
**Pyrenees Field**

Reference: Australian Government, Bureau of Meteorology  
<http://www.bom.gov.au/info/cyclone/#severity>

# Disconnectable FPSOs

- **Mutineer – Exeter FPSO (Installed 2005)**
  - 160 m water depth
  - Suezmax tanker conversion, ~930,000 bbls storage
  - Topsides: 100,000 bbls/day
  - 10 risers and umbilicals
- **Stybarrow FPSO (Installed 2007)**
  - 850 m water depth
  - Newbuild FPSO, ~ 1,000,000 bbls storage
  - Topsides: 100,000 bbls/day
  - 12 risers and umbilicals
- **Pyrenees (To be installed in 2009)**
  - 200 m water depth
  - Similar vessel/topsides as Stybarrow
  - 15 risers and umbilicals





# Global Analysis Design Basis

- FPSO to disconnect from mooring and risers to avoid cyclones
- FPSO to stay on station during the 100-year non-cyclonic storm
  - Significant wave height ~ 7.0 meters
- Disconnected spider buoy system designed for 100-year cyclone
  - Significant wave height ~ 12.6 meters
- Reconnect in seas up to  $H_s = 3$  meters
- Mooring system design
  - Maintain adequate offsets for riser system
  - Optimize payload on spider buoy, retrieval loads, and



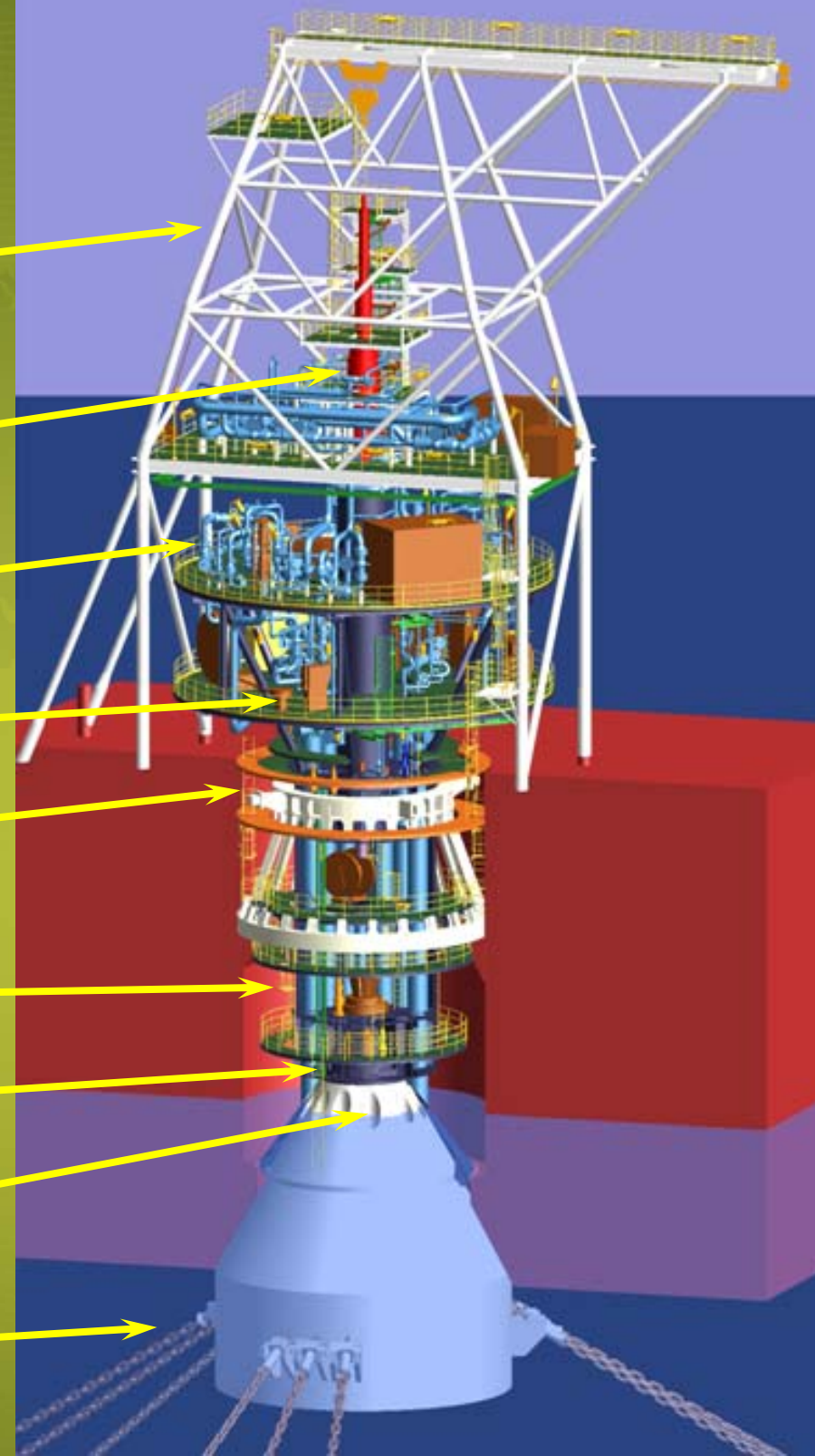
# Turret Mooring Design Features

- Robust standardized design
  - Based on 3 previous generations of systems
  - Fluid-transfer and load-transfer components designed to disconnect separately
- Mooring designed to remain connected for 100-year winter storm
- Turret mooring designed to disconnect for cyclones
  - Design disconnect duration ~ 6 hours
  - Reconnect w/o assistance in seas up to Hs of 3 meters
- Disconnectable spider buoy
  - Supports anchor legs, and risers and umbilicals (current design up to 15)

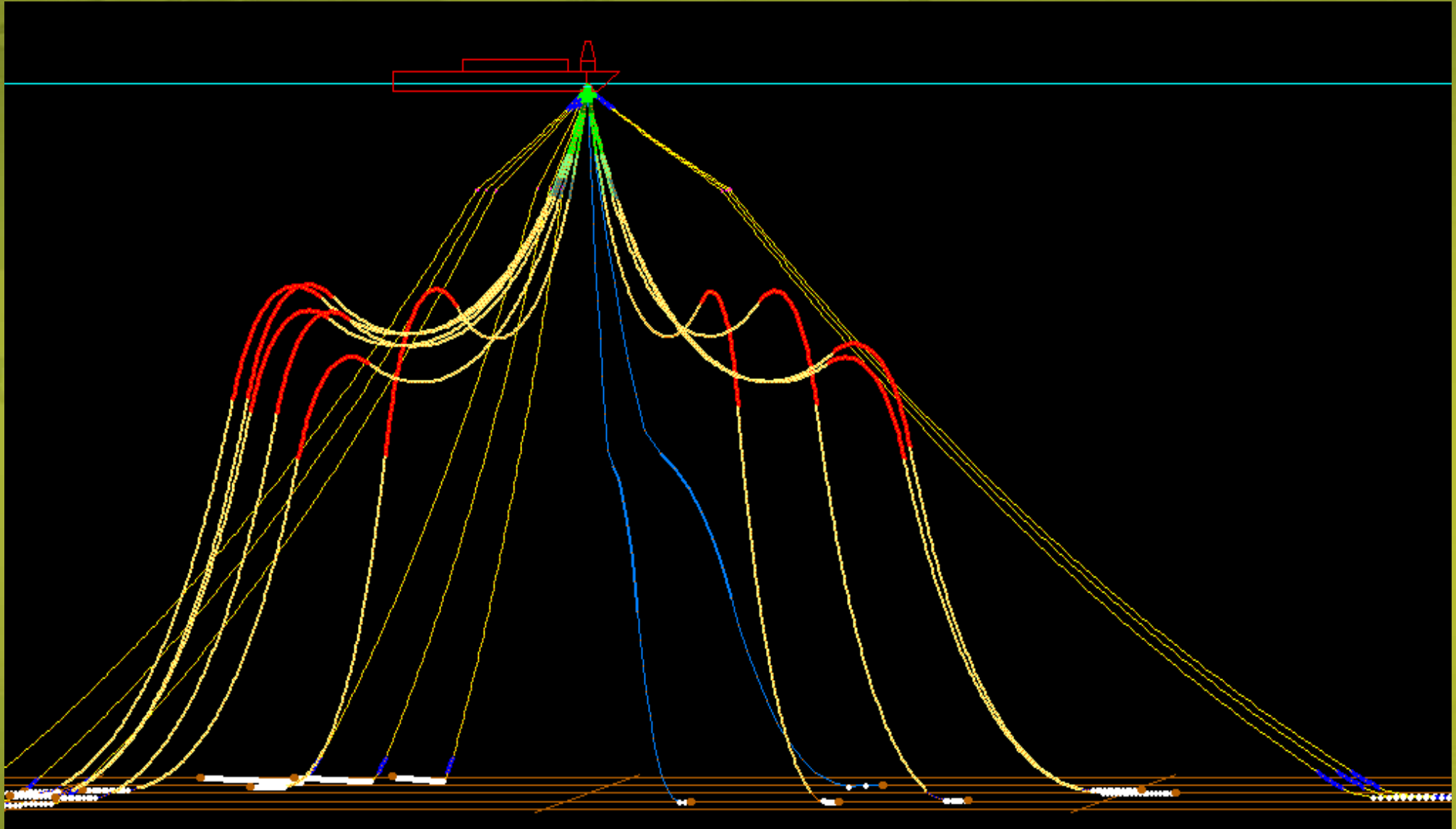


# Stybarrow Turret Mooring

- Swivel Access Structure
- Swivel Stack
- Manifold Piping
- Riser Deck
- Main Bearing
- Turret Shaft
- Connector
- Risers & Umbilicals
- Anchor Legs



# Stybarrow Disconnectable Turret Mooring



# Optimization of Spider Buoy, Riser and Mooring Systems

- Mooring and Riser Payload
  - Riser payload may be variable
- Vertical Stiffness of Mooring / Riser System
  - Deep water systems are typically softer (2MT / m)
- Hydrodynamic Loads on Spider Buoy (connected)
  - Can be greater than mooring and riser horizontal load
- Buoy Motions (disconnected)
- Spider Buoy Retrieval Loads
- System Installation



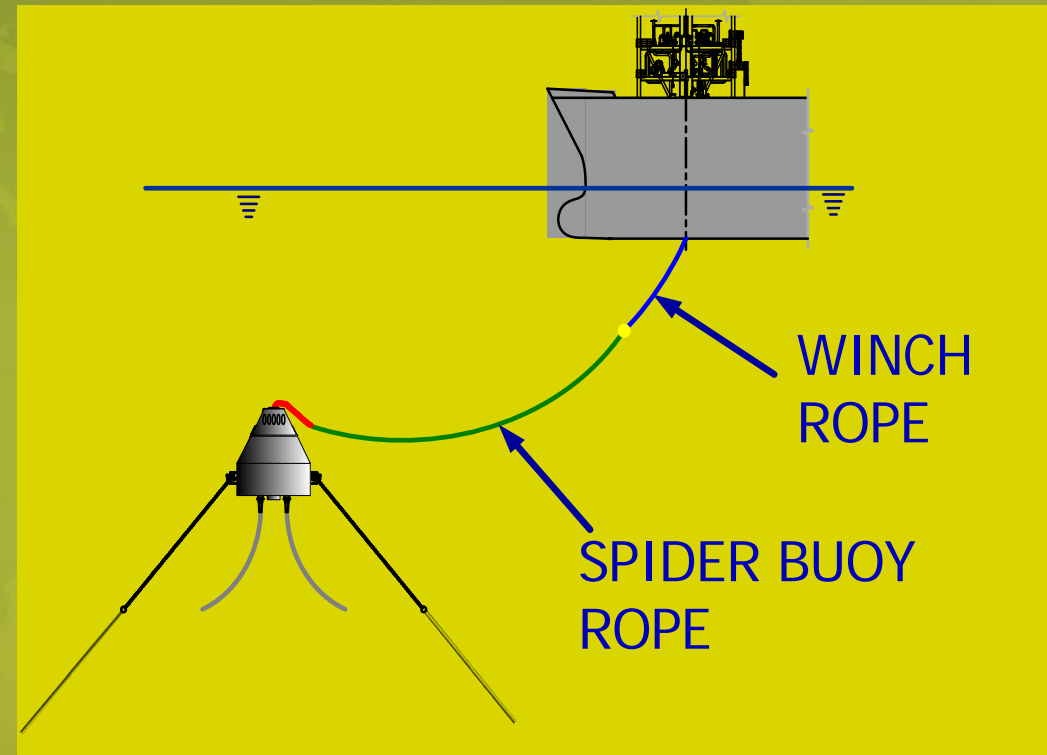
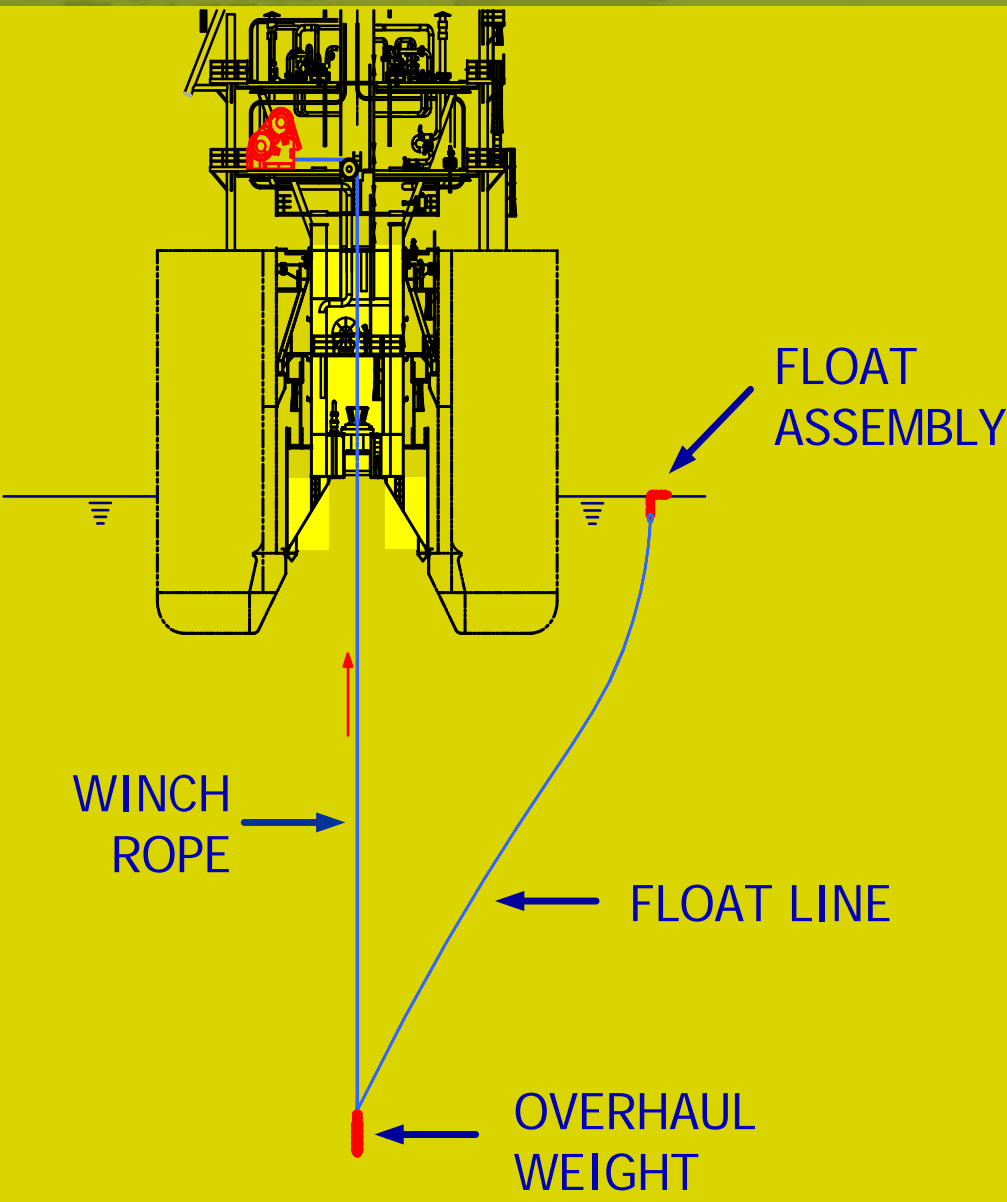
# Riser Design Optimization (825m WD)

- Traditional Lazy Wave Design would result in Payload of 800 – 1000 MT
- Optimized Maximum Design Payload = 510 MT (water filled)
  - All risers gas-filled (except WI) = 400 MT
- Additional Buoyancy on Risers can impact Installation
- Spider Buoy Displacement ~ 1400 MT with weight of 850 MT
  - Diameter: ~14 meters at base
  - Height: ~14.5 meters

# Spider Buoy Ballasting

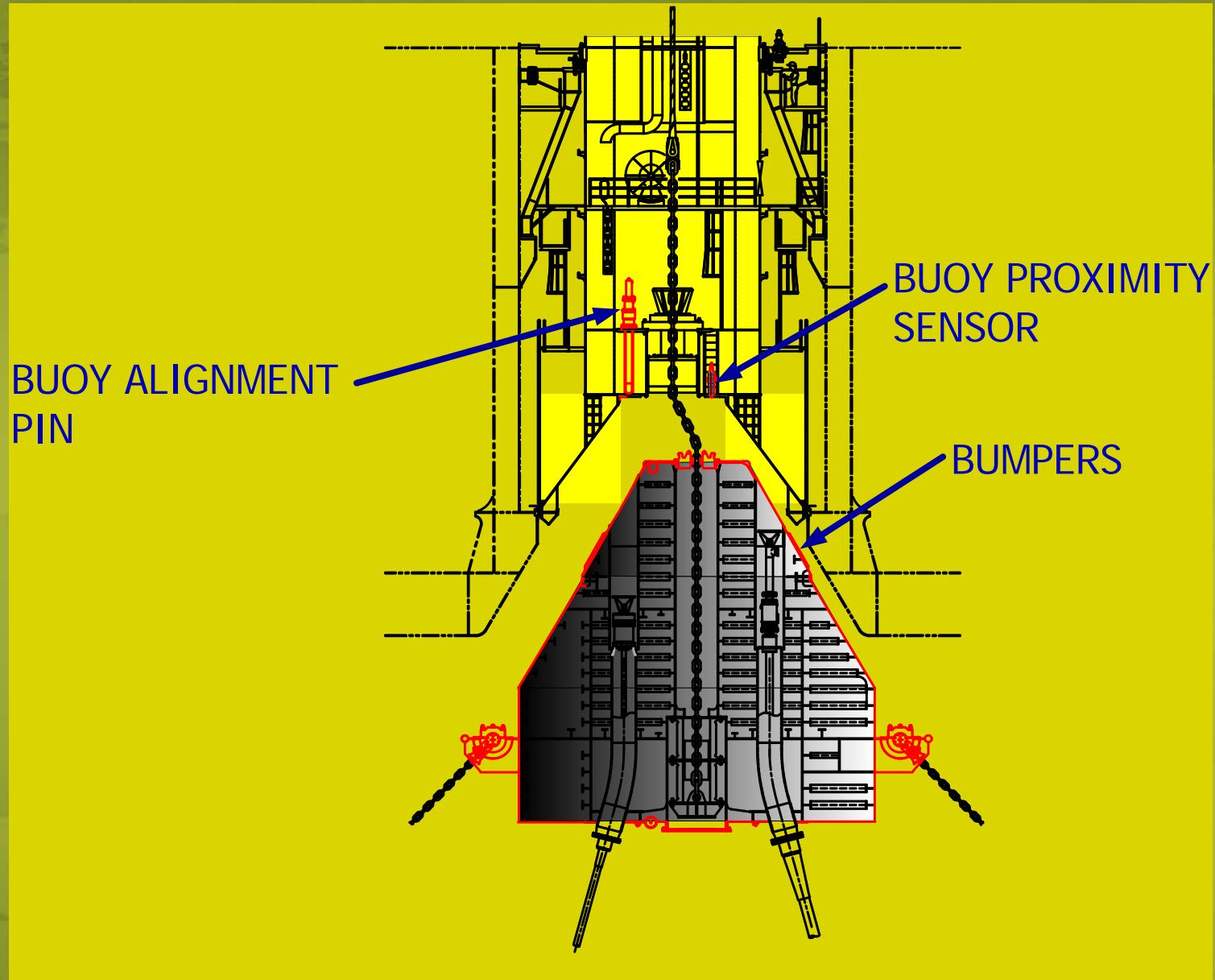
- Production Risers contain Gas-Crude Mix – average SG of 0.5
  - During disconnection gas separates from crude and affects payload
- Stabilized Crude circulated in Production Riser Pairs during Start-up
  - Storm arrival during start-up requires disconnect with 1-pair oil filled
- Installation
  - Buoy tow stability requires large amount of ballast
  - Risers water filled
- Ballast required Varies from 50 MT to 400 MT

# Spider Buoy Reconnection

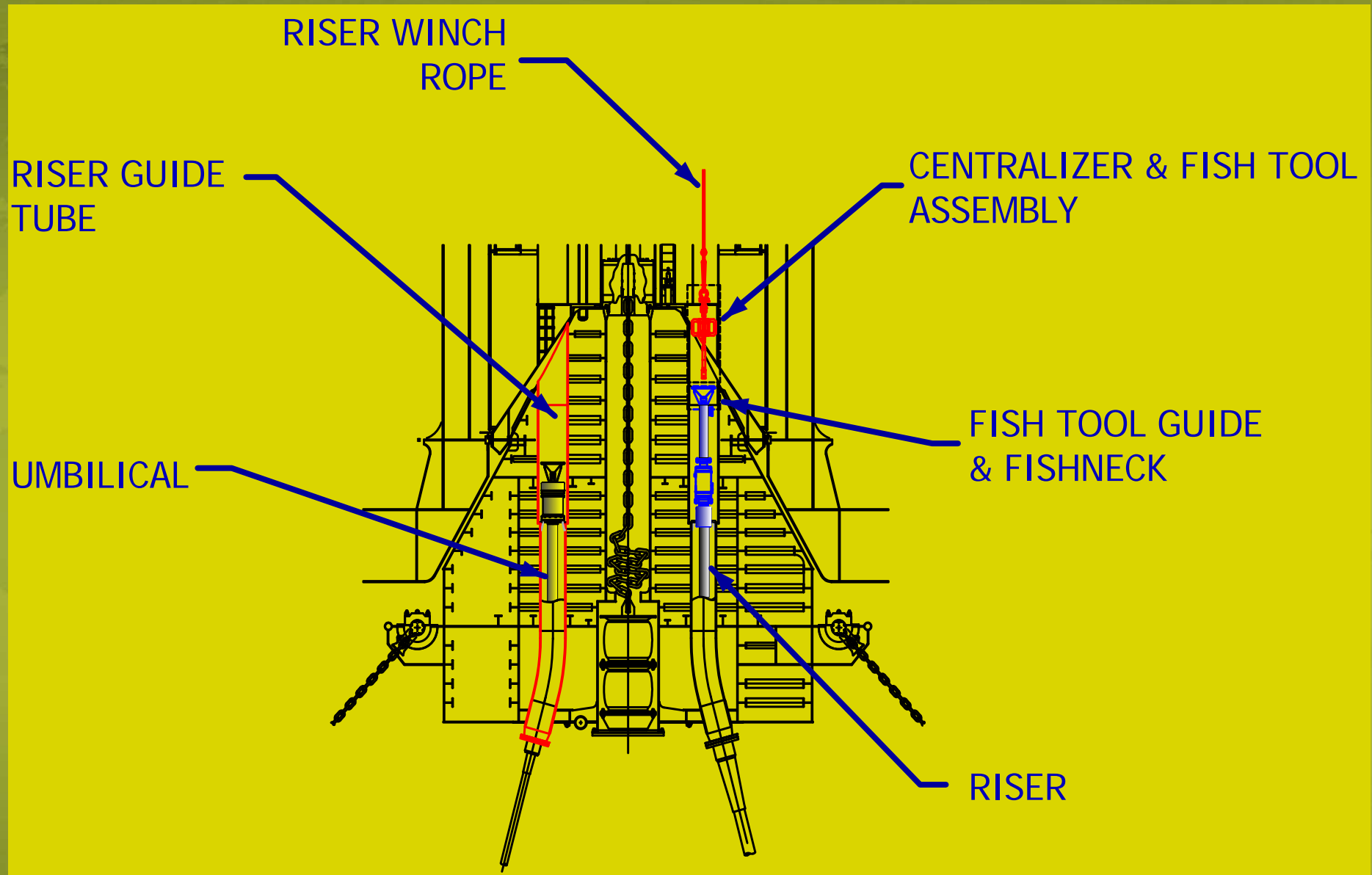




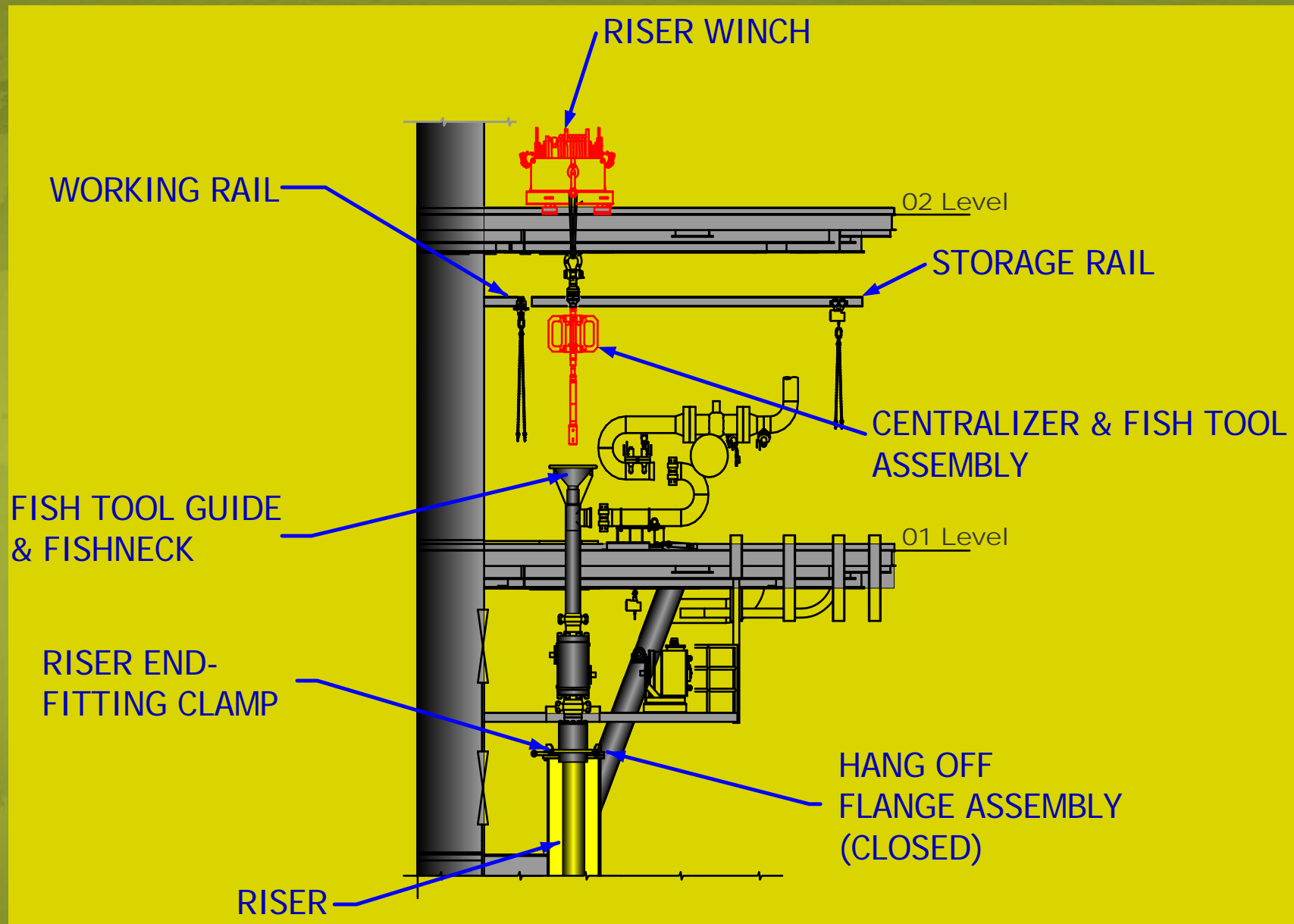
# Buoy Entering Turret



# Retrieving the Risers



# Hook-up of the Risers





# Cyclone Emergency Response Plan

- **Blue**

- ✓ A plan for preparation for disconnection
- ✓ A ballast plan
- ✓ A plan for evacuating non-essential personnel

- **Yellow (12-hour window)**

- ✓ Shutdown production
- ✓ Prepare to disconnect from DTM (lower risers)
- ✓ Proceed with ballast plan

- **Red**

- ✓ Disconnect from DTM

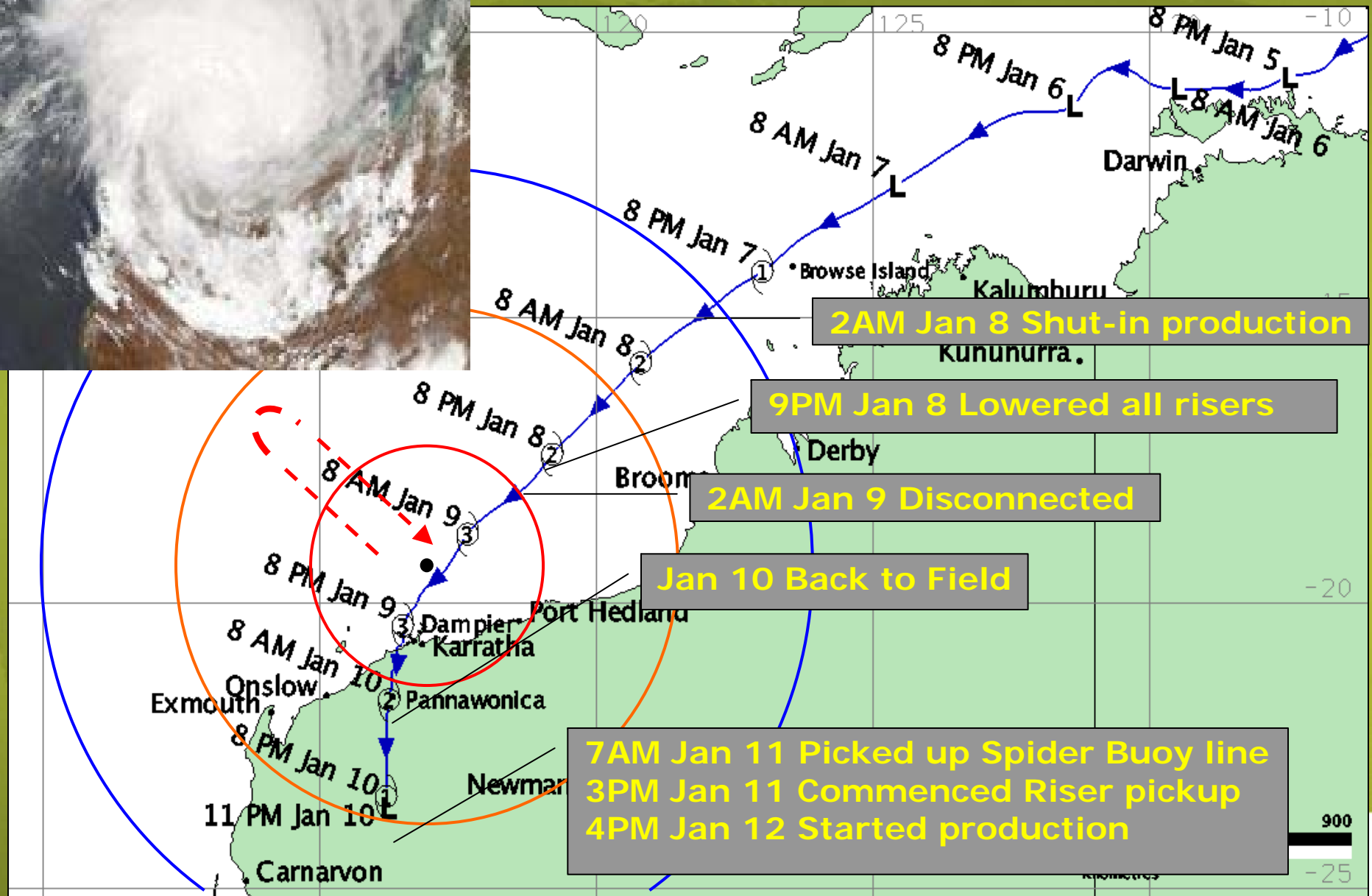


# Cyclones over Mutineer/Exeter Field 2006-08

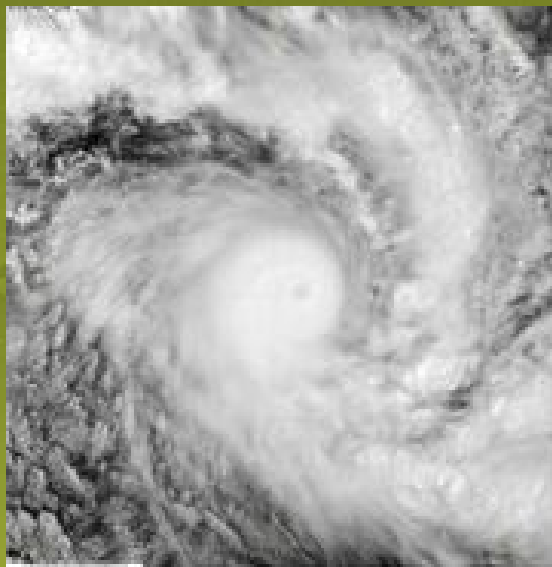
Name	Period	Year	Category
• Clare	Jan 7 – 10,	2006	3
• Daryl	Jan 18 – 23,	2006	2
• Emma	Feb 27 – 28,	2006	1
• Floyd	Mar 21 – 26,	2006	4
• Glenda	Mar 27 – 31,	2006	5
• Hubert	Apr 6 – 7,	2006	2
• Isabel	Jan 2 – 4,	2007	1
• George	Mar 6 – 10,	2007	4
• Jacob	Mar 9 – 11,	2007	3
• Kara	Mar 25 – 28,	2007	3
• Melanie*	Dec 26 – 1/2,	2008	2
• Nicholas*	Feb 10 – 19,	2008	4
• Pancho	Mar 25 – 30,	2008	4

\* Also over Stybarrow field

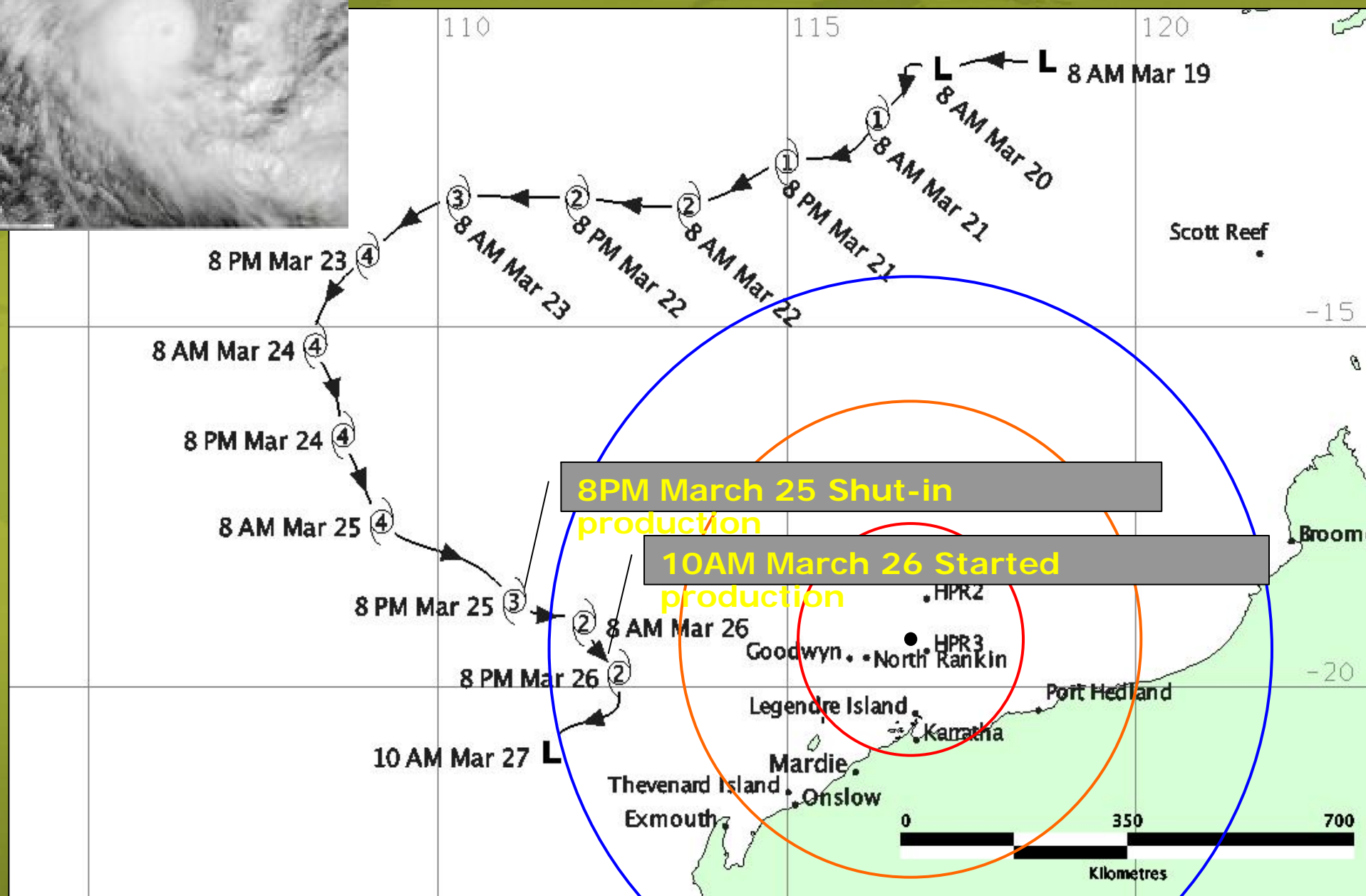
# Clare: 7 – 10 January 2006



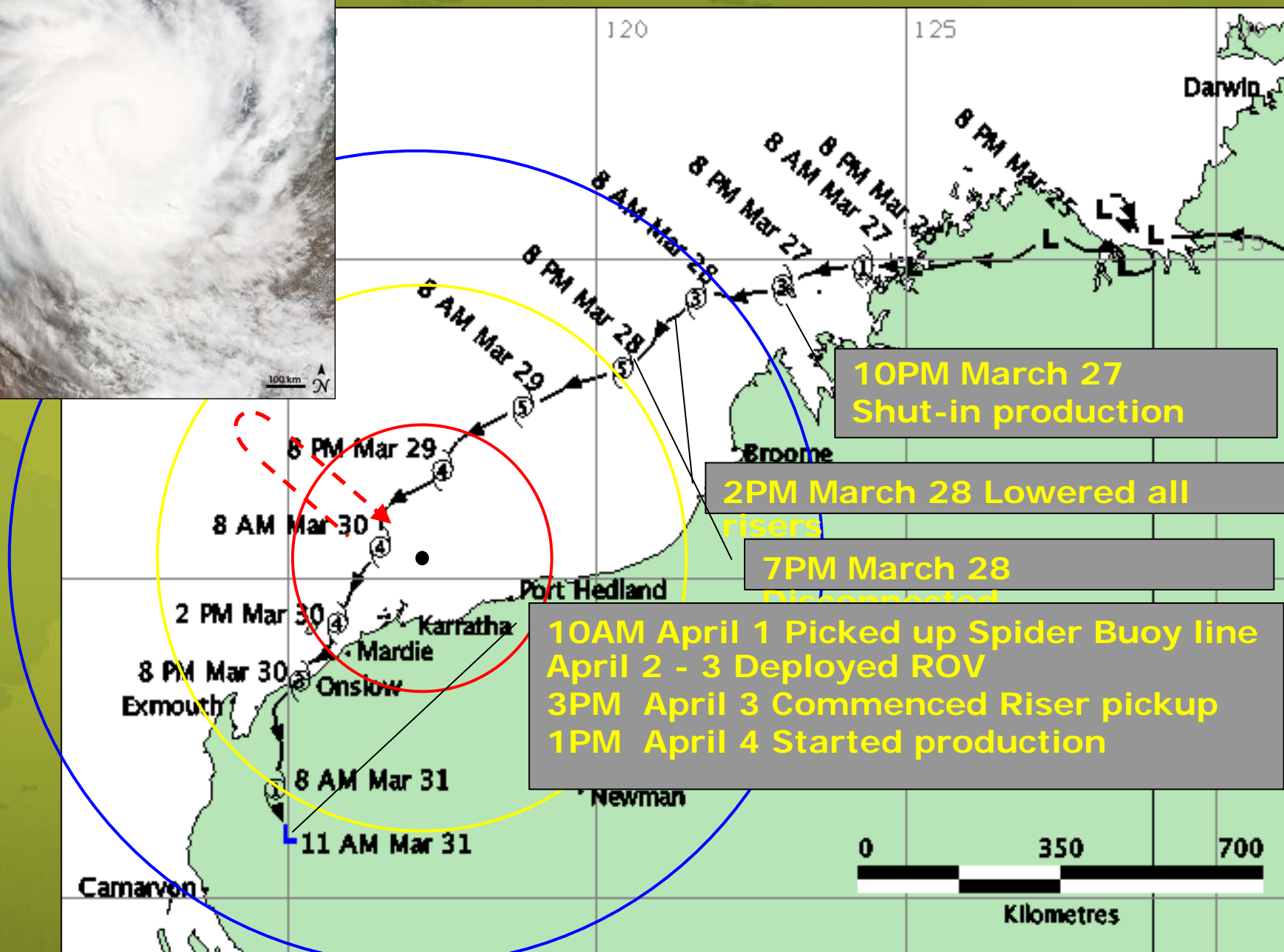
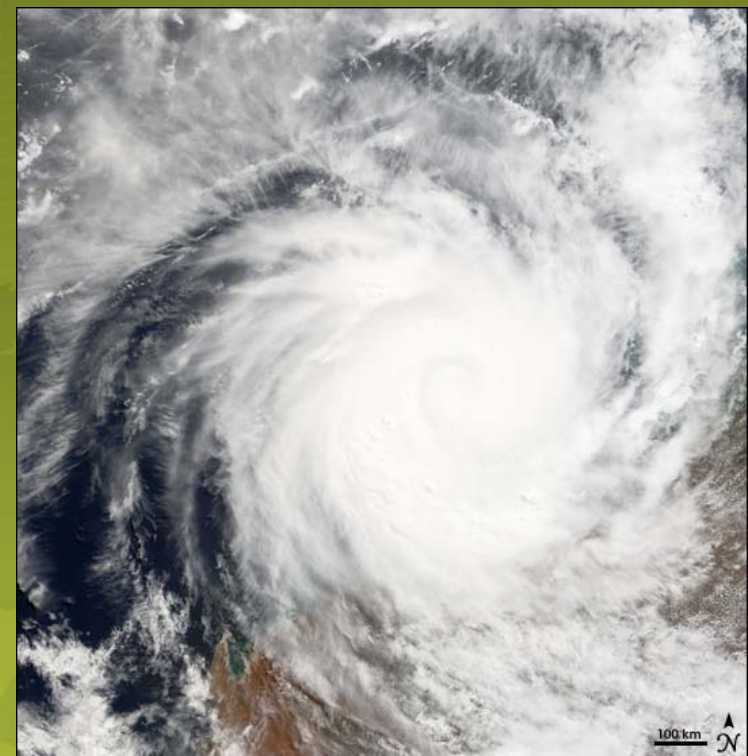




# Floyd: 21 – 26 March 2006



# Glenda: 27 – 31 March 2006



# Time Logs for Disconnect / Reconnect

Disconnection	Clare	Glenda	Hubert
Shut-in Production	0200 Jan 8	2215 Mar 27	1100 Apr 5
Started Lowering Risers	0600 Jan 8	0800 Mar 28	1145 Apr 5
Lowered all Risers	2115 Jan 8	1400 Mar 29	1750 Apr 5
<b>Disconnected Spider Buoy</b>	<b>0210 Jan 9</b>	<b>1915 Mar 28</b>	<b>2130 Apr 5</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>24 hours</b>	<b>21 hours</b>	<b>10.5 hours</b>
Reconnection	Clare	Glenda	Hubert
Picked-up Spider Buoy Line	0730 Jan 11	1000 Apr 1	1200 Apr 8
Pulled-in Spider Buoy	1200 Jan 11	1500 Apr 3	1630 Apr 8
Started Picking up Risers	1500 Jan 11	1530 Apr 3	1900 Apr 8
Connected All Risers	1200 Jan 12	0600 Apr 4	0900 Apr 9
<b>Started Production</b>	<b>1600 Jan 12</b>	<b>1300 Apr 4</b>	<b>1300 Apr 9</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>32.5 hours</b>	<b>74 hours</b>	<b>25 hours</b>

# Summary of Selected Disconnect / Reconnect Durations

Cyclone	Duration		Total
	Disconnect (hours)	Reconnect (hours)	Production D/T (days)
Clare	24	32.5	4.6
Daryl	36	50	6.3
Emma	26*	14*	3.1*
Floyd	*	*	0.6*
Glenda	21	74	7.6
Hubert	11	25	4.2
George / Jacob	29	33	9.9
Kara	32	34	5.5
Melanie	14	39	4.9

\* Spider Buoy was not disconnected / reconnected



# Summary and Conclusions

- Disconnectable FPSOs have demonstrated successful performance in a cyclone environment
  - > 98% Uptime
  - 9 successful disconnects and reconnects to avoid cyclones over 3 seasons
  - Typically last off mooring; first on production
- Improvement in design / procedures / experience has improved disconnect – reconnect effort
- Input from Mutineer-Exeter has allowed development of next generation DTMs (Stybarrow & Pyrenees)
  - Less labor intensive, improved disconnect and reconnect operations
  - Technology is adaptable for ultra-deepwater



Thank you!



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