CASE STUDY

Putting an Oil Investment in Deep Water

Moho Nord: Deep offshore exploration in the Republic of the Congo

BACKGROUND AND CHALLENGES

When construction began in 2013 on Moho Nord, the largest oil development in the Republic of the Congo at the time, failure was not an option. Everyone involved—its operator Total, partners Chevron and the state-owned Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo (SNPC), and the local economy and job market—had a lot riding on its success.

The operation involved tapping into deep offshore reserves, with installations 2,400–3,600 feet (450–1,200 m) below the water’s surface. Total’s challenge involved constructing a new tension leg platform (TLP) that, along with a number of floating production units (FPUs), would tie to 45 subsea wellheads. And it all had to be able to withstand the corrosive and erosive effects of weather and seawater.

PRAXAIR SOLUTION

To provide corrosion protection in a subsea environment for parts of the new TLP’s top tendon connectors, Total turned to Praxair. At Praxair’s Monte Marenzo, Italy facility, the center of excellence for TLP’s and LAJ’s in Europe, the SermaGard® 1105/SermaGard 1280 system was applied to a number of components, including 12 length adjustment joints (LAJ) that each measured nearly 36 feet (11 m) long and weighed 9 tons (8,165 kg). The SermaGard coating continues to provide long-lasting protection against the corrosive effects of seawater, which avoids costly repairs and downtime.

Find out how Praxair can help your company improve efficiency and save money at praxairsurfacetecnologies.com, or call us at 1-317-240-2500.