# Discussion Group P11/Panel Session: Subsea Pumps and Drivers

#### Leaders:

- Bob Heyl (Chevron retiree)
- Pierre-Jean Bibet (Total E&P)
- Thom Eldridge (Shell)
- Thomas Kyander (One Subsea)
- Ron Adams (Sulzer Pumps)
- Roland Maurischat (Leistritz)
- Nickolas Necker (EagleBurgmann)
- John Byeseda (Cameron)
- David Harrold (FMCTI)

## **Suggested Topics:**

## A. Applications:

- 1. What does the future of Subsea Seabed Pumping look like?
- 2. How does one decide what technology to use for an application? Separation and pumping, multiphase boosting, single phase boosting?
- 3. What is the most critical operating condition for a subsea multiphase pump seal?
- 4. How Pumps vendors and/or Operators mitigate risk of sand?
- 5. How long are the step-outs that are now in operation?
- 6. Industry needs cost effective subsea pumping solutions. What is a cost effective pumping solution? What are the constraints of having two MPP in series?
- 7. What are the constraints of a Brown Field application?
- 8. Redundancy Philosophy: "Wet Storage" or "Dry Storage"?

#### B. Pumps and Motors Themselves:

- 9. What maximum pressure differentials can they generate, for a GVF of let's say 60%?
- 10. What is the minimum suction pressure required for an MPP?
- 11. What size motors are being used today subsea?
- 12. What industry standards are used to design these pumps?
- 13. Expectation and limits of shaft power available both, motor and electrical power supply?
- 14. What kind of mechanical seals are used and how do they function
- 15. Where are the absolute pressure limits for the mechanical seals in future, as the secondary sealing elements (O-rings) need attention?
- 16. What issues are encountered with HP/HT applications?
- 17. How does viscosity effect different subsea pumps?
- 18. Which mechanical seal arrangement and API 682 Flush plan is used for Subsea Pumps?
- 19. What kind of material is used for the mechanical seals?
- 20. What is the most sensitive (weak) equipment of a subsea motor/pump system?
- 21. Barrier fluid: oil or water/Glycol?

### C. Qualification Testing

- 22. What are the issues in qualification of boosting and pumping systems?
- 23. What kind of qualification test is carried out by the seal manufacturers?

#### D. FAT and EFAT

24. What are the inevitable Acceptance Tests to be performed on a subsea motor/pump system?

#### E. Monitoring and Control

- 25. Can we develop a 'normal' proximity probe for subsea applications, or is there another solution for condition monitoring?
- 26. How are the pumps controlled?
- 27. Can MPP be protected from big terrain slugs?
- 28. Do we need a fast acting minimum flow valve?
- 29. Do we need a Multiphase flow meter to protect the pump?
- 30. What are the pros and cons of minimum instrumentation vs. full blown condition monitoring?

#### F. Interfaces

- 31. Can we standardize the interface between the pump and the subsea system (mechanical, electrical, hydraulically, control system)? (Not standardize the pumps, but the interfaces)?
- 32. What is clients experience with topside supply system installations?

## G. Asset Development

- 33. What do you see concerning the future of subsea pumping and asset development with the low price of oil these days? Delays? Scrapping?
- 34. How about other subsea applications, not only multiphase, how about water injection?

Attendees: Please come prepared by choosing your questions from the above prior to the time of the Discussion Group Session. At the very beginning of the Discussion Group Session a vote of which questions to discuss will be taken. Of course, spinoff questions on related topics will be entertained as well.