

Experience from operations in The Barents

NORWEGIAN OIL AND GAS, APRIL 23RD 2014



Transocean Overview



- Largest fleet of high spec and midwater floaters
- > Operate in diverse markets worldwide
- Significant relationships across customer spectrum



Barents sea experience (Source NPD Oct 2013)



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Ongoing and planned operations in the Barents



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Transocean Barents with campaign during winter 2014.

Transocean Spitsbergen with campaign in Barents including Hoop in 2014 (7 locations).

Polar Pioneer contracted for Drilling campaign in Alaska.

Polar Pioneer Design

Sheltered; Lifeboat stations Windlasses Pipedeck's Derrick

Heat traced walkways, handrails and piping

Benefits for working environment and reduced wear for equipment

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Open workareas in laydown areas, welltest areas and helideck

Sheltered and closed design gives challenges for:

- Ventilation
- Explosion, fire & gas studies
- Lifting operations

Polar Pioneer experience from 2003 - 2010

Offshore operations

- Operations on Snøhvit, followed by exploration drilling in the same area. Castberg, (Skrugard) most remote well.
- Drilling on behalf of several customers (Statoil, Norske Hydro, ENI).
- Use of heliport in Hammerfest and shorebase in Rypefjord.

Experience and challenges

- High attention to the environment (zero discharge)
- Regularity for air traffic (Helicopter and plane)
- Emergency preparedness arrangements (SAR helicopter, Stand-by boats)
- Weather and temperature not experienced as extreme.
- Few challenges with icing and snow on the rig.

Weather and Temeperature



Personnel experience weather more harsh in North Sea and Norwegian Sea.

Temperature can be lower and the winter will have less daylight.

Polar lows and polar fronts arrive unexpected and quick, they also disappear quickly. Some ice challenges from water mist during well testing and leak in steam system occur.

Polar Pioneer design unique for winterand polar operations.





Experience from winter operations on Transocean Barents



Different design;

- «open» outdoor working areas
- more remote operated equipment
- sheltered controlcabins
- temporary sheltering of equipment
- planning of outdoor operation based on Wind Cill Factor / Temp.

In period 2011 – 2013 the Transocean Barents operated 261 days in the Barents Sea.

- 125 days with temp below 0 C
- Lowest measured temp -11 C
- 55 days with snow
- Highest measured wind at 10 m = 47kn

Open work areas







- Control of area and duration for outdoor work
- Use of remote operated
 equipment from control cabin
- Rest and heat cabins



Analysis of outdoor working areas



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Use of wind chill index to control duration of outdoor work

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Iwina Chili	Equivalent	Consequence - Action
Index (WCI)	Temperature	
W/m2	(ET)	
VVCI > 1600	Below -30oC	No outdoor work to be performed unless deemed critical from
		a safety or operational perspective, and a PTW and SJA have
		been performed and compensating measures found
		acceptable.
WCI > 14001)	Below -21oC	Working areas shall be carefully shielded by wind walls or
		located indoors as the available outdoor working time is
		below 50 % of a working hour.
WCI > 12001)	Below -12oC	Shielding of working areas shall be carefully considered
		based on operational requirements and acceptable downtime
		as the available outdoor working time is below 75 % of a
		working hour. Weather protection shall as a minimum be
		supplied for manned 2) outdoor workplaces when WCl >
		1200 for more than 2 % of a month.
WCI > 1000	Below -6 oC	Protection shielding and reduction in available wo
		shall be considered for workplaces where there is fill in measured velocity of the second sec
		work with duration of 10 minutes or more.
WCI < 1000	Above -6 oC	Normally 100 % available working time.

Anchor Winches Temp -10 decC and wind at 15 m/s





F G H I J K L M N O P O R S T U V W X



Wind wall design

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• Some areas on the rig with semi permeable walls. Allowes some air to pass thru, pervents turbulence.







Temporary sheltering



Use of «koco-verk» and habitate to give heat and shelter for equipment and personnel.



Emergency preparedness

- Muster areas
- Escape routes
- Evacuation means / Resque boat







Awailability of helideck during winter

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- No heat tracing on pad.
- No experience with ice on helideck.
- Some snow but usually blown off by wind or pressurized air.
- Escape routes to helideck is sheltered and / or heat traced.

Lifeboat and Fast Resque Craft



No heat tracing installed.

Manual removal of snow.







Life raft and LSA



Sheltered muster area

Sheltered storage area

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Transocean Barents experiences

- Irregular air traffic creates frustration amongst personnel
- Active use of weather forcast and WCI for planning of outdoor work
- Escape routes open due to heat traced walkways
- Sheltered muster areas.
- Helideck open (snow will blow away)
- Use of temporary sheltering helpful.
- Winterization manual in active use, review after each winterseason.
- Emergency preparedness bridging documents on various templates, should be tailor made for Arctic operations.



Transocean Spitsbergen experience from 2014

- Drilling campaign with 7 wells, including Apollo, Atlantis and Mercury in Hoop area from end May to November.
- No challenges with snow and ice in this period.
- Limited challenges with weather, fog and reduced visibility experienced.
- Helicopter logistics vulnarable due to long distance and reduced load capacity.
- Operation delayed by environmental activists prior to first well.









