International

Hutton TLP after 30 years

Case history 2011

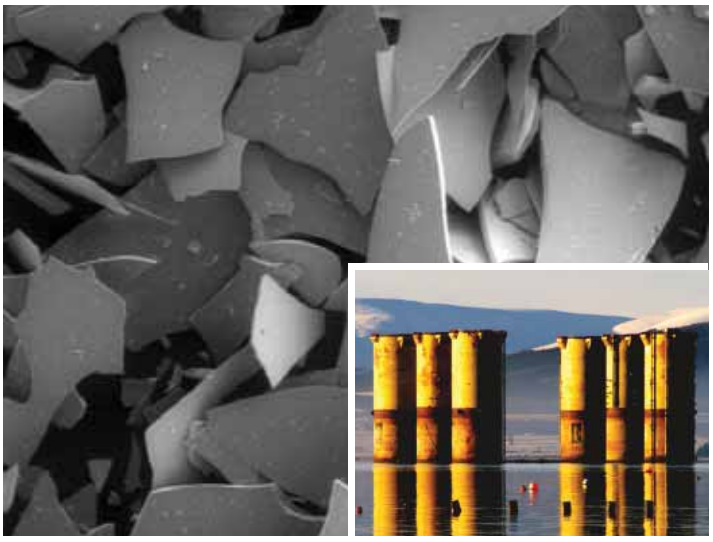
Focus product: Interzone® 1000 (3×500µm)
Year of project: 1982
Location: North Sea, UK
Type of project: Tension Leg Platform (TLP)
Project owner: Conoco
Applicator/fabricator: Highland Fabricators, UK
Project size: 40,000 litres
12,600m², over Sa 2.5

The Hutton was the first ever tension leg platform in the world. It was operated by Conoco for nearly 20 years on the Hutton oil field in the North Sea. At its peak it produced more than 110,000 barrels of oil a day. A coating system was required for the splashzone that would provide a minimum of 20 years anti-corrosion protection in the harsh North Sea.

Area inspected after 29 years: less than 1% corrosion on painted tubular sections

After decommissioning a visual inspection was carried out in August 2011. The original yellow Interzone 1000 in the splashzone is in excellent condition after almost 30 years in a C5-M environment. The bottom section of the Hutton TLP was coated with a holding primer and relied on an impressed current protection system for the submerged section and pontoon. Having 33% non-micronised glass flake in the dry film is what makes Interzone 1000 unique and helps provide the outstanding barrier protection seen on the Hutton TLP.

Excellent corrosion protection provided by Interzone 1000 after almost 30 years



Non-micronised glass flake is critical to achieving outstanding corrosion protection

"It is clear that after nearly 30 years in service the high loaded glass flake epoxy is still performing very well on the painted tubular splashzone sections of the Hutton TLP hull. Estimated corrosion is less than 1% over the coated splashzone. Even areas subjected to abrasion from topside equipment such as pumps, ropes and chains are in excellent condition. For the Hutton we chose the high loaded non-micronised glass flake epoxy over polyester glass flake technology for a number of reasons. One of those was that the glass flake epoxy was much easier to apply."

"After almost 40 years of offshore surveying in the North Sea, I would consider a glass flake epoxy, as used on the Hutton TLP, to offer the best corrosion protection for the splashzone of offshore assets."

Chris Jordan, Coatings Specialist for Conoco during construction of the Hutton TLP

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