

THE SHELL ONEGAS PROJECT

ONEGAS IS THE BUSINESS UNIT MANAGING ASSETS IN THE SOUTHERN NORTH SEA FOR SHELL UK AND NAM IN THE NETHERLANDS. THIS INCLUDES:

- 2** GAS TERMINALS
- 90** GAS FIELDS
- 50** PLATFORMS
- 550** PEOPLE



770000

LITRES OF AN INTERZONE 954 AND INTERCURE 202 EPOXY PRIMER SYSTEM

600000

SQUARE METRES OF STEELWORK COATED ON UK BASED PLATFORMS

CORROSION BARRIER PROTECTION FOR SHELL/NAM SOUTH NORTH SEA GAS PRODUCING PLATFORMS

Shell UK and Nederlandse Aardolie Maatschappij B.V (NAM) of the Netherlands own and operate 56 offshore oil and gas installations in the South North Sea (SNS). When a number of these SNS platforms were due for maintenance, owners Shell/NAM, and painting contractors Bis Salamis (for the UK) and Venko (for the Netherlands), turned to AkzoNobel as the preferred coating manufacturer for the scope of work.

As many of the platforms had exceeded their original design lifetime, with some having been in service for almost 40 years, a major refurbishment project was necessary to address key corrosion and HSE (Health and Safety Executive) concerns.

AkzoNobel, who had previously supplied general maintenance coating systems to Shell in the UK, specified a coating system of Interzone® 954 with Intercure® 202 epoxy primer. For the UK platforms, 45,000 litres (9,899 gals) of Interzone 954 (at 350µm or 13.8mil dft) has been used so far for the topsides and splash zones, including handrails and ladders. Over 12,000 litres of Intercure 202 (at 75µm or 3mil dft) was also used with a further 20,000 litres (4,400 gals) of this system being applied to the 20 Dutch based structures.

The system was chosen as Shell/NAM and the applicators required a durable coating which could cope with the harsh North Sea environment for between 10-15 years. Interzone 954 has been protecting steel in severe environments for over 25 years and has an extensive track record in the oil and gas industry. It has also been used on other Shell offshore installations in the North Sea.

“As Shell/NAM had hired two accommodation barges for the painting crews at a very high cost, it was imperative that the coating programme was successfully completed on time,” explains AkzoNobel’s Protective Coatings Area Sales Manager for the UK. “With its high build characteristics, Interzone 954 is easy to apply and cures quickly in cold temperatures. It also means that virtually one coating system can be used for each area of the platform. Despite challenging weather conditions, we were able to complete the painting of the first rigs on schedule.”

The project, which began in early 2012 and is ongoing, will see over 60,000m² (645,835ft²) of steelwork for the UK platforms coated with AkzoNobel products. Due to the success of this coating system it has now been selected for two of Shell’s UK Central North Sea Asset Installations on the Make Safe Work (MSW) campaign, commencing July 2013 to June 2014. The project is due to begin later this year for a five year period.