Conversions make

good use of existing assets



MacGregor has provided the vital connection that allows personnel to move safely between a production rig and a temporary accommodation platform

The jack-up rig Transocean Nordic is currently being converted to a jack-up accommodation unit (JUA) at the ASL shipyard in Batam, Indonesia. Once completed and renamed Atlantic London, the unit will be used to provide accommodation for both operational and project personnel working on a production platform while it undergoes a major service, anticipated to take about 18 months.

MacGregor's part of this major conversion project was to develop, deliver and supervise the installation of a 45m-long by 1.8m-wide link walkway to allow personnel easy access between the production platform and their new temporary living quarters on Atlantic London.

"In a dynamic industry, factors such as service requirements, amended regulations, evolving techniques and changing commercial imperatives can drive conversion projects such as this," says Arve Plassen, Branch Manager for MacGregor Service in Norway. "Conversions make good use of existing assets and we make good use of our experience and expertise to deliver tailored engineering solutions for them.

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"We were initially approached by the project management company, Nordica Offshore, to see if we could help. It was our first offshore contract for the company, but came as a result of earlier projects that MacGregor has been involved with."

The project commenced in May last year and required the collaboration of MacGregor's service stations in Norway and Poland. "Our involvement in the project comprised four phases. We have delivered the first three, which include the initial study and concept development that provided the foundations for engineering, and the walkway's fabrication. Phase four, installation supervision at the conversion yard, is still outstanding due to some project delays".

The walkway was fabricated by OCS Singapore and delivered to Indonesia at the end of 2012. "Our experience of working with OCS is very good and it meets our exacting production standards. It is also conveniently located for the conversion yard in Indonesia," Mr Plassen says.

Following the delivery voyage, for which the walkway will be secured in a vertical position, Atlantic London will take up its position in the Total Oil Yadana (Myanmar) field. Here it will be located close to the existing production platform and the walkway will be lowered into its operational mode. Atlantic London's extensive conversion work included the provision of 150 new crew cabins, a galley, cold stores, a mess room, recreation rooms and locker rooms.