offshore

Riser & Conductor Engineering

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Understanding Conductor Integrity and Extending Life of Jacket Platforms

Christopher Li 14th March 2019



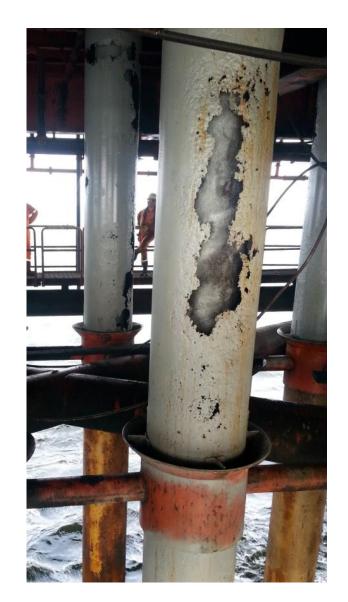
Agenda

- Conductor Failure Mechanisms
- Case Studies
- Repair Considerations
- Conclusions



Introduction

- Multiple jacket structures offshore WA operating over two decades
- Life extension increases likelihood of:
 - Corrosion
 - Fatigue due to waves & currents
 - Strength failure in structural member
 - Earthquake Loading
- Integrity assessment, inspections and (if required) remedial measures are necessary



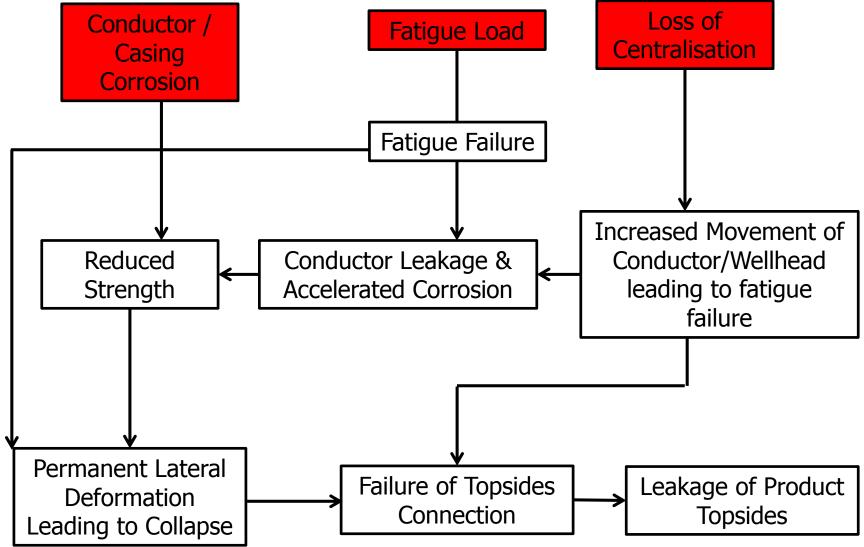


What can Happen...



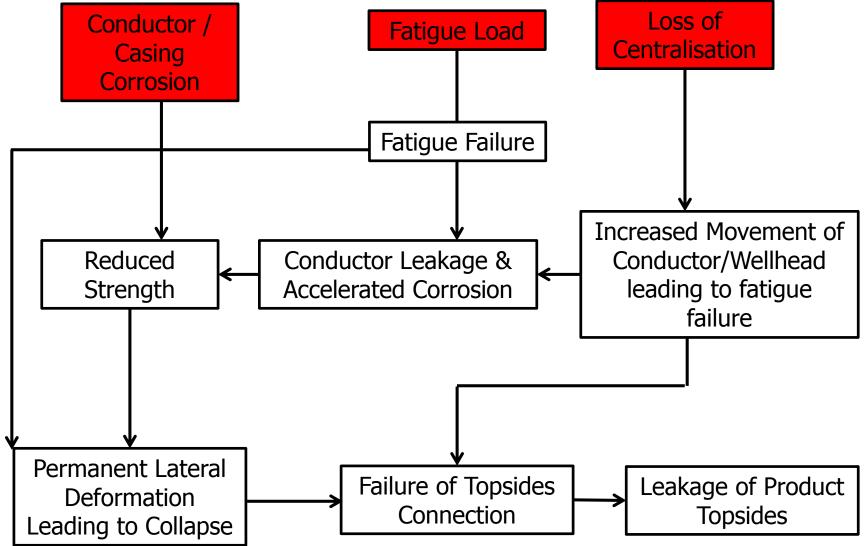


Conductor Failure Mechanisms



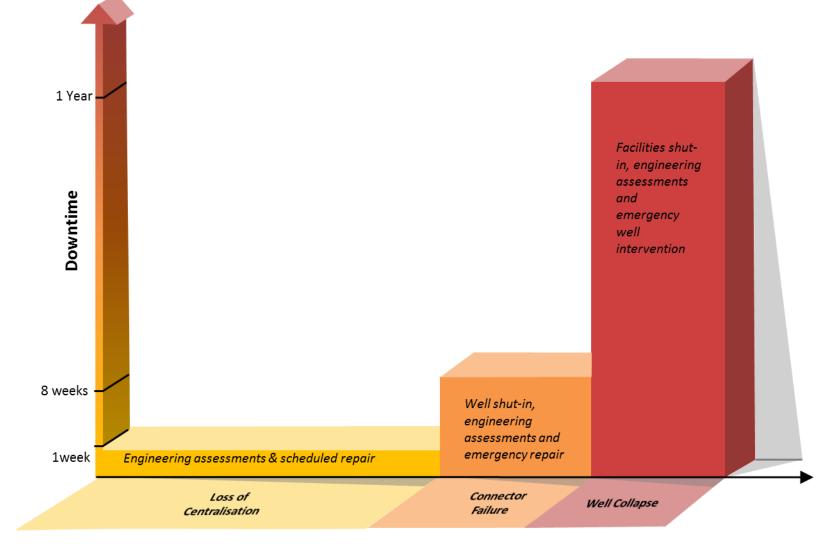


Conductor Failure Mechanisms





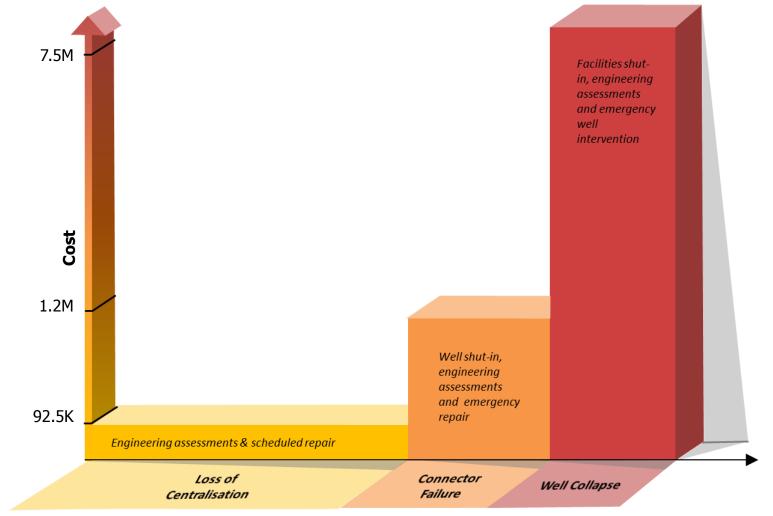
Structural Failure - Well Downtime



Downtime - Considers numbers of days of well needs to be offline for repair/remediation operations



Structural Failure - Cost Effect





Case Study #1 – Corrosion

- Corrosion observed on several conductors
- Each well assessed using measured wall thickness for corresponding well loads
- Stress utilisation exceeds allowable in corroded sections

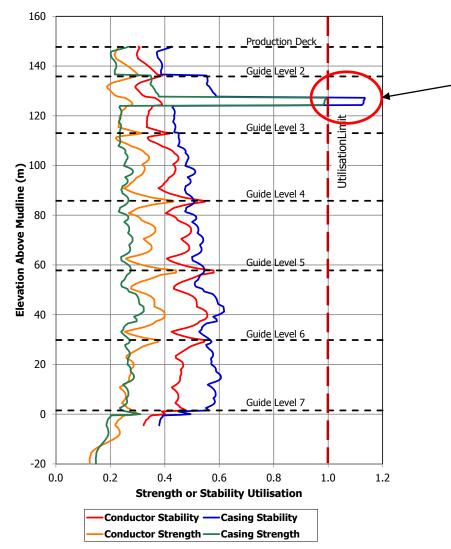






Case Study #1 Findings

STRENGTH & STABILITY

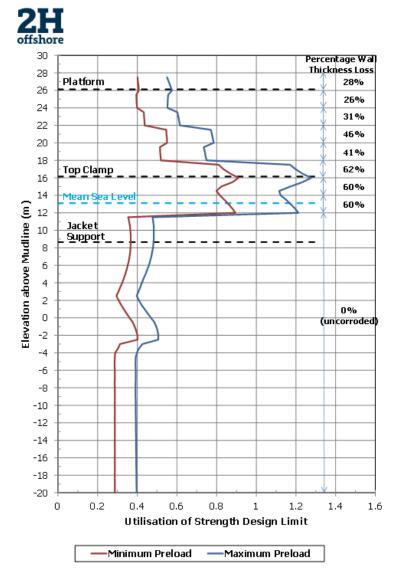


Strength and stability utilisation exceeded in cyclonic storm condition or earthquake



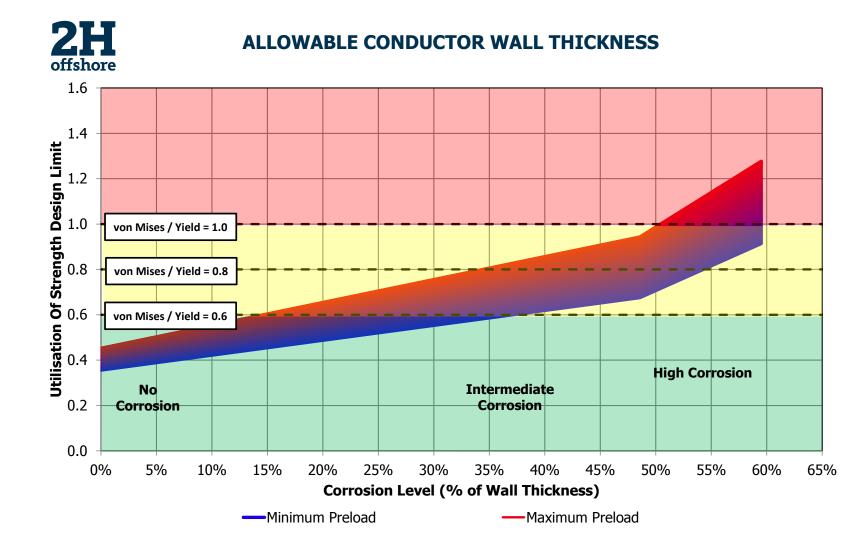
Assessment Tools

- Product of strength and stability assessment
- Allow well data to be used to determine integrity
 - Well construction design/type
 - Cement levels
 - Preload
- Define integrity guidelines
 - Define critical component/location
 - Identify allowable corrosion limits





How Much Corrosion is Allowed?





Grouting

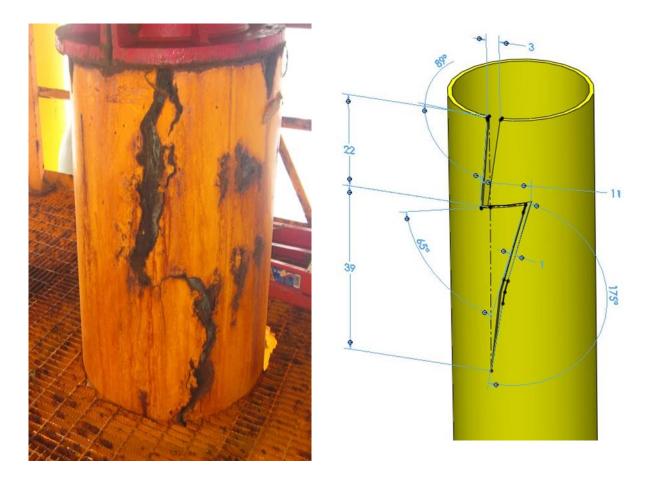
- Grouting for strength (reducing buckling risk)
- Injection of high strength grout from the bottom





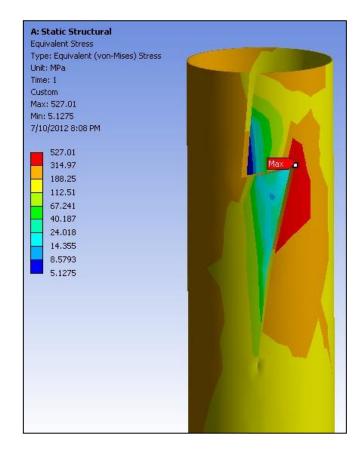
Case Study #2 – Conductor Crack Repair

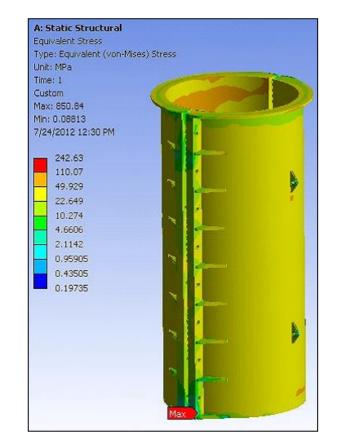
- Crack on conductor above sub-cellar deck observed
- FEA Model Analysis
- Sleeve repair to prevent crack propagation





FEA of Conductor Crack



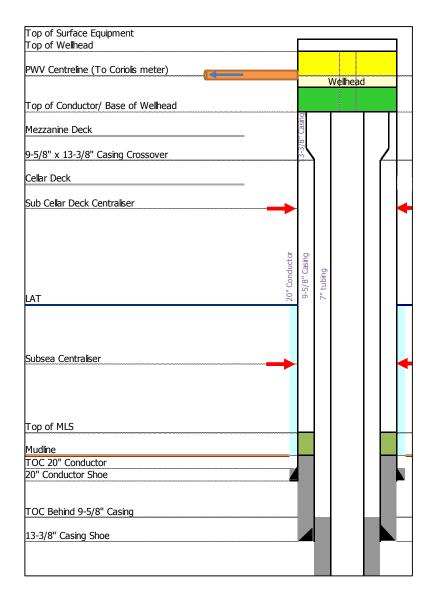






Case Study #3 – Loss of Centraliser

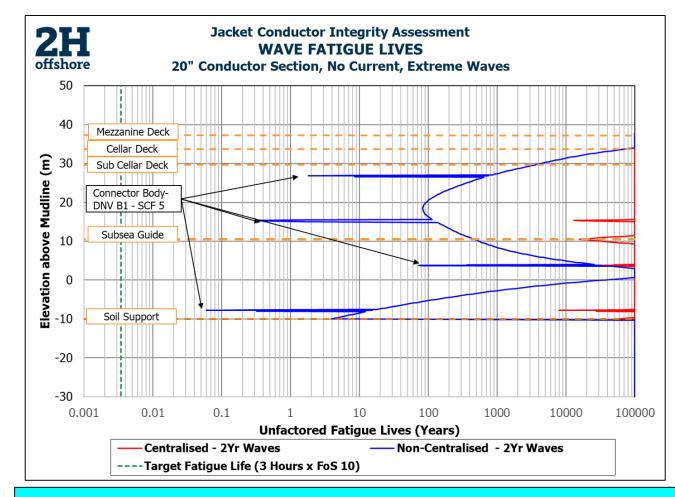
- Reduced conductor lateral support at subcellar deck
- Lateral motion of 20" conductor observed causing crack in production flowline weld
- Significant reduction in fatigue life with no centraliser around conductor
- Mitigation: retrofit centraliser



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Case Study #3 – Loss of Centraliser

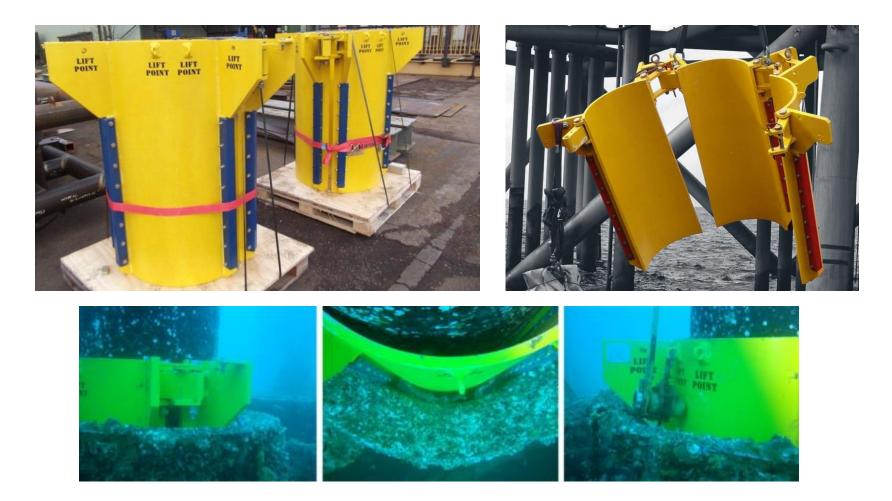


With no centralisers, conductor fatigue life 5 x more severe



Retrofit Centralisers

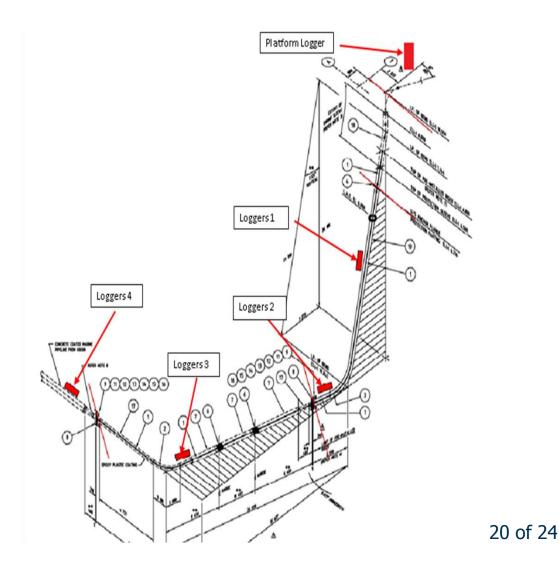






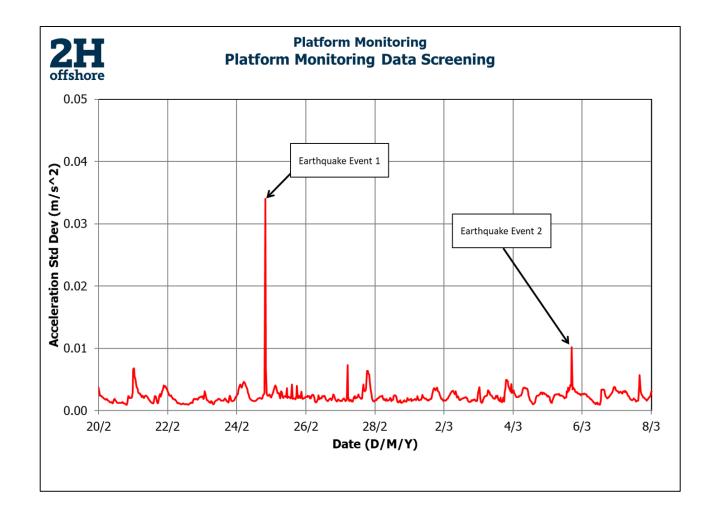
Case Study #4 - Earthquakes

- Hardwired real-time motion monitoring on jacket platform
- Monitors installed to check for VIV or waveinduced fatigue
- 2 severe earthquake events Requirement to assess motions of system
- Recorded displacement due to earthquake loads are 17 x higher than wave loads



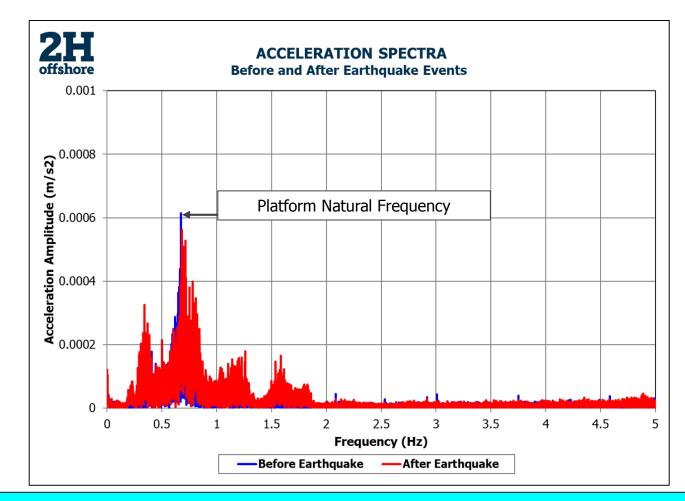


Case Study #4 - Earthquakes





Case Study #4 - Earthquakes



Platform natural frequency did not change pre and post earthquake

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Repair Considerations

- Present conductor condition & remaining life
- Objective of repair
 - Halt corrosion
 - Restore strength and reduce buckling risk
 - Extend fatigue life
- Scheduling and Clustering
 - Urgency of repair
 - Clustering repair of similar conductors
- Practicalities of repair
 - Cost
 - Accessible for repair? (i.e. splash zone or at a guide)
 - Level of future monitoring and inspection?





- Fitness for purpose of conductors must be demonstrated to allow life extension
- Challenges come from loads not accounted in design:
 - Corrosion
 - Loss in centraliser
 - Earthquakes
- Ongoing inspections, monitoring, analysis evaluates need for repair – cost reduction
- Remedial options include retrofit centraliser, grouting, repair sleeve



Questions?

Thank you



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Case Study #3 – Loss of Centraliser

