

# BULLETIN

**SEPTEMBER 2019** 



Twenty years after first targeting the decommissioning market and a decade after its first major project, Lerwick Harbour is continuing to evolve its role as a leader in meeting the offshore oil and gas industry's changing requirements.

Captain Calum Grains, Lerwick Port Authority Chief Executive, commented: "We've come a long way in firmly establishing Lerwick at the forefront of the highly-competitive decommissioning market. Our strategy is in place to maintain and develop that position, with a commitment to deliver the industry's future needs.

"Following the Scottish
Government's UK-wide study
identifying Lerwick as the
preferred location for an Ultra
Deep-Water Quay, we are
in ongoing discussions with
Governments, agencies and
industry to deliver the project.
It will enhance capability,
develop the supply chain
and help reduce costs."

# CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT

In its latest development of infrastructure for the offshore industry, the Port Authority is to construct a new heavy duty pad at the deepwater Dales Voe Base to support decommissioning. The fully-licensed pad will extend to 20,000 square metres, with an impermeable surface.

Port Authority Harbourmaster, Captain Alexander Simpson, said:

"The pad represents a significant addition to our resources in handling decommissioning projects and supporting subsea developments. While of value in its own right, it will also eventually complement the proposed Ultra Deepwater Quay development."

A construction contract is expected to be awarded soon, with completion early next year.

### WELCOME ABOARD AT OFFSHORE EUROPE

Lerwick Port Authority is again participating in the biennial Offshore Europe exhibition, from 3-6 September in Aberdeen. One of the oil and gas industry's prime international events, the harbour's numerous attractions and advantages for the sector across its operations will be highlighted on Stand 3H3O at OE19's new venue, the P&J Live complex.

# DELIVERING DECOMMISSIONING ...A LEADER IN THE FIELD The latest decommissioning projects at Lerwick Harbour add to the lengthening list of structures dismantled and recycled at the port's two extensive bases - Dales Voe and Greenhead.

It means there has now been delivery of topside infrastructure, jackets and subsea equipment from the northern, central and southern North Sea, as well as west of Shetland, bringing the total handled to over 73,000 tonnes.

The Port Authority's multi-million £ investment in dredging and facilities, including deep-water quays and 130,000 square metres of laydown, laid the groundwork on which to build.

Lerwick Port Authority works closely with an experienced

supply chain, including the Veolia/Peterson international partnership whose contract successes have been a key to establishing the harbour as a leading location for decommissioning.

John Lawrie Metals, one of the foremost UK scrap metal reprocessors, decommissioning specialists and steel trading companies, opened its Lerwick site in February, 2018.

"Since then, we have worked with some of the most established contractors in decommissioning, such as Veolia and Peterson, handling over 20,000 tonnes of material, with most then shipped from Lerwick," said Managing Director, Dave Weston "Direct links with European steel mills and up-to-100% recycling routes for subsea equipment allows us to provide a unique, cost-positive service for clients.

"Lerwick Port Authority has been instrumental in our efforts, providing outstanding support on large projects, such as the Buchan Alpha."

central North Sea and northern waters.'

**Spirit Energy's Markham Field ST-1** platform is a first from the southern North Sea and the first single lift of a platform to the quayside. The steel jacket and topsides were removed shipped by Seaway 7's vessel, Seaway Strashnov, to Dales Voe Base guay which has a 60 tonnes per square loading capacity. The 45 metre jacket weighs 1,300 tonnes and the topside 1,200 tonnes. Dismantling and disposal by the Veolia/Peterson partnership is aiming to achieve a recycling target of 97%. Port Authority Chief Executive, Captain Calum Grains, said: "With the use of cost-effective crane vessels, rather than barge transfers, to move offshore structures, the port can compete welloutside our immediate markets in the



### Leadon

Lerwick Harbour's support for the decommissioning of Leadon has included a maiden visit by the subsea support vessel, Maersk Inventor, then a recent addition to the Maersk Supply Service fleet, to deliver towheads to Greenhead Base for disposal.



### **Dunlin**

Peterson and partner Veolia are supporting Rever Offshore, a leading subsea services provider, with the receipt, handling and waste management of materials for ongoing decommissioning of Fairfield's Dunlin platform. The partners described use of the 20,000 square metre Greenhead Base as "an ideal location for subsea decommissioning projects such as this one."

### **Buchan Alpha**

The versatility and capacity of Dales Voe was demonstrated recently when the former Buchan Alpha floating production unit moved from the quayside temporarily to facilitate the arrival of the ST-1 platform.

The port's biggest decommissioning project to date, the structure was originally anchored in the Voe's deep water for removal of thrusters, before moving alongside, with a 98% recycling target, for around 8,000 tonnes handled.

## **Ninian North**

Preparations are underway this year for the arrival of the Ninian Northern topsides which will be removed and delivered in a single lift by Allseas's Pioneering Spirit, the world's largest construction vessel, in spring 2020.

Dismantling and disposal of the 12,600 tonne structure, combining accommodation, drilling and production facilities, will be undertaken by Veolia/Peterson at Dales Voe Base in what will be the port's largest project yet.

www.lerwick-harbour.co.uk/decommissioning



### SUPPORT FOR LANCASTER

Lerwick Harbour contributed to the development of Hurricane Energy's pioneering Lancaster development, west of Shetland, by providing the location for offloading the turret buoy system on delivery from Dubai.

The buoy, over 20 metres in both diameter and height, and weighing approximately 1,200 tonnes, was unloaded from the vessel, Jumbo Kinetic, and held at Mair's Quay before being towed to location by Port Authority vessels.

The Port Authority's vessels, Kebister and Knab, assisted with harbour operations, seen as another example of the versatility of the port in servicing subsea developments in the North Sea and Atlantic. The field came on stream earlier this year.



Increases in oil & gas activity in the first half of the year grows optimism in future exploration activity.

Harbour traffic is showing signs of recovery after the sector's downturn, with a busy first-half, 2019.

Oil vessel arrivals increased 25.4% to 163 in the six months to June, compared to the same period 2018, with the tonnage jumping 73% to 868,212 million gross tonnes due to more supply, diving and anchorhandling vessels using the port.

Cargo handled for the sector across the approximate 4,500 metres of quays rose 156% to 33,731 tonnes.

Commenting on the half-year figures, Port Authority Chief Executive, Captain Calum Grains, said: "Future prospects are encouraging, with more oil supply boats and seismic vessels being seen and increasing interest in exploration activity.

### MEETING INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

With Occupational Health and Safety at the heart the Port Authority's operations, it now holds a new global standard ISO 45001:2018. Achieved within nine months of introduction, Lerwick was one of the first British ports to be accredited.

The success reflects commitment to the health and safety in the workplace, of customers and stakeholders and to meeting requirements of port users. The Port Authority also holds ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 certification for quality and environmental standards.

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