

## Centrica Simplification

The history of ITI's Remote Operation solution, termed by Centrica as 'Simplification' goes back to 2006 when a helicopter transporting seven support workers to one of Centrica's gas platforms crashed, tragically killing all those on board.

This event was the trigger for asking the question, 'how can we improve safety and minimise manned interventions?'

- Return on investment inside of 2 years
- 60% reduction in manned helicopter intervention
- Significant reduction in OPEX



### Simplification

During the months that followed the tragic events of 2006, a blueprint was developed by ITI and Centrica for the retrospective upgrade of manned platforms, or normally unmanned installations (NUI), that require regular intervention. The aim was to enable these assets to become almost entirely unmanned and remotely controlled from an onshore control room in real-time, including black start situations.

At the end of 2012, ITI began formally working on a Remote Operations solution for Centrica, which would ultimately support the simplification of their first platform, DP6. Given the complexities and ever-changing ideals, the concept and design phase took place over several years as it was absolutely essential to ensure that the end solution was as close to perfect as possible. In 2016, the project to engineer the Remote Operations solution for DP6 began with ambitious timescales for completion in early 2018.

### Drivers for Simplification

In addition to the desire of ensuring the safety of their offshore workers, OPEX costs were forcing Centrica to consider early decommissioning of their assets in the Eastern Irish Sea. Investigations proved that by investing in Simplification of their assets, which included the removal of redundant topside plant and accommodation, maintenance costs would be significantly reduced. By investing in a state of the art integrated control and safety system (ICSS) and electrical control system, which could be operated from an onshore control room, a 60% reduction in manned interventions via helicopter could be achieved resulting in a dramatic improvement in safety, reduction in OPEX and enhancements to 'end of life' forecasts for the ageing brownfield assets.

### The ITI Remote Operations Solution

The collaboration with Centrica on a Remote Operations solution involved ten years of development. ITI investigated and tested diverse, emerging and unreleased technologies to ensure that the Simplification solution would support the platform until end of life. ITI was first asked to conduct a FEED study and produce a report, which would ultimately set the benchmark for the remote control conversion of several NUIs.

The ICSS upgrade solution provided by ITI is based on Emerson DeltaV technology to complement Centrica's legacy Rosemount DCS equipment that would allow for a more proven upgrade path.

### Remotely Operable

All of the above is remotely operable from the onshore control room, including the ability to come back online from a black-start situation.

ITI's flexible and dynamic approach ensured an ambitious project timeline was achieved from order placement to completed FAT in six months.

ITI has demonstrable success working on productive offshore assets and is regarded as an industry expert in complex brownfield project execution – minimising downtime for our clients.



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