

Deadline beater for Pyrenees offshore project

Swift service by hydraulic specialists working with Western Australian engineering company AME helped make possible the rapid fabrication and testing of a versatile tilt table for the Pyrenees offshore oil and gas project.

Enerpac territory manager – Western Australia, Andrew Marsh, worked with AME to facilitate rapid delivery of nine-ton double-acting hydraulic cylinders ordered through Enerpac distributor Cooper Fluid Systems.

AME was required to work to a tight deadline to design, fabricate, test and apply the Cameron Vertical Connector (CVC) tilt table for seabed-to-surface contractor Acergy.

Ten days were available for provision of the cylinders and associated componentry, drawing on both Enerpac's Australian resources and complementary equipment that had to be sourced from the United States.

The CVC tilt table was function-tested at the company's Perth workshop prior to a trial run aboard Acergy's construction vessel Toisa Proteus working on the

Pyrenees project.

The CVC tilt table is an installation facility that positions the CVC gooseneck to fit with the umbilical or riser coming from the sea bed. Hydraulic lifting is used because it allows fine, precise adjustments of the gooseneck along the three dimensions of port-starboard, forward-aft and up-down.

"The workshop testing, witnessed by our client Acergy, went well," said Gus Pugliese, project engineer for AME. "Enerpac gave us very good service. Andrew Marsh said: "We are always there to support our distributor and their customer, because that's how you build relationships – performing when the pressure is on."

The Enerpac 9-ton RD-910 double-acting hydraulic cylinders that were used to activate the CVC tilt table have a capacity of 80 kN @ 700 bar, a 257mm stroke, a collapsed height of 452mm and weight of 7.3 kg.

The cylinders were powered by an Enerpac ZU4408ME hydraulic electric pump that runs off the 240 volt mains



The tilt table for Pyrenees project.

with an operating pressure of 700 bar.

Pyrenees is a joint venture between BHP Billiton and United States oil producer Apache Corporation that is expected to produce about 96,000 barrels of oil per day over a 25 year period.