

## Infra-red system improves control of field jointing

Fast response medium wave infra-red heating systems from **Heraeus Noblelight** are said to be helping to improve process control and repeatability of field jointing of coated pipes in the oil and gas sector.



The systems are used in the field jointing solutions employed by Bredero Shaw, a global leader in line pipe and field joint coating. Bredero Shaw offers extensive pipe coating services from coating steel line pipe in various materials to providing the solutions for effective and efficient pipe joint coating in spool bases, onshore multi-jointing sites and offshore pipe-laying vessels. Field joint coating must be of high quality and field joints must be consistent to ensure the integrity of the complete pipeline coating system in operation.

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## Extracting power from the sea

Dedicated to developing hydrokinetic turbines to generate "green" energy from the motion of the sea, Irish company Tidal Energy Limited (TEL) recently had a pressing need for a way of accurately measuring the power produced by its scale-model prototypes. The company reports that Equipment from **Sensor Technology** provided a convenient and dependable solution where other methods had failed.



TEL was established in 2008 by marine scientist, David Baird, and civil engineer, John Lambe, who realised that the growing demand for renewable energy sources meant that there would be good market for efficient and cost-effective marine hydrokinetic turbines. When it came to measuring the power produced by the turbines, however, TEL found that it had a problem. Ultimately, after searching the market for a cost-effective product that would meet its needs, TEL found the RWT410/420 series of TorqSense rotary torque sensors from Sensor Technology.

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## Putting a test case for integrity management

Catastrophic failures of forged materials in deepwater applications have called into question the structural integrity of such products and focused industry attention on the need for carefully-managed 'integrity management' of key components.

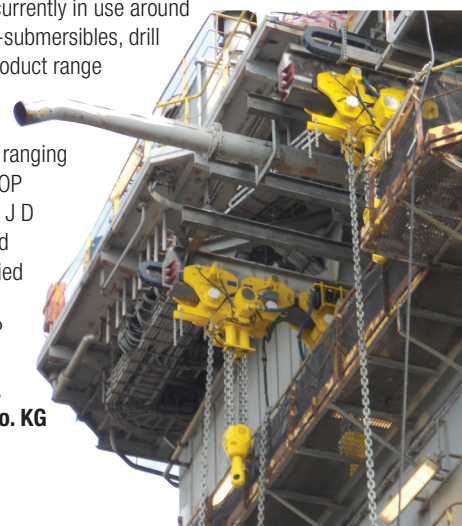


With suppliers to the oil & gas and marine industries particularly appreciating the need for integrity management of deep sea components to prevent expensive failures or prolonged shutdowns, Yorkshire-based independent heat treatment and metallurgical testing specialist **Keighley Laboratories** says it is experiencing an upturn in demand for first article inspection of pre-production components, to ensure meeting operators' engineering specifications. It is a preventative measure that the company believes could be adopted more widely, especially with the life expectancy of products extending from 10 years to 25 years or more, often in extremely harsh and corrosive environments. Through a wealth of metal testing and heat treatment experience, dating back more than 90 years, Keighley Laboratories says it is perfectly placed to offer independent metallurgical testing.

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## Equipment for tough environments

The range of robust handling and lifting equipment supplied by the **J D Neuhaus** company is currently in use around the world on jack-up rigs, semi-submersibles, drill ships and FPSO vessels. The product range incorporates both air and hydraulically powered hoists, with individual lifting capacities ranging from 250kg to 100 tonnes. A BOP handling unit incorporating four J D Neuhaus type EH50 air operated monorail hoists has been supplied to the Maersk offshore rig Guardian, for synchronised BOP lifting and handling during both pre and post drilling operations.



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## Self-contained production rooms

A suite of free-standing self-contained production enclosures that provide abrasive blasting, welding and paint spraying facilities have been installed by **Hodge Clemco** for Advanced Industrial Solutions (AIS) in North Shields, Tyne and Wear.

AIS manufacture specialised insulation, cladding, access and personal protection equipment primarily for the off-shore oil and gas industries, as well as providing a wide variety of training courses for employees in this sector. Following the completion of its new £300,000 training and production centre with the Hodge Clemco equipment, its blasting and painting courses for off-shore personnel have been formally approved by the industry skills body OPITO.

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