Original Kikeh Spar story from RigZone.com

The installation and commissioning of the deepwater Kikeh Spar, currently producing offshore Malaysia, is significant for many reasons. It is the first deepwater development in Malaysia, and is the first spar to be installed outside of the Gulf of Mexico. It is also the first time an open-sea catamaran topsides floatover installation has been attempted. Engineering, construction and installation were performed by Technip.

Samson AmSteel®-Blue was selected for critical applications in the operation. The platform topsides was suspended on two barges in a catamaran configuration. The spar hull was ballasted to a level that allowed the topsides to be positioned over the hull, then deballasted to mate the topsides with the hull. All this was performed in open water. AmSteel®-Blue was also selected for other functions during the operation, including positioning and stabilizing lines.

AmSteel®-Blue is Samson’s multi-purpose rope made with Dyneema®. As strong as wire ropes of the same diameter, it is lightweight, easy to handle, simple to splice, resists abrasion, and outlasts wire in most applications by at least 3-to-1. It also floats, making it an ideal choice in critical offshore applications.

For more information on Samson’s complete line of high-performance ropes specifically designed for offshore applications, visit our website, SamsonRope.com, or contact our customer service department.


RIG PHOTOS COURTESY OF TECHNIP (from top to bottom)

PHOTO 1: The Catamaran is towed into position using Samson AmSteel®-Blue.

PHOTO 2: The spar hull is deballasted, to mate with the topsides and take the load from the barges for final installation.

PHOTO 3: Samson AmSteel®-Blue lines are used to position the topside over the spar.

PHOTO 4: The topsides for the Kikeh Spar resting on two barges in a catamaran configuration.