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Seafox eyes growth as it gains Dong Energy work



Danish deal: Seafox 5 bound for Dong Energy's Hejre field

Seafox

Bill Lehane 18 February 2014 15:39 GMT

Dutch offshore services provider Seafox Contractors has gained work with Dong Energy in the central North Sea as part of a clutch of new contracts the company says has yielded significant order backlog.

The Danish state player has hired the self-propelled DP2 jack-up Seafox 5 to serve the Hejre high-pressure, high temperature development.

Work under the contract is to start once the unit has finished its current contract with Maersk Oil & Gas at the Tyra platform elsewhere in Danish waters.

The self-elevating accommodation, maintenance and workover unit Seafox 7 has gained an extension with Siemens on a renewable project, while GDF Suez has hired the company for hook-up support on its Juliet and Cygnus projects in the southern North Sea.

Further new business has come from asset integrity and offshore operations and maintenance work with existing clients.

Speaking to Upstream, Seafox Contractors commercial director Erwin Lammertink said that while the value of the contracts could not be disclosed, "if you count the value of the total order backlog it's quite significant for a company like ours".

The Seafox director also said that the addition of Dong Energy to its client list could also open up new business for the contractor in the Danish player's renewable activities.

"Although this project is for oil & gas it creates the door to walk in to the building next door so to speak on renewables," Lammertink said.

The director said that while the private contractor's "bread and butter is accommodation support", the contractor is also involved in areas like well service work, plug and abandonment of wells and platform decommissioning and removal work.

"For us the opportunity is to follow the oil facilities over their lifetime from the beginning up until the end and we can help our clients anywhere in between as well," he said.



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Lammertink said that AF Decom Offshore's recent work on decommissioning Statoil's H7 and B11 platforms proved the efficacy of the jack-up and crane removal method, and that the Seafox 5 jack-up held a competitive advantage in the area.

Delivered by Keppel FELS in 2012, the unit has four legs rather than six and comes equipped with an enhanced jacking system.

"We have only four legs which makes removal of platforms in the southern North Sea far more efficient than with six legs. Our crane has a far easier way to lift things out of the sea and bring it onto the deck without having to juggle between six jack-up legs," he said.

Lammertink said that while Seafox Contractors had no current plans to expand its fleet, the matter was always under discussion and the latest contract wins underpinned the company's order and client base for future growth.

"If we need to make choices, having a healthy backlog and a good client base is of course critical," he said.

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