

REF 542plus Maintenance Exchange Unit service

Statoil offshore platform, Kvitebjorn, Norway



Time-efficient and easy relay upgrade and replacement with ABB's Maintenance Exchange Unit service.

01 Photo courtesy of Statoil/Helge Hansen

Project at a glance

Customer: Statoil
Segment: Oil and gas
ABB service: REF 542plus Maintenance Exchange Unit

Customer challenge

The customer had an existing installed base of an older version of ABB's REF 542plus protection relays on their platform. The customer identified the need to replace these relays to avoid unscheduled operation downtime due to aging equipment.

To optimize their operations, the customer had also identified a need for additional relay functions, as well as the necessity to increase maintenance scheduling predictability.

Another challenge was ensuring that all necessary activities were completed within the fixed shutdown period. Time-efficient installation of the new relays was imperative to the successful completion of the project activities.

ABB solution

ABB's Maintenance Exchange Unit service for REF 542plus relays provided a perfect fit to ensure the fast and easy installation of the new product version of the relay.

With this service, the customer gained the assured availability of ABB's life cycle services, such as spare parts and repair services, to prolong the life of the protection solution. As a part of this service, ABB delivers the latest version of the relay, which includes the most recent hardware and software upgrades, to provide up-to-date relay functions.

Installing the new relay is fast and easy as no major new wiring or configuration is required. When the new version of the relay is delivered to the customer, it includes the existing customer-specific configuration file, which has been converted for compatibility with the new version of the relay.

The new version of the relay has a different size Human-Machine interface (HMI). To ensure the smooth installation of the new relay's HMI, there is an all-in-one cutting tool available for easy, fast and exact machining of existing relay HMI panel cutout.

In this case, ABB's solution also included the services to install and test the new relays and recycle the old ones.

Customer benefits

- Upgrade to a newer version of the same product is convenient for the maintenance and operations personnel
- Future retrofit and upgrades for the relays becomes easier
- Improved reliability of the electric power system for the oil platform
- Minimized shutdown time thanks to fast and easy installation, migration of existing configuration and no major new wiring



About the project

Statoil's Kvitebjorn is an offshore fully-integrated fixed steel platform with drilling and process facilities and living quarters. It is located in the Norwegian North Sea.

In this Maintenance Exchange Unit service project, the first delivery of relays were at the end of 2014 and they were commissioned in the spring of 2015.

For more information, please contact

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