

Shallow Water Dynamic Positioning Record

Maersk Drilling's strategic ambition is to provide our customers with Smarter Drilling for Better Value. In 2017, the Maersk Discoverer team drilled a record-breaking shallow water well in dynamic positioning mode, five days ahead of schedule.

Shallow Water Dynamic Position Mode

Maersk Drilling's Deepwater D-rigs are designed to operate in water depths between 460m and 3050m in Dynamic Positioning mode (DP). As BP's Cairo-based Operations Manager points out: "Drilling in deep water has its challenges, but at the opposite end of the spectrum, drilling in shallow water with a dynamic positioning rig certainly does as well."

Using DP mode provides significant cost savings for customers by removing the need to rent mooring equipment and eliminating the time associated with connecting and disconnecting mooring lines.

Safety first

Allan McColl, Rig Leader on Maersk Discoverer adds: "In collaboration with Maersk Drilling's in-house Technical Organisation, we decided to determine if it was feasible to drill in such shallow waters as 285 metres."

Risk assesment measures:

- Timings to successfully disconnect from the well.
- DP system upgrade to automatically return to the original position during a power black out.
- Well-specific operating guidelines with clear operating criteria for the particular months of the year.
- Test drills on the drill floor and bridge to understand the required reactions in the event of a power loss.

» A great example of how we add value to our customers to reduce their overall costs by finding technical solutions «
Angela Durkin, COO

Facts

Location: Giza Fayoum, Egypt

Client: BP

Depth: 285 metres

Rig Type: Ultra Deepwater Semi-sub

Operation type: Development

Safety Performance: Zero incidents

Performance: Five days faster than planned

Record breaking 285m FS-2 well

On 2nd October 2017, after a suitable risk assessment and mitigating the need for mooring equipment, the Maersk Discoverer team completed the 285 metre well at Giza Fayoum five days ahead of schedule. The well was the shallowest water drilling operation in DP mode ever conducted for both Maersk Drilling and for BP and delivered significant costs savings.

The record-breaking shallow water well is a strong example of how Maersk Drilling adds value to customers to reduce their overall costs by finding technical solutions. The BP Operations Manager adds: "Many thanks to all those who contributed in making this first Giza Fayoum well a success."

How can we help you?

Please contact your local Maersk Drilling representative for more information.

Dynamic Positioning Advantages:

Flexibility of rig moves e.g. for batch drilling

Time savings on all rig moves compared to anchored

Cost Savings due to DP mode mitigating the need for:

- Mooring system rental
- Anchor handling vessels
- Storage handling or transportation of mooring equipment
- Transportation of mooring equipment

Safety risk reduced as fewer handling operations means less risk of accidents.

