

DRON & DICKSON

SBT FABRICATION, STRENGTH TESTING AND INSTALLATION WORK

Success Stories



Dron & Dickson



A highly experienced Dron & Dickson team comprising of SBT Technicians, Project Coordinator, and SBT Technical Authority provide a bespoke solution for SBT fabrication, strength testing and installation work.

The Challenge

Following an integrity inspection campaign, a North Sea operator identified multiple Small Bore Tubing (SBT) containment and integrity concerns across critical production systems. The resulting backlog of 19 corrective work orders required replacement tubing assemblies to be fabricated, tested and installed across numerous asset locations, including several difficult-to-access elevated areas.

The operator needed a solution that would safely execute the work, minimise production disruption and efficiently liquidate a growing maintenance backlog.

The Solution

Dron & Dickson delivered a fully managed SBT remediation programme, deploying a dedicated team comprising specialist SBT Technicians, IRATA Rope Access personnel, a Project Coordinator and SBT Technical Authority.

Working collaboratively with the client, Dron & Dickson developed the execution strategy, work packs, procedures and competency requirements before mobilising offshore.

The scope included:

- Fabrication of replacement SBT assemblies in multiple sizes and materials.
- Hydrostatic pressure testing to verify integrity and compliance with client standards.
- Preservation and pre-staging of tested assemblies ahead of shutdown activities.
- Installation of new assemblies, clamps and supports designed to withstand vibration and thermal cycling.
- Full certification, reporting and project close-out documentation.
- The utilisation of multi-skilled Rope Access SBT Technicians enabled safe access to elevated and congested locations without the requirement for extensive scaffolding, reducing costs, minimising offshore logistics and accelerating execution.

Delivery

Work was completed across numerous safety and production-critical systems including gas compression, flare and relief, fuel gas, dehydration, pressure monitoring and flow measurement equipment.

Ongoing support from the Project Coordinator and Technical Authority ensured effective planning, governance and technical assurance throughout the project lifecycle.



Examples of fabricated, strength tested, and installed SBT assemblies





The Result

- Closed and remediated 19 outstanding corrective work orders.
- Eliminated a significant maintenance backlog and associated system bottleneck.
- Restored integrity of identified SBT systems, reducing containment and production risks.
- Reduced access costs and schedule impacts through the use of Rope Access SBT specialists.
- Improved shutdown efficiency by fabricating and testing assemblies in advance.
- Established a stock of critical spare assemblies to support future maintenance requirements.
- Returned the asset to a proactive inspection and maintenance regime.

Client Value

By combining specialist SBT expertise, rope access capability and dedicated project management within a single delivery team, Dron & Dickson provided a cost-effective end-to-end solution that improved asset integrity, reduced operational risk and maximised offshore productivity. The approach enabled faster execution, lower access costs and minimal disruption to ongoing production, while providing the operator with greater confidence in the long-term reliability of critical process systems.

Key Benefits Delivered

- Reduced offshore man-hours and access costs.
- Avoided extensive scaffolding requirements.
- Minimized production disruption.
- Enhanced asset integrity and reliability.
- Accelerated closure of integrity-driven work orders.
- Delivered a complete turnkey engineering solution from fabrication through to installation and certification.



Examples of fabricated, strength tested, and installed SBT assemblies

