

Permanent versus disconnectable FPSOs^(PDF)

《船舶与海洋工程学报》 [ISSN:1002-2848/CN:61-1400/f] 期数: 2009年02 页码: 93--98 栏目: 出版日期: 2009-06-25

Title: Permanent versus disconnectable FPSOs

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关键词: [disconnectable FPSO](#); [permanent FPSO](#); [deepwater](#); [mooring system](#)

分类号: -

DOI: -

文献标识码: A

摘要:

Floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) vessels offer a cost-effective field development solution, especially in deepwater areas lacking an adequate pipeline network. Most FPSOs are permanently moored, i.e. the complete system is designed to withstand any kind of extreme environment at the field location. FPSOs that can be quickly disconnected from their moorings and risers have also been designed and deployed. The key feature of this type of disconnectable FPSO is that it can be disconnect and so avoid dangerous environmental conditions such as icebergs, hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and typhoons in the South China Sea. In this paper, the concept of disconnectable FPSOs for deepwater field development is presented. Key technologies and their engineering analyses are highlighted. The merits and demerits of disconnectable vs permanent FPSOs are then evaluated. The paper concludes that both permanent and disconnectable FPSOs are versatile floating systems and their selection depends on safety, technological, cost and operational considerations.

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备注/Memo: -

更新日期/Last Update: 2010-05-20