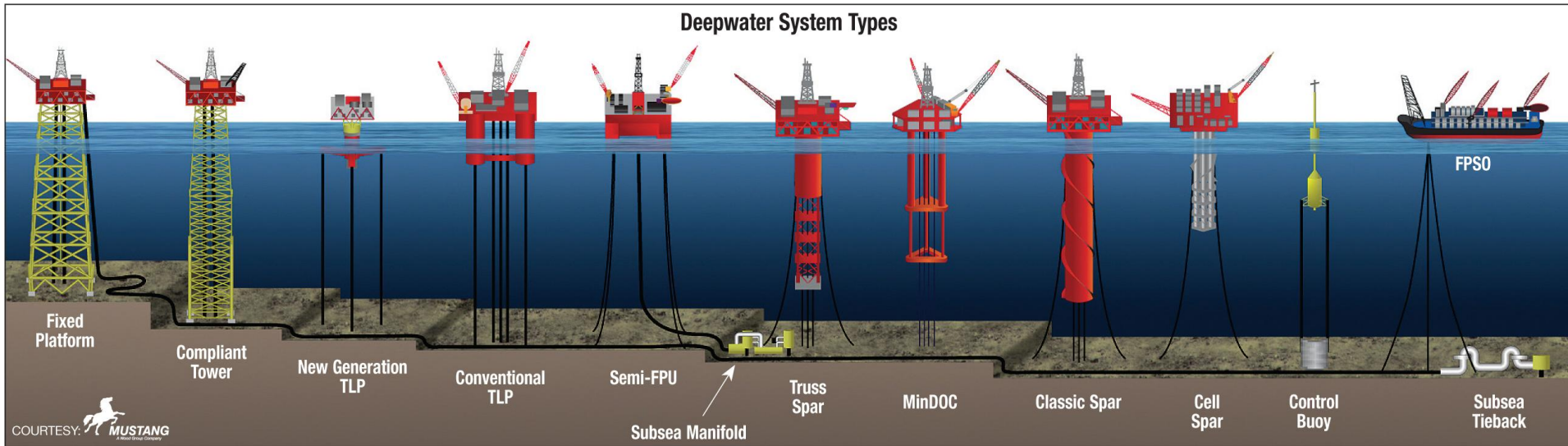


# An Overview of Offshore Concepts



## SPE Expanding Facilities Knowledge Workshop Session 1: Offshore Concepts Selection

*Presented by: Daryl B. Rapp*  
*Upstream Project Director*



# *An Overview of Offshore Concepts*

- Safety Minute
- Introduction
- Background Information
- Offshore Facility Descriptions
- Fabrication and Transport Considerations
- Installation Considerations
- Advantages/Disadvantages of Concepts
- Drivers for Selection
- Developing the “Right” Concept

- The offshore oil and gas industry is important to the United States.
- It can be a dangerous industry.
- As engineers and designers we have a huge impact on the safety of others and the environment.
- It is important to consider safety and the environment in our design and our decisions.



## **BP Macondo Well Incident Information:**

- 11 people died
- Transocean Deepwater Horizon Drillship sank
- According to the US government, between 12,000 and 25,000 BOPD and its associated gas have been released into the GOM.
- According to BP, the present cost of the response exceeds to \$1.3 billion, including the cost of spill response, containment, relief well drilling, grants to Gulf states, claims paid, federal costs, and Louisiana barrier islands construction project.
- Thousands of offshore workers will likely face unemployment due to the effects of placing a drilling moratorium. Support industries will also be affected.
- Harm to marine and wildlife is still being assessed.

**Typical incidents have to be avoided in the future.**

## **This presentation will cover:**

- An overview of offshore concepts
- Advantages and disadvantages of concepts
- Drivers for selection
- A proposed process to help in selection of the “right concept”

## **Offshore Industry Milestones:**

- 1947 – First offshore platform installed in 20 ft. of water
- 1984 – First TLP installed in 480 ft. of water
- 1988 – Bullwinkle Offshore Platform installed in 1,350 ft. of water
- 1997 – First Spar installed in 1,930 ft. of water
- 2007 – Independence Hub Semi installed in 7,918 ft. of water
- 2010 – Perdido Spar installed in 7,820 ft. of water

## **Oil Production in 2009:**

- Global Oil Production: 86.2 MMBOPD (International Energy Agency)
- Global Offshore Oil Production – 27.8 MMBOPD (Douglas Westwood)
- US Oil Production – 5.3 MMBOPD (Energy Information Administration)
- US Offshore Oil Production – 1.7 MMBOPD (Energy Information Administration)



# *Background Information*

## *Deep Water Definitions*

### MMS Definitions

**Shallow Water**  
**0 -1,000 feet**

**Deepwater**  
**1,000 – 5,000 feet**

**Ultra Deepwater**  
**5,000 – 10,000 feet**



**Tallest Land-Based Structure**  
**Burj Dubai – 2,864 feet**

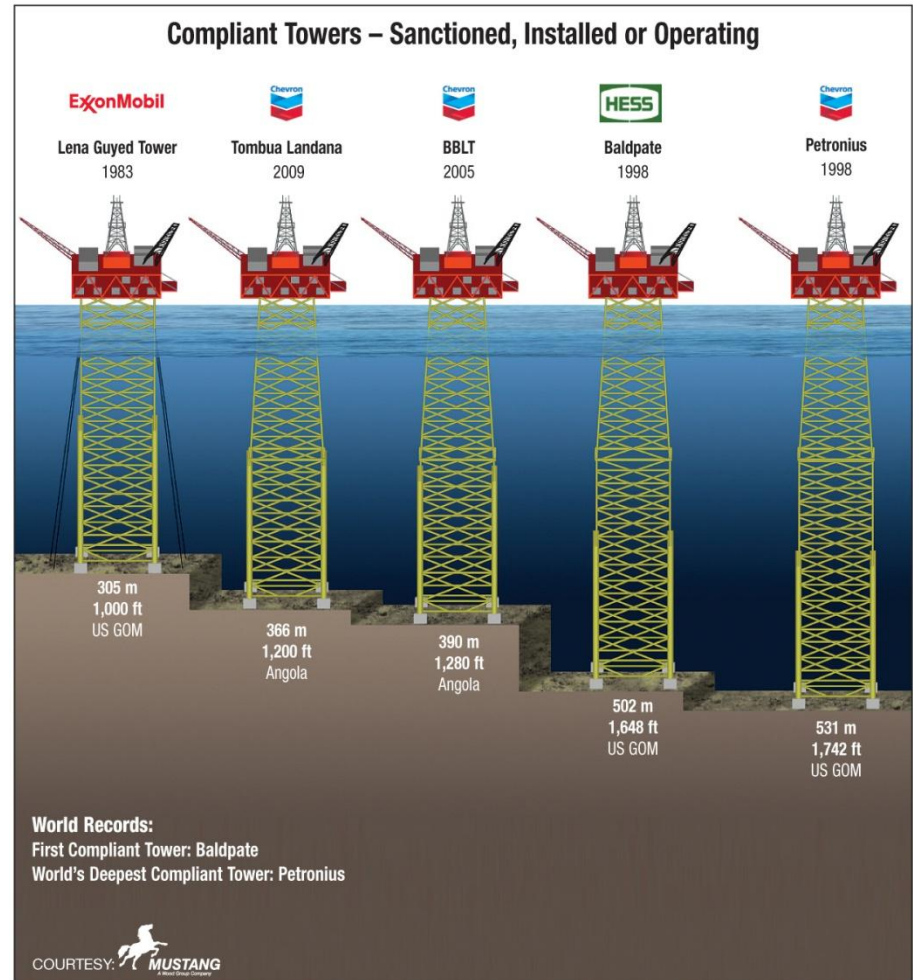


# Background Information

## Bottom Founded Platforms Installed



Hundreds of Platforms

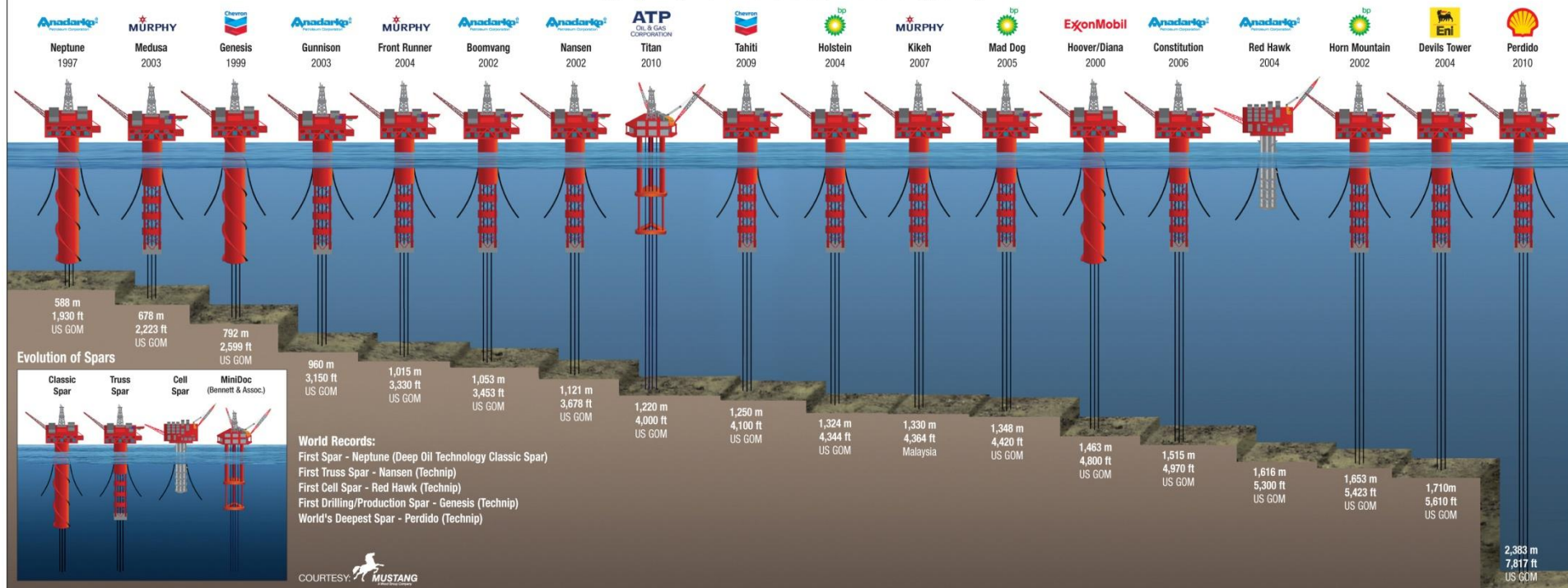


5 Compliant Towers

# Background Information

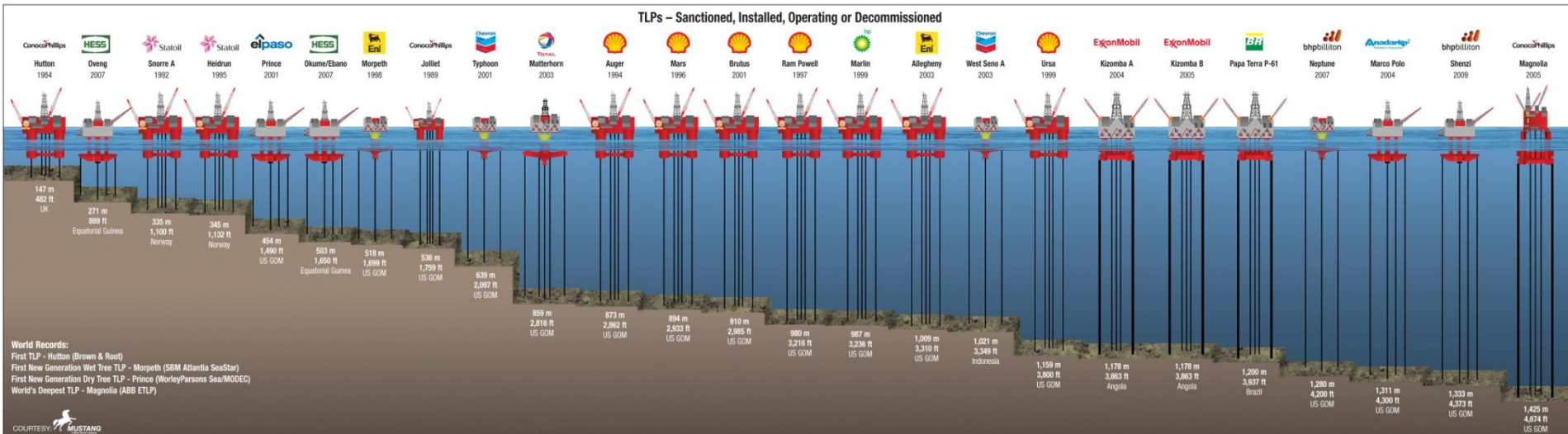
## Deepwater Floaters Installed

Spars, DDFs, DDCVs – Sanctioned, Installed or Operating



**18 Spar Facilities**

# Background Information Deepwater Floaters Installed

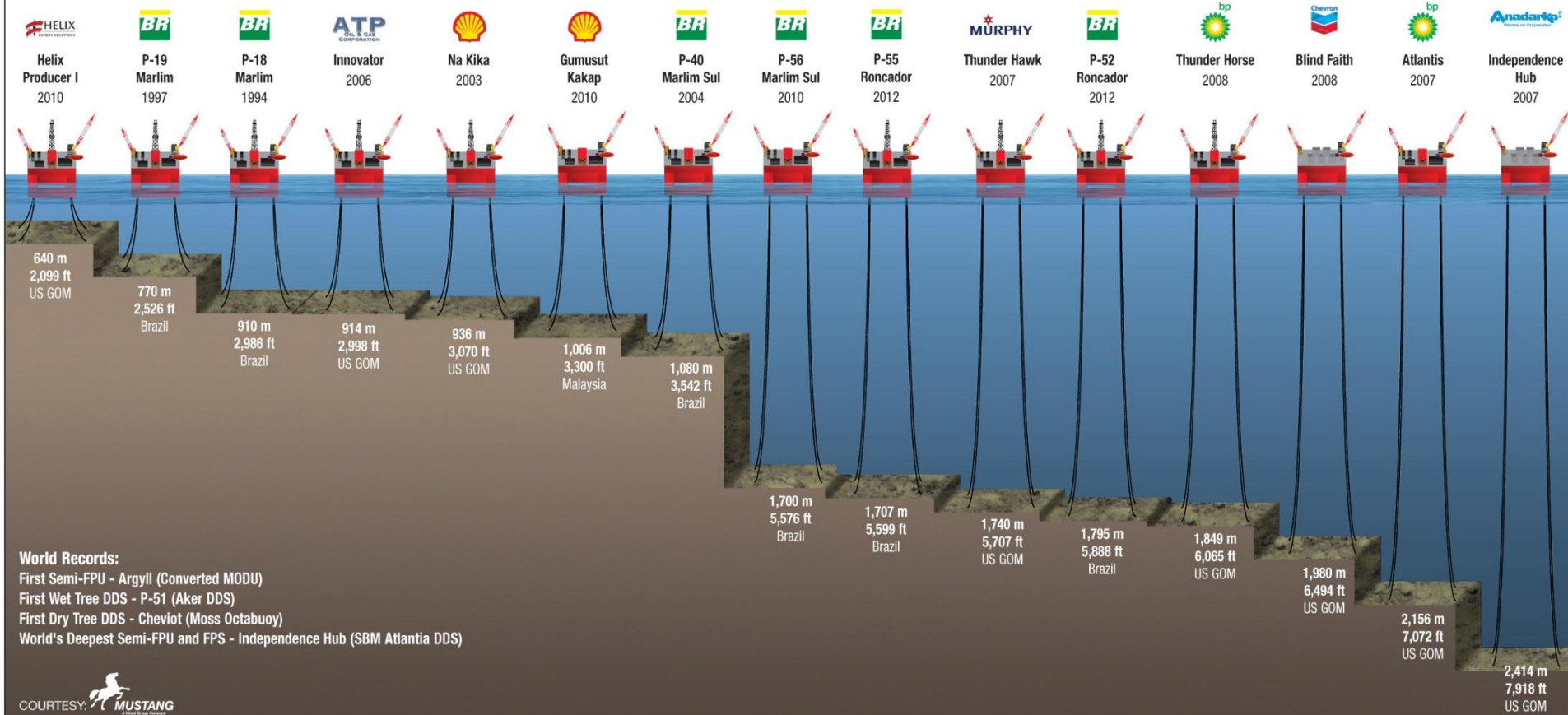


## 25 Tension Leg Platforms

# Background Information

## Deepwater Floaters Installed

### Semi-FPS/FPU – 15 Deepest Facilities Sanctioned, Installed or Operating



**39 Semi-FPS Facilities**

# Background Information

## Deepwater Floaters Installed

FPSOs – 15 Deepest Facilities Sanctioned, Installed or Operating



Note:  
1. Didon is currently the deepest installed and operating vessel in the world.

★ Denotes Current World Record for Water Depth of Operating Vessels.

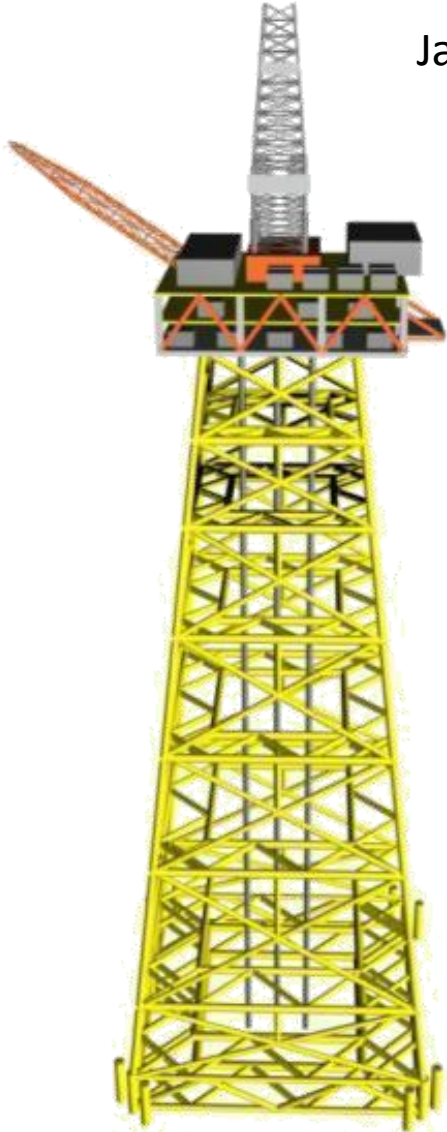
COURTESY: MUSTANG ENGINEERING

## 183 FPSO Vessels

# *Types of Facilities*

## *Bottom Founded Structures*

Jacket

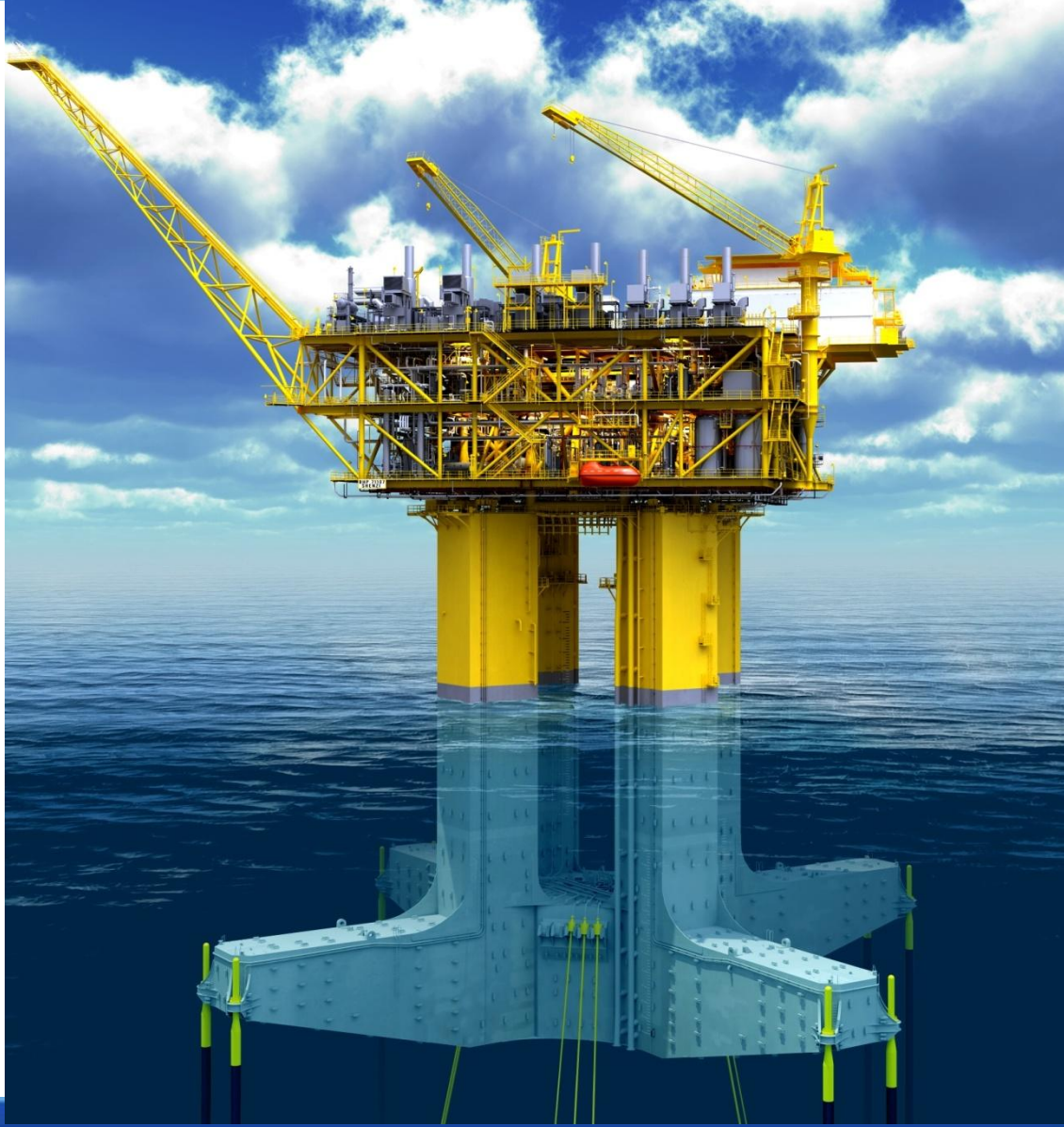


CPT



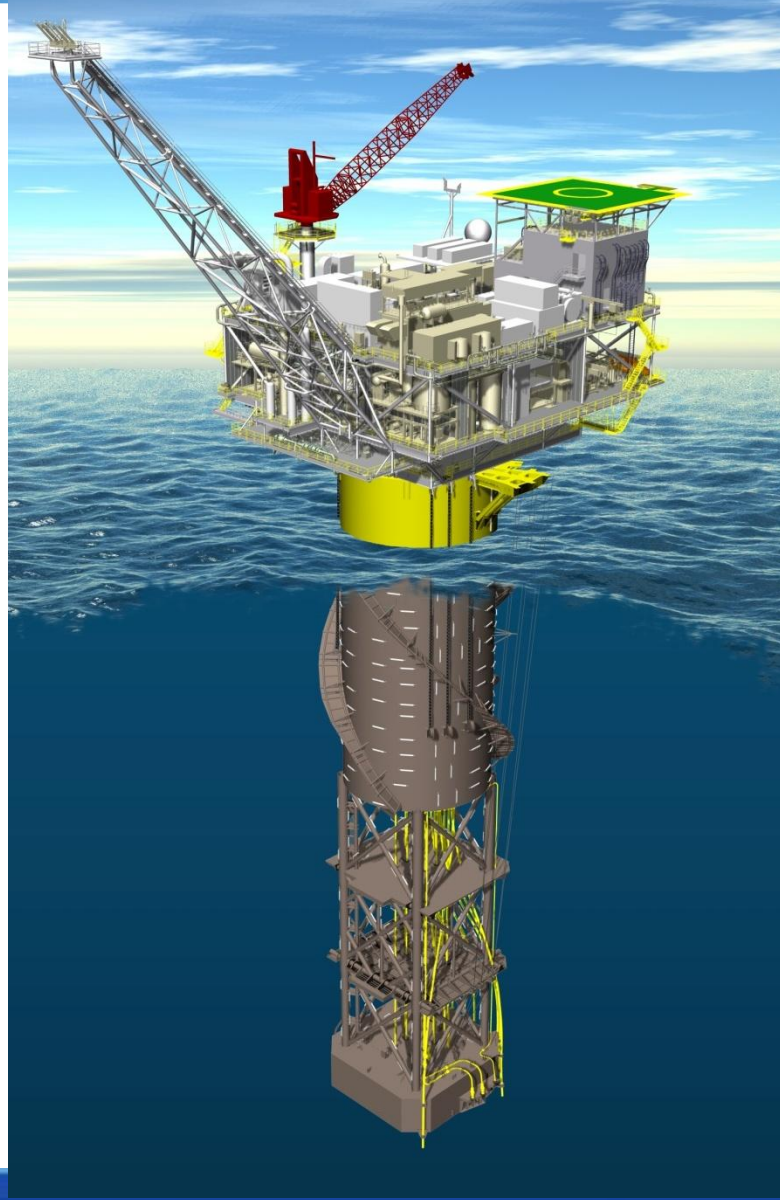
# *Types of Facilities*

## *Tension Leg Platforms*



# *Types of Facilities*

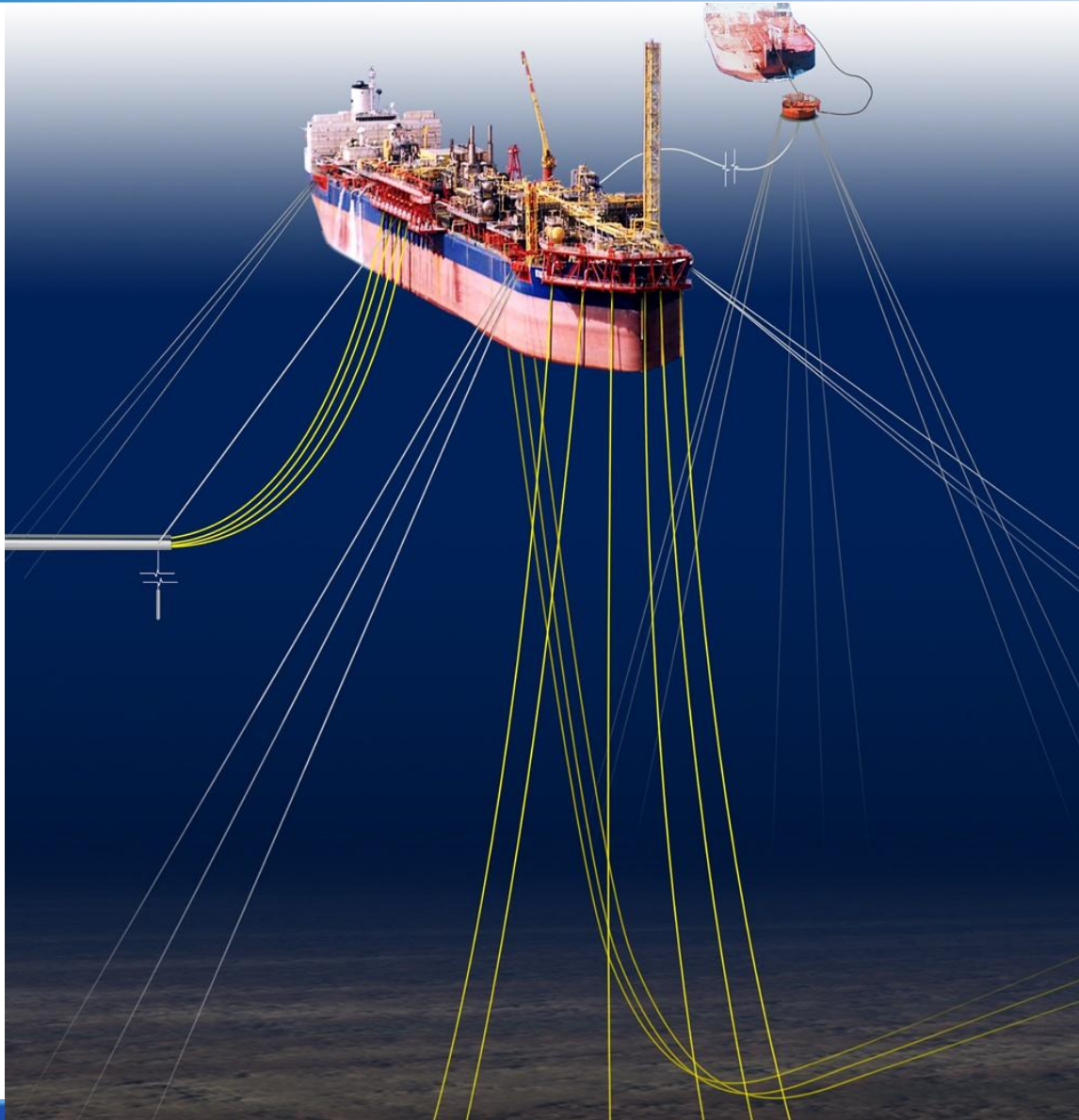
## *Spar*





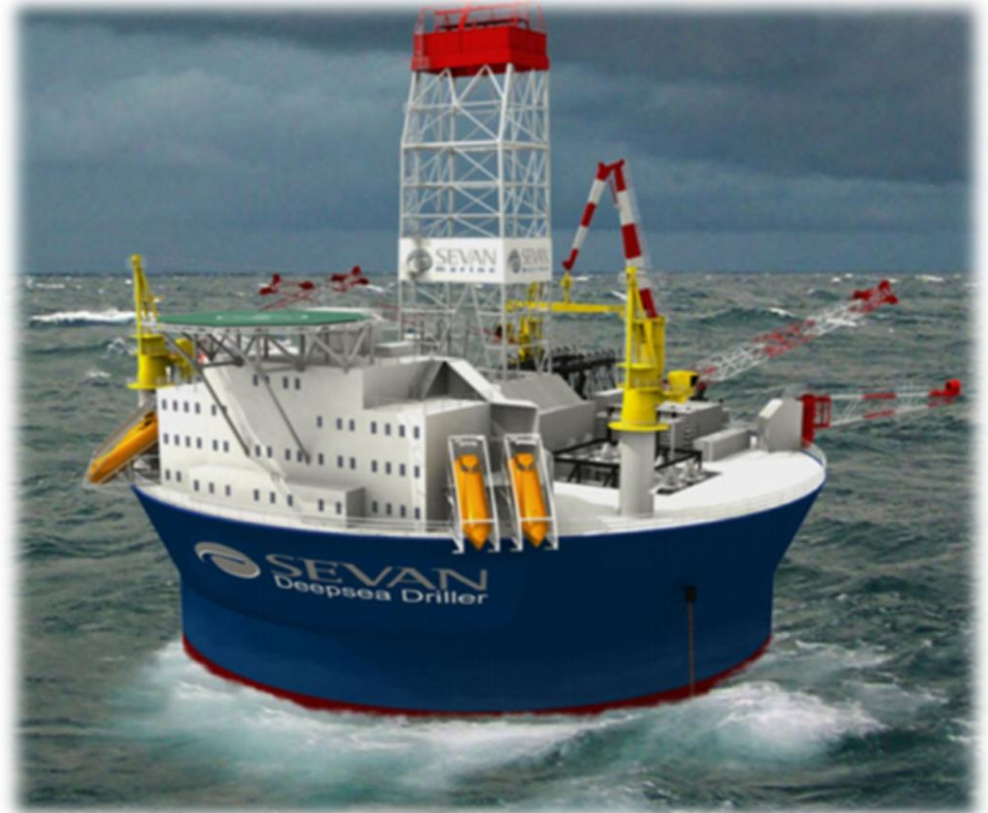
# *Types of Facilities* *Semi-Submersible*







**Min Doc**



**Circular FPSO**

# ***Fabrication and Transport Considerations***

- Where can the structure/hull and topsides be built?
- What is the largest size built?
- How can the structure be transported?
- Can integration be done at quayside?



# *Installation Considerations*

- Large Derrick Barge required?
- Launch barges required?
- Offshore hook-up required?
- Is the topsides a candidate for a floatover?



# *Advantages and Disadvantages Fixed Platform*

**Description:** Fixed Structural Jacket with Piles

## **Advantages:**

- Tallest structure exceeds 1,300 feet
- Can handle significant topsides weights
- Good motion characteristics
- Suitable for drilling/workover operations

## **Limitations:**

- Mating of jacket structures
- Weight increases as water depth increases
- Large Derrick Barge may be required
- May require considerable offshore hook-up



**Bullwinkle**  
*Gulf of Mexico*

# ***Advantages and Disadvantages Compliant Piled Towers (CPT)***

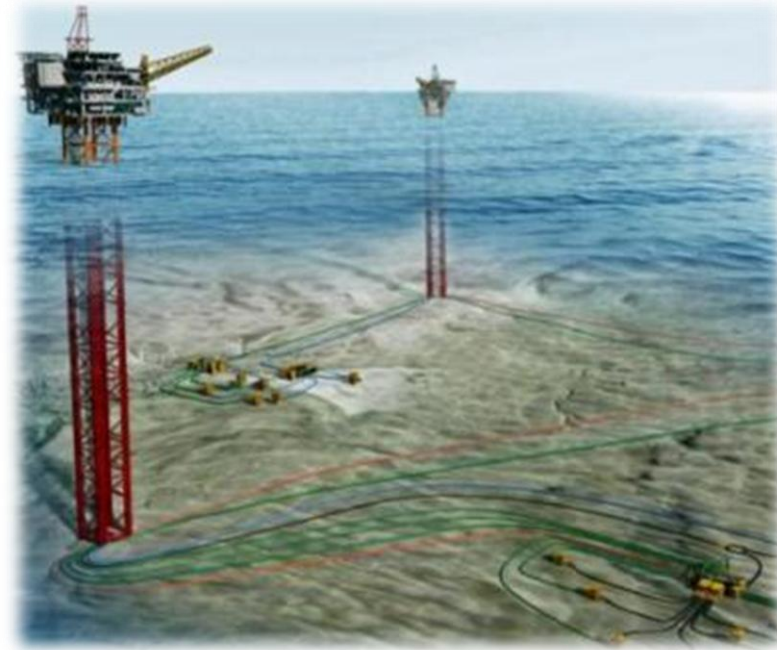
**Description:** Multi-Sectioned Tower with Piles

## **Advantages:**

- 1,200 to 2,500 feet water depth range
- Can handle significant topsides weights
- Good motion characteristics
- Suitable for drilling/workover operations
- Lighter than fixed jacket

## **Limitations:**

- Water depth dependent (< 3,000 feet)
- Weight increases as water depth increases
- Requires heavy lift Derrick Barge
- May require considerable offshore hook-up



**Benguela Belize and Tombua Landana**  
*Offshore West Africa*

# *Advantages and Disadvantages Tension Leg Platforms (TLP)*

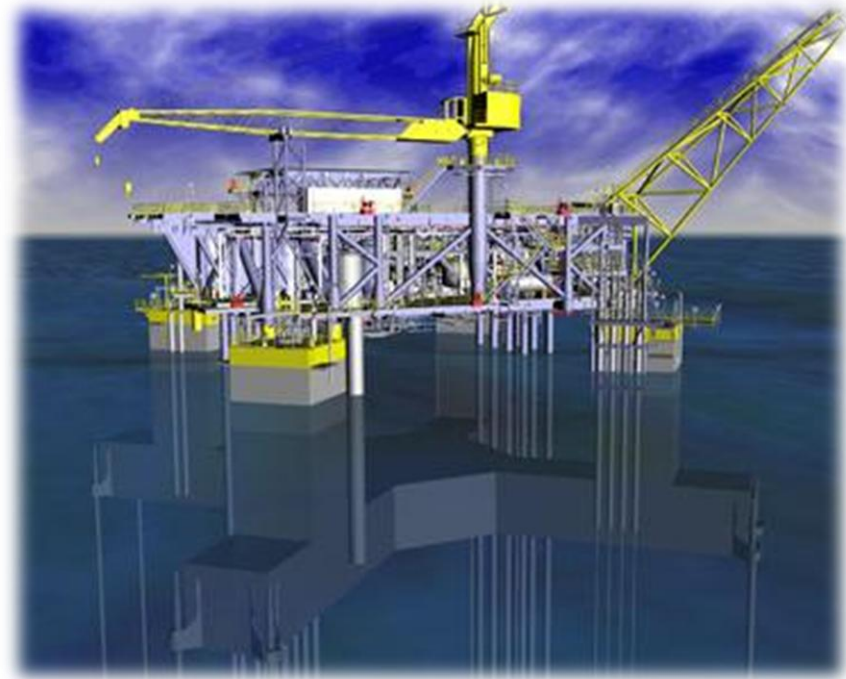
**Description:** Floating Hull form held in place by Steel Tendons

## **Advantages:**

- Can be installed in water depths up to 5,000 feet
- Can handle significant topsides weights
- Good motion characteristics
- Can support dry trees

## **Limitations:**

- Tendon diameter increases with water depth and may not be as competitive over 4,500 feet of water depth





# *Advantages and Disadvantages Semi Submersible (SEMI) or Deep Draft Semi*

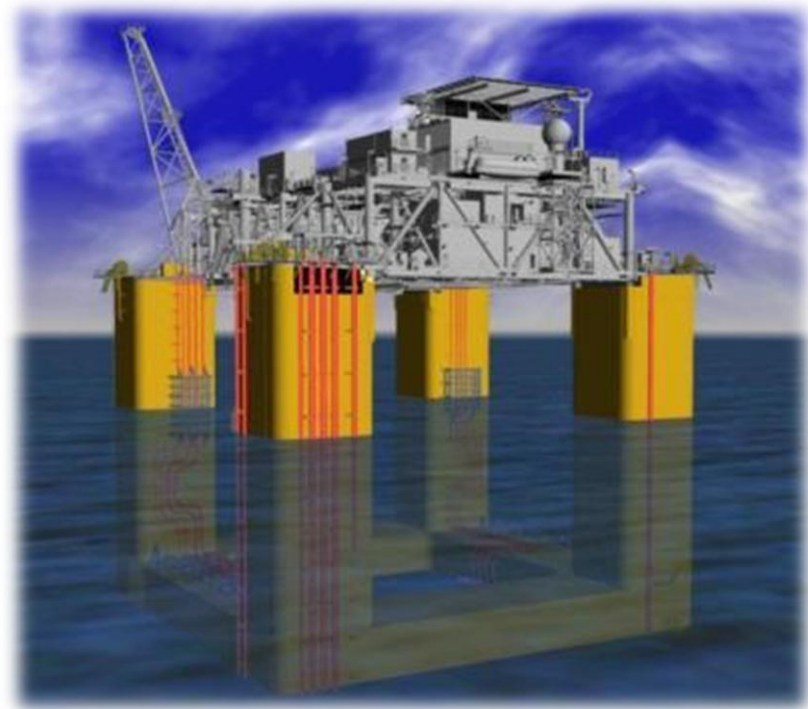
**Description:** Floating Hull form held in place by Steel or Polyester Moorings

## **Advantages:**

- Good choice for wide range of water depths – 1,000 to 9,000 feet
- Can handle significant topsides weights
- Good motion characteristics
- Deep Draft Semi is a good choice for Marginal Fields
- Good solution for wet trees

## **Limitations:**

- Hull motions in 5,000 feet or less could cause SCR fatigue issues
- Need to address motions if drilling operations are required



**Blind Faith**  
*Gulf of Mexico*

# *Advantages and Disadvantages Truss Spar or Cell Spar*

## **Description:**

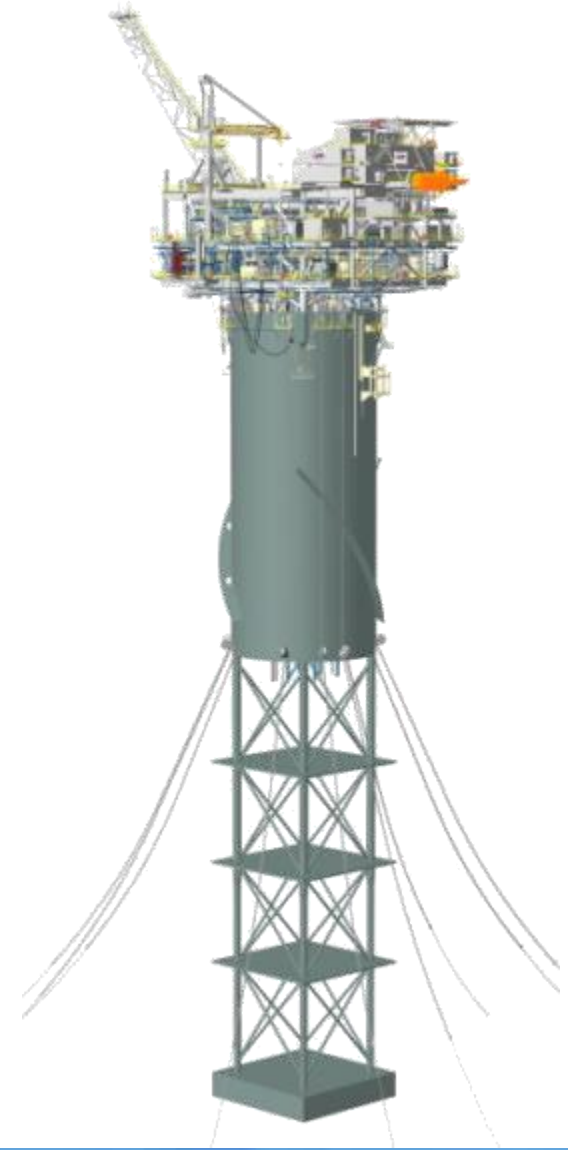
Floating Hull consisting of a single cylindrical construction at the top with steel truss sections at the bottom, or a Floating Hull consisting of multiple pipes or tubes. Both types of Spars can have steel or polyester moorings.

## **Advantages:**

- Good choice for a wide range of water depths – 1,000 to 9,000 feet
- Can handle significant topsides weights
- Very good floating characteristics
- Good for drilling/workover operations
- Design allows use of Air Cans to support dry tree risers

## **Limitations:**

- May be heavier than Semi's and TLPs depending on water depth
- Harder to install on site than Semi's and possibly TLPs depending on water depth





# *Key Technical Drivers for Selection*

- Water Depth and Metocean Criteria
- Riser Options/Facility Motions
- Reservoir Characteristics
- Flow Assurance
- Drill Center Locations
- Drilling Plan
- Dry or Wet Trees
- Field Layout
- Market Conditions
- Contracting Strategy
- Owner Familiarity/Biases
- Topsides Payload
- Installation Plan
- CAPEX and OPEX Costs
- Risk Issues and Mitigating Measures



# Fixed or Floating Platform Selection Issues

| Platform Configuration                       | Fixed Platform or CPT | TLP                   | Spar                  | Semisub            | FPSO               |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Water Depth (ft)                             | 0 – 2,500             | Up to 5,000           | No practical limit    | No practical limit | No practical limit |
| Trees  | Wet or Dry            | Wet or Dry            | Wet or Dry            | Wet                | Wet                |
| Drilling/Workover                            | Yes                   | Yes                   | Yes                   | Yes                | No                 |
| Storage                                      | No                    | No                    | No                    | No                 | Yes                |
| SCR  | No constraint         | No constraint         | No constraint         | Evaluate           | Evaluate           |
| TTRs   | No constraint         | No constraint         | No constraint         | No                 | No                 |
| Topside Integration                          | Offshore or floatover | Quayside or floatover | Offshore or floatover | Quayside           | Quayside           |
| Contracting Flexibility                      | Good                  | Good                  | Good                  | Better             | Best               |
| Hull/Structure Weight Sensitivity to Topside | Somewhat              | More                  | Somewhat              | Somewhat           | Least              |

# ***Dry Trees vs. Wet Trees Selection Issues***

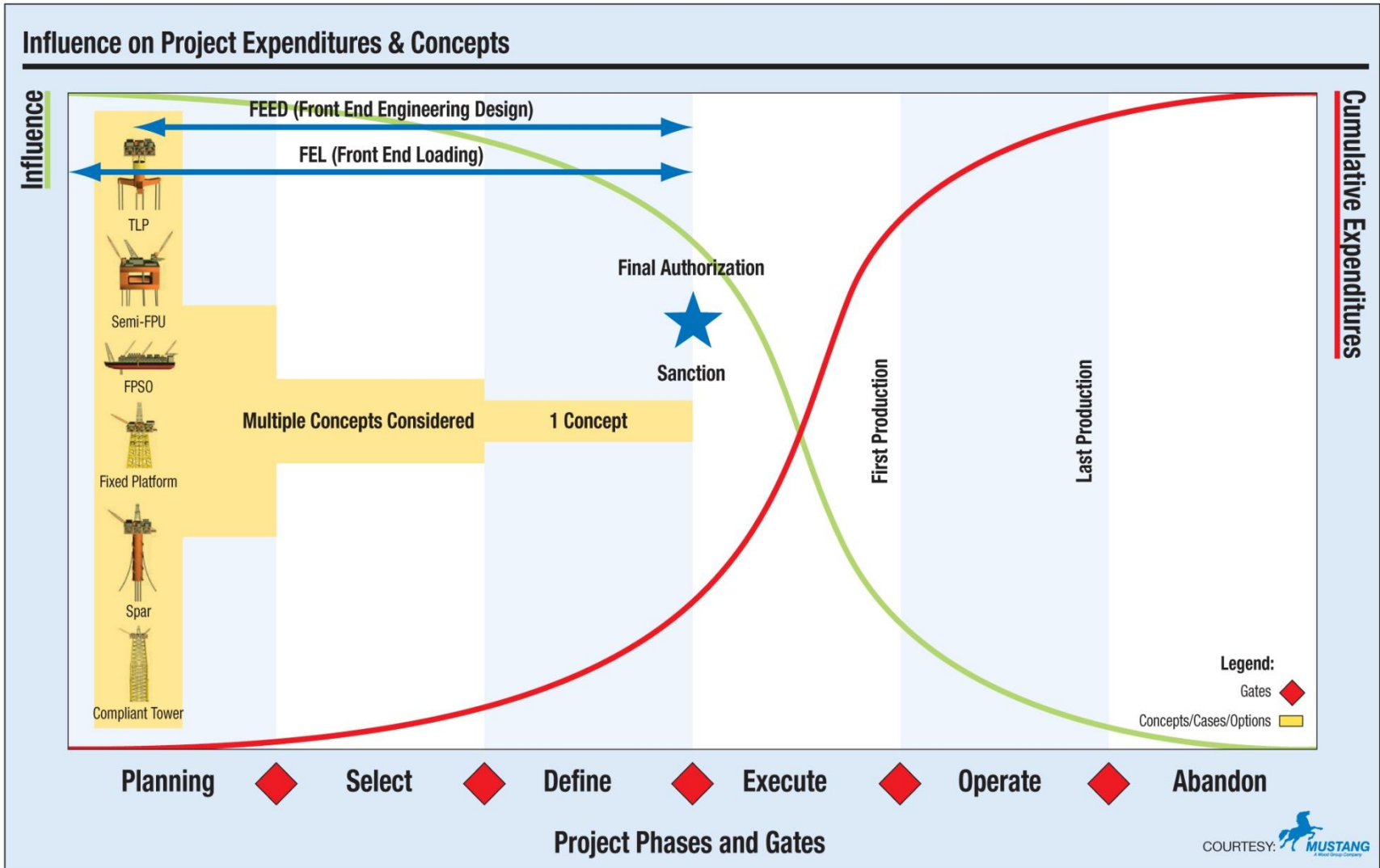
## **Wet Tree**

- Multiple drill centers
- Lower CAPEX, but potentially higher OPEX
- Minimize drilling costs and risks for large area extent reservoirs
- Minimize project schedule
- Maximize development plan flexibility
- Maximize project economics for small developments
- More complex flow assurance issues

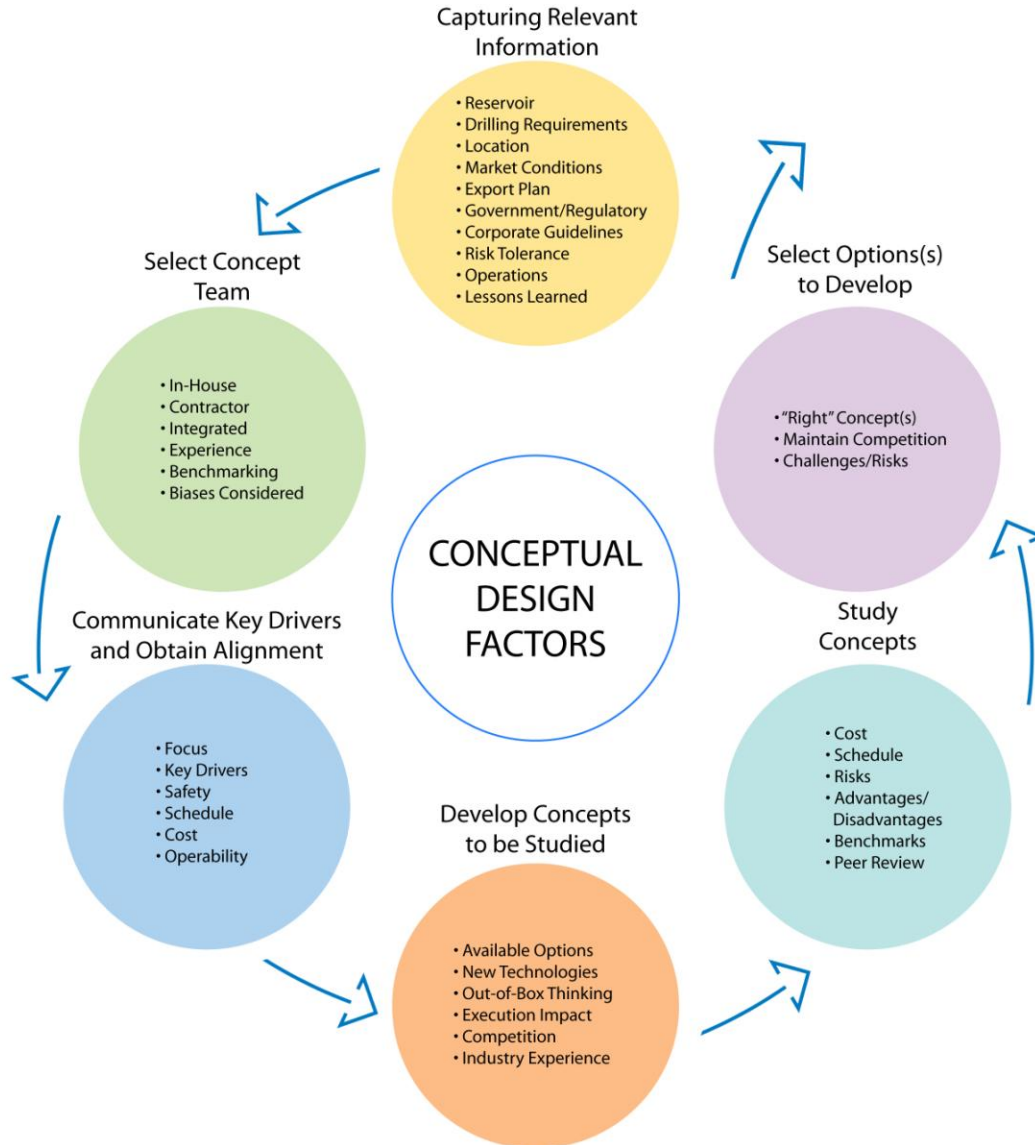
## **Dry Tree**

- Single drill center
- Lower OPEX and life-cycle costs for medium and large developments
- Simpler hardware
- Minimize well intervention costs and downtime
- Less flow assurance risk
- Potentially higher recovery

# Developing the Right Concept



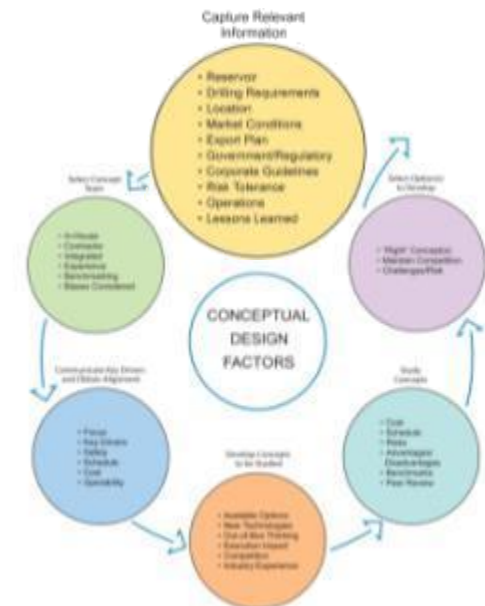
# Developing the Right Concept



# Developing the Right Concept

## Capture Relevant Information

- Reservoir
- Drilling Requirements
- Location
- Market Conditions
- Export Plan
- Government/Regulatory
- Corporate Guidelines
- Risk Tolerance
- Operations
- Lessons Learned

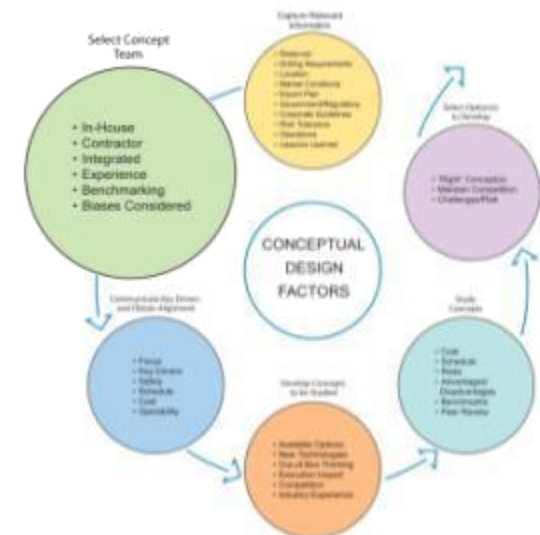




# Developing the Right Concept

## Select Concept Team

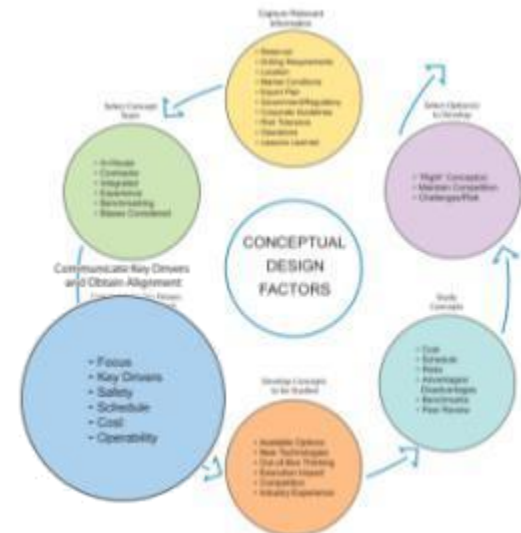
- In-House
- Contractor
- Integrated
- Experience
- Benchmarking
- Biases Considered



# Developing the Right Concept

## Communicate Key Drivers and Obtain Alignment

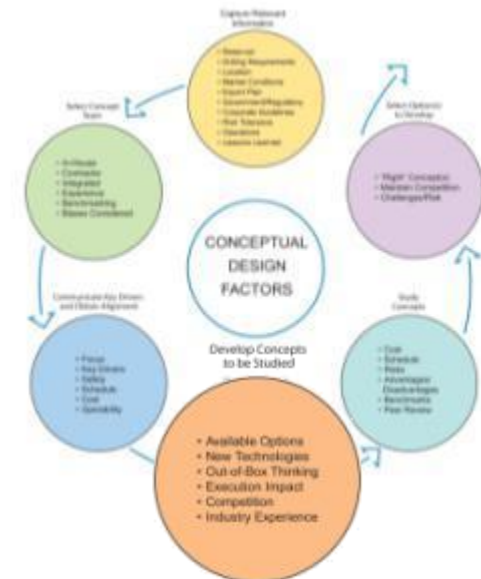
- Focus
- Key Drivers
- Safety
- Schedule
- Cost
- Operability



# Developing the Right Concept

## Develop Concepts to be Studied

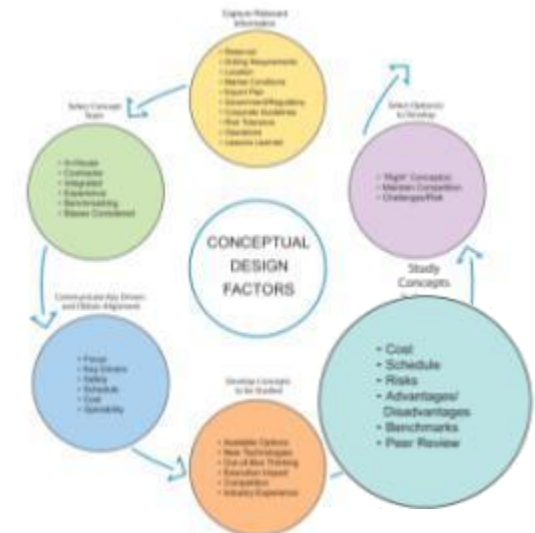
- Available Options
- New Technologies
- Out-of-Box Thinking
- Execution Impact
- Competition
- Industry Experience



# Developing the Right Concept

## Study Concepts

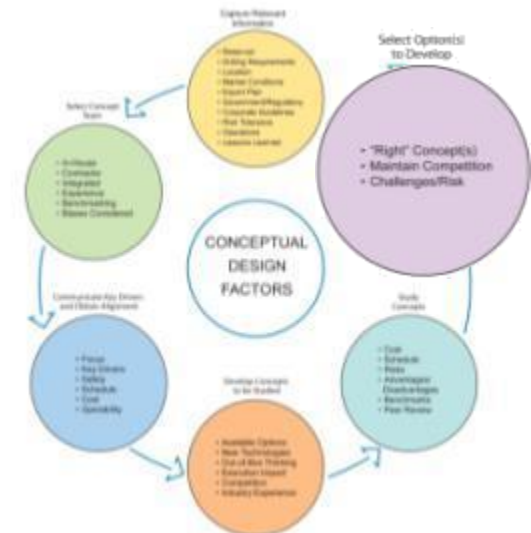
- Cost
- Schedule
- Risks
- Advantages/Disadvantages
- Benchmarks
- Peer Review



# Developing the Right Concept

## Select Option(s) to Develop

- “Right” Concept(s)
- Maintain Competition
- Challenges/Risk



## Selecting the Right Offshore Concept Involves:

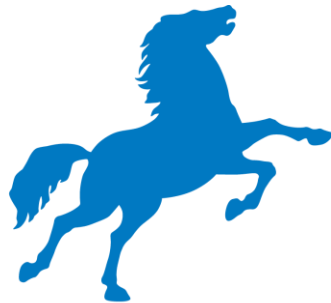
- Understanding the reservoir and key parameters for the field
- Understanding the possibilities
- Good communication and alignment between all parties
- Integrated and experienced team
- Following the process even though we may immediately select the “right concept”



*Questions?*

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*Thank you*



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