

Shell Utilise Jerome Mercury Analyser Offshore

ABLE is pleased to announce the order award for their Jerome Mercury Analyser for the Shell operated Clipper gas production platform.

The portable Jerome Analyser will be used during maintenance and engineering activities on the platform and associated satellite wellhead platforms in the Southern sector of the North Sea, approximately 62 km from Bacton.

During gas and oil extraction, a mixture of sand, silt & mud is also drawn from the well. This sludgy silt mud is rich in heavier metal elements including Uranium and Mercury. As mercury exists naturally in vapour form it is readily drawn along with the gas product.

As Mercury will evaporate and produce harmful vapours at relatively low temperatures, when a pressurised vessel that contains mercury droplets is depressurised, these vapours will start to be released. When breaking confinement, even though a thorough gas test has proved there is no flammable gas present, the vessel could still present a hazardous health risk from invisible mercury vapours.

With health and safety always in mind, Shell has purchased the Jerome mercury analyser to check for Mercury vapour when gas and liquid process lines on Clipper Gas Production platforms and associated



The Shell Clipper Gas Platform

satellite wellhead platforms are opened up. The Jerome analyser was recommended by Shell's HSE advisors and Occupational Health Departments. Also used are mercury badges for individual monitoring during shift work. Having the Jerome Analyser allows Shell to detect and monitor if mercury is present, and at what levels, in order to protect their staff.

During hydrocarbon breaching activities, spot tests for mercury will be carried out. If mercury is detected, then appropriate protection will be taken before continuation of work. Shell has generated specific work procedures and training for employees to ensure safe working practice.

The Jerome Analyser will be used in the typically harsh offshore climate. Mercury testing can be required inside the vessels, also many areas are open to the elements and access to some areas is awkward. The robustness and portability of the Jerome Analyser meets both requirements in this regard.

The range of Jerome® Mercury Analysers



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