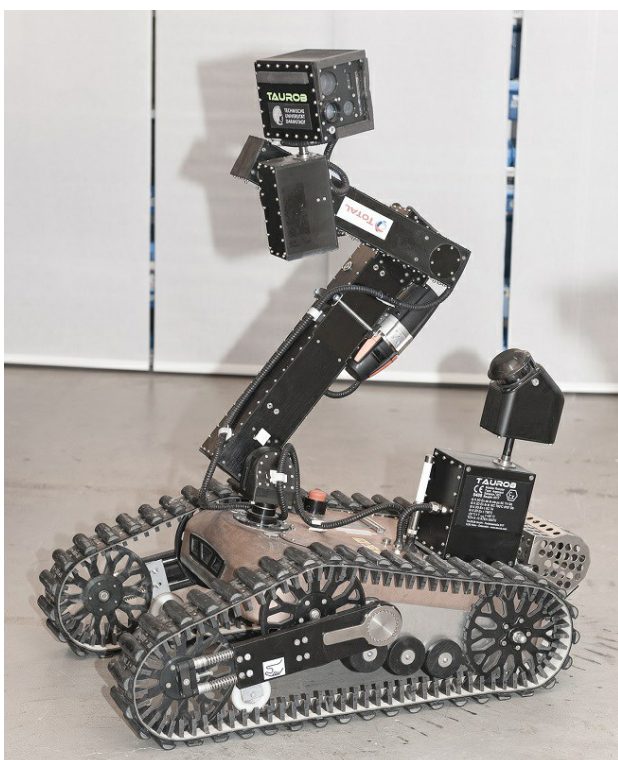


HOME » TOTAL AUTHORIZES TRIALS OF INSPECTION ROBOT ON NORTH SEA PLATFORM

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## Total authorizes trials of inspection robot on North Sea platform

04/03/2018



(Courtesy Oil & Gas Technology Centre)

Offshore staff



**ABERDEEN, UK** – An autonomous ground robot will be deployed for the first time for inspection purposes offshore on **Total's Alwyn platform** in the UK northern North Sea.

Under the 18-month project, the **Oil & Gas Technology Centre**, Total E&P, Austria's taurob and Germany's Technische Universitaet Darmstadt (TU Darmstadt) will develop the robot for trials both at Alwyn and onshore at Total's Shetland Gas Plant which receives production from the **Laggan-Tormore fields**.

TU Darmstadt and taurob collaborated to win Total's ARGOS (Autonomous Robots for Gas and Oil Sites) competition in 2017. This involved developing an autonomous robot that could perform routine tasks and respond to challenges in a simulated oil and gas operational environment.

The robot is ATEX-certified (certified to work in gas environments without risk of ignition), can perform visual inspections, read dials, level gauges and valve positions, navigate through narrow pathways and up/down stairs, measure temperature and gas concentration, and detect and navigate around obstacles and humans.

According to the Centre, the project will develop two further versions of the ARGOS robot that are more robust and reliable, provide improved functionality and can be operated by workers offshore without the need for onsite robotics specialists.

Jean-Michel Munoz, Next-Generation Conventationals Manager for Total, said: "Surface robotics has the potential to completely change the way we operate and design facilities in the future. Implementing this technology on our sites will bring benefits in terms of operation safety and cost optimization.

"This development of a fully autonomous robot for operator rounds and anomaly detection is the first step in implementing **robotics solutions** at industrial scale."

04/03/2018



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TGS has started the Erlend Wild West multi-client 3D seismic survey west of Shetland.

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Stena Drilling has contracted Damen Verolme Rotterdam for a refit of its semisubmersible drilling rig *Stena Don*.

### Lancaster moorings in place west of Shetland

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The turret mooring system for the FPSO *Aoka Mizu*, including a buoy newly constructed by Drydocks World, is now in place at the Lancaster field west of Shetland.

### Total transaction gives Aker BP tieback potential offshore Norway

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Aker BP has agreed to acquire Total's interests in 11 Norwegian offshore licenses for \$205 million, pending approval by the authorities.

### North Sea Liberator farm-in progressing

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i3 Energy remains in negotiations with a potential farm-in partner to the Liberator field development in the UK central North Sea.

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### Shearwater to acquire WesternGeco marine assets

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Shearwater GeoServices Holding and Schlumberger have entered a definitive agreement under which Shearwater will acquire the marine seismic acquisition assets and operations of Schlumberger subsidiary WesternGeco.

### South Pars FPSO resumes oil shipments

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Iranian Offshore Oil Co. has recovered its 19th crude oil consignment from the oil layer of the South Pars field in the Persian Gulf.

### FAR finalizes location for offshore The Gambia well

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FAR has selected its final well location for the Samo-1 well in block A2 offshore The Gambia, the first in the region for 40 years.

### Rouge Rock to take control of two offshore Australia permits

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Melbana Energy has agreed to sell its subsidiary Vulcan Exploration to Rouge Rock.

### Pipetech clears scale from Nexen platform in the North Sea

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Nexen has commissioned Pipetech to provide its Active Caisson Management service on the Scott platform in the UK central North Sea.

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