Successful wellhead clean-up and inspection campaign

Wellhead clean-ups and inspections can be carried out to gain an accurate overview of well conditions before undertaking the final abandonment planning phase.

Project Overview
Oceaneering was contracted by a North Sea operator to undertake the clean-up and inspection of six North Sea wells comprising one subsea well and five mudline wells. These wells, with spud dates ranging from 1978 through 1992, had documented histories of known issues and survey evidence of likely, but unknown, issues.

The project team planned and managed the complete operation, including vessel contracting, supply of all project tooling, and subject matter experts to oversee the cleaning and inspection work. The AHTS Island Vanguard, with its Oceaneering supplied Magnum work class ROV, was selected to undertake the offshore work. The client was also provided with online, live stream video links so that any areas of interest could be viewed real time.
The scopes of work included:

» As-found survey
» Debris recovery
» Net guard recovery
» Debris cap recovery
» External wellhead cleaning
» Internal wellhead cleaning
» Casing flushing to remove sediment infill (to top of cement or to access temporary abandonment caps)

» External video inspection
» Down hole video inspection
» Metrology including point of refusal tagging
» Verification of as-is installed equipment
» Identification of non-conformances
» Leak tracing
» Debris cap installation
» As-left survey
» Well report

The project was successfully completed within schedule and without health, safety, or environmental issues. It allowed the operator to start the final abandonment planning process with confidence and knowledge of the non-conformances relating to each well.

Subsequent to completing the clean-up and inspection scopes of work, the operator arranged for further remedial works to be carried out on several of the wells. Oceaneering completed this additional work scope during its 2016 Wellhead Removal Campaign.