Diverless Smart Clamp
Permanent pipeline repair solution

The diverless Smart Clamp is a split mechanical fitting used to repair a damaged or leaking subsea pipeline. The fitting eliminates costly pipeline shut downs and expensive hyperbaric welding associated with alternative repair methods. After installation, the Smart Clamp design provides a permanent, high-quality seal and structural reinforcement for the duration of the design life of the pipeline.

FEATURES

Available in structural and non-structural configurations
Provides pressure containment within the encapsulated area
Cost saving, effective repair method
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Our structural and non-structural configurations ensure we meet diverse permanent pipeline repair requirements. Typically, the non-structural version is used to repair a pipeline that is structurally sound and has only minor damage such as pinhole leaks, local pipe wall thinning, or shallow dents. The structural clamp uses a grip and bowl mechanism to provide structural integrity to more severely damaged pipelines with defects including cracked girth welds, kinks, or punctures.

Installation of the diverless smart clamp is achieved using hydraulic setting functions operated via an ROV panel with API 17D interfaces. The typical sequence involves:

» Lifting and supporting the damaged pipeline using a mechanical pipe lift frame
» ROV deployment and positioning of the clamp above the damaged section
» Opening the clamp via a hot stab using ROV pressurizing cylinders
» Lowering the clamp onto repair area with pipe saddle assistance
» Closing the clamp with ROV depressurization of the clamp via the hot stab
» Tightening of the body studs using the ROV and modified hydraulic torque wrench
» ROV intervention via second hydraulic coupling to simultaneously pressurize actuator flanges and set grip and seal mechanisms
» Completion of ROV annulus testing to verify sealing integrity of the clamp

Design Parameters

Nominal pipe size (NPS): Any API Specification 5L pipe and wall thickness

Service: Standard (i.e. crude oil, natural gas, hydrocarbons, water, or chemical injection, etc.) and sour (i.e. hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, etc.)

Design pressure rating: up to ANSI Class 2500

Hydrostatic test pressure (minimum): 1.5 x design pressure rating rounded up to nearest 25 psig

Hydrostatic test duration (minimum): 4 hrs

Design temperature range: 25ºF to 250ºF / -4ºC to 121ºC

Water depth (maximum): 10,000 fsw / 3,048 msw

Design life: 25 years

Length between tension grips: The greater of 12 in or nominal pipe diameter

Internal diameter at center of clamp: Design standard is pipe outside diameter +1.625 in

Hydraulic cylinder pressure (maximum): 2,500 psi (172 bar)

Hydraulic actuator flange pressure (maximum): 10,000 psi (690 bar)

Material Specifications (Primary Components)

Body, actuator flanges, and pusher rings: ASTM A105 forging

Load ring and ratchets: AISI 630 (17-4 PH), hardened

Tension bowl and grips: AISI 4140 hardened, electroless nickel plated

Compression rings and structural attachments: carbon steel

Seal extrusion guards: 316 stainless steel

Elastomeric circumferential and longitudinal seals: Viton-B, 70/80 durometer

Screws and studs: ASTM A193 Gr. B7, all Sermagard® coated for low friction and corrosion protection

Anode(s): Galvalum III

Internal coating (ferrous components): Phosphate and oil

External coating: Carboline® 890 epoxy paint system, safety yellow color