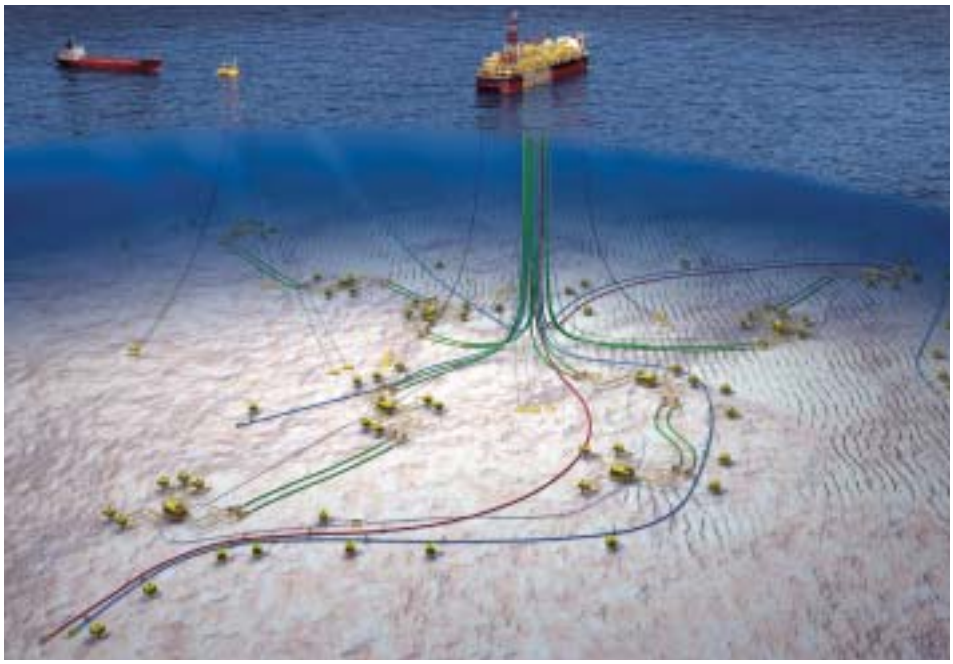
The biggest contract won by AMEC SPIE Oil & Gas Services in 2005 is a particularly remarkable reference for the company: its first contract on an FPSO, its first contract in Angola, and its first contract to include inspection work.

AMEC SPIE Oil & Gas Services

Dalia FPSO: a prestigious reference



The Dalia field, operated by Total E&P Angola, is located offshore from Angola at depths of between 1,200 and 1,500 metres. The FPSO, moored in water 1,300 metres deep, will produce 240,000 barrels of crude per day. It will have a liquid processing capacity of 400,000 barrels a day and a storage capacity of 2 million barrels.

In October, Total E&P Angola awarded AMEC SPIE Oil & Gas Services the Dalia FPSO* Maintenance & Inspection contract for a term of five years, worth $5.3 million a year. Construction of the FPSO is currently being completed in South Korea and, at the end of February, it will set out for Angola where it is scheduled to arrive at the end of May. *"Our contract is divided into two phases,"* explains Didier Gamarde, head of Maintenance Africa. *"During the first, called the "project" phase, operating units from AMEC SPIE Oil & Gas Services participate in the commissioning of installations and perform equipment maintenance. This phase also comprises a design section, as we received and checked the information prepared by the successful bidder for the Maintenance and Inspection Engineering contract. A training plan for Angolan personnel is also scheduled for this phase. About 50 young Angola technicians have been selected and recruited, and are now being trained in oil industry maintenance skills. The second phase, which is the "operational" phase, will commence with the integration of the Maintenance & Inspection teams as soon as the FPSO reaches Angola and will include its entry into industrial service."*

Conditions of success

The contract was awarded on the strength of decisive factors which will constitute guidelines for the project's success in the years ahead: development of a carefully structured Health, Safety and Environment plan, strict compliance with Total's rules and procedures, high-quality reporting and the integrity of installations. *"The long-term purpose of recruiting and thoroughly training Angola technicians is that the project should be 90% nationalised within five years,"* adds Didier Gamarde.

*FPSO: Floating Production, Storage & Offloading vessel

The Dalia FPSO during construction in South Korea. This floater is 300 metres long and 63 metres wide and its living quarters will accommodate 120 beds.