

# Case Study

**Client:** BG Group  
**Facility:** Armada Production Platform  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Scope:** Metering Control System Replacement



## Overview

Having recognised the potential support issues and pending obsolescence, the Armada operation group sought approval for replacement of their combined export gas and export condensate metering control system. Funding for this work was secured early in 2005. From the initial evaluation of requirement it was decided that a complete panel replacement was the best option, however this exercise would have to be carried out during a shutdown phase. Perusal of the schedules revealed that the next proposed platform shutdown was summer 2005, with no further planned shutdowns until around 2008.



## Location

Prior to securing funding the Armada operations group had completed a detailed evaluation of prospective supplier and solutions. From this evaluation the SGC MeterNet solution was selected as the preferred option. This option was chosen for two main reasons; it utilised the forefront of technology and it was easily upgraded or expanded. The expansion aspect was of particular interest as the role of Armada was set to change from a stand-alone installation to a central hub for an array of surrounding subsea developments.

After securing funding Tim Shepherd of BG made an immediate appointment to visit SGC. At this meeting the challenge was set; provide a replacement system for Armada, including a new panel, within 12 weeks, ready for the summer shutdown. This challenge was accepted by SGC, however the challenge was further qualified. No order would be placed until after a detailed Functional Design Specification was produced and accepted. Confident in their ability, SGC confirmed their acceptance of the conditions and began work on the system design.



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## The System

The MeterNet system provided for Armada was housed in a three-bay panel. The centre bay contained the Meteor and Integrator computers while the outer bays accepted the field interfaces and contained the MeterNet I/O systems. In addition to the panel a customised operation desk was supplied for location in front of the panel. The system HMI was desk mounted to provide an ergonomic system interface.

The FDS was produced and accepted in record time; and within a few weeks of the first meeting, manufacture was underway. Both BG and SGC kept continual focus on the schedule and close cooperation between the two companies saw completion, acceptance and delivery of the system by the target dates.

Tim Shepherd of BG Group said; "SGC have done an astounding job! They are to be highly commended on the quality of their work; design documents, manufacture, testing, even installation and commissioning was carried out in a very professional manner. Producing a system like Armada within the allotted time was not a easy task; but SGC did it; and did well; with no compromise on quality."

Stephen Gillespie said; "We are proud of our achievements in producing Armada within schedule and in accordance with BG requirements and expectations ..... but the goal would have been unattainable without the cooperation of BG. SGC and BG worked as a team and provided a system that we are both proud of."



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