

# PRESS RELEASE

Friday, 22 March 2019

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## **“Pioneering Spirit” sets new offshore lift record during Johan Sverdrup topsides installation campaign**

Allseas’ record-breaking heavy lift vessel “Pioneering Spirit” has successfully executed the single-lift installation of the processing platform (P1) and utility living quarters (LQ) topsides, with a combined weight of 44,000 t, in the Johan Sverdrup field, offshore Norway.

From the start of the 26,000-t P1 lifting operation on Tuesday morning until the 18,000-t LQ topsides had been lifted into place early Friday morning, it took less than 3 days.

Installation of the P1 topsides is the heaviest single-lift ever executed offshore.

On Saturday 16 March, the processing topsides joined Pioneering Spirit in Digernessundet, near Stord, where the 72 m high, 139 m long structure was transferred from a barge to Pioneering Spirit. After waiting out bad weather for 36 hours, the vessel commenced the 11-hour sail to the Johan Sverdrup field, located on the Norwegian Continental Shelf, 160 km west of Stavanger.

After final checks and preparations, Pioneering Spirit moved in around the jacket and its motion-compensated lifting beams set down the topsides. The actual installation operation took only 4 hours.

Pioneering Spirit arrived in Bømlafjorden, near Stord, 12 hours later to collect the utility topsides. In a repeat of the first operation, the 65 m high, 105 m long structure was transferred from a cargo barge to Pioneering Spirit for transport to the field. The second installation took only 3.5 hours.

Pioneering Spirit has installed three of the four platform topsides for phase one of the Johan Sverdrup development. In June 2018, the vessel successfully installed the 22,000 t drilling platform (DP) topsides. In 2022 the vessel will return to the field to install a second processing platform (P2) topsides, weighing 27,000 t, for phase two of the Johan Sverdrup development.

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Photos and videos of the Johan Sverdrup P1 and LQ topsides installations can be downloaded via this link: <https://allseas-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/p/jha/EhC6B6VslDxGnG6uezvT8w0B-iBhvWQzQ7TTXzCvf8OW5g?e=G9og1Q>

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## Factsheet

### Allseas

Swiss-based Allseas Group S.A. is a world-leading contractor in offshore pipeline installation, heavy lift and subsea construction. Founded by Edward Heerema in 1985, the company employs over 4000 people and operates worldwide with a fleet of specialised heavy-lift, pipelay and support vessels, designed and developed in-house.

### "Pioneering Spirit"

"Pioneering Spirit" is the world's largest construction vessel, designed for the single-lift installation and removal of large oil and gas platforms and the installation of record-weight pipelines. The vessel has a topsides lift capacity of 48,000 t and jacket lift capacity of 20,000 t.

The twin-hulled, 382 m long, 124 m wide vessel was designed in-house, and built in South Korea by Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering (2011–2014) at a cost of €2.6 billion (US\$3 billion).

"Pioneering Spirit" commenced offshore operations in August 2016 with removal of the 13,500 t Yme mobile production platform from Norwegian waters.

The vessel redefined heavy lifting in April 2017 with the single-lift removal of Shell's iconic 24,000 t Brent Delta topsides from the North Sea.

In June 2018, "Pioneering Spirit" installed the 22,000 t drilling platform (DP) topsides for Equinor's Johan Sverdrup development – the fastest-ever installation of a large, fully completed topsides and the heaviest offshore single-lift installation to date.

Also built to lay record-weight pipelines in all water depths, "Pioneering Spirit" has an S-lay tension capacity of 2000 t, thereby surpassing Allseas' own "Solitaire" as the world's largest pipelay vessel. Between June 2017 and November 2018, "Pioneering Spirit" installed more than 1800 km of 32-inch diameter pipeline for the TurkStream project in the Black Sea, where depths reach 2200 m. Never before has such large diameter pipe been laid at such great depth.

In December 2018, the vessel commenced work on the Nord Stream 2 pipeline in the Baltic Sea.

### What is next

After the installation of the Johan Sverdrup processing platform (P1) and utility living quarters (ULQ) topsides, "Pioneering Spirit" will return to the Baltic Sea to resume construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

Later in 2019, the vessel will temporarily demobilise from Nord Stream 2 for a second North Sea lifting campaign: removal, transfer and load-in to shore of the 24,000 t Brent Bravo topsides for Shell, and the 3400 t Valhall accommodation topsides (QP) and connecting bridge for AkerBP.

## Dimensions

|  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Length overall (incl. stinger and lifting beams) | : | 477 m                               |
| Length   | : | 382 m                               |
| Width  | : | 124 m                               |
| Bow slot length                                  | : | 122 m                               |
| Bow slot width                                   | : | 59 m                                |
| Operating draught                                | : | 10-27 m                             |
| Installed power                                  | : | 95,000 kW                           |
| Maximum speed                                    | : | 14 knots                            |
| Accommodation                                    | : | 571 persons                         |
| Topsides lift capacity                           | : | 48,000 t                            |
| Jacket lift capacity                             | : | 20,000 t                            |
| Pipelay tension capacity                         | : | 2000 t                              |
| Displacement                                     | : | ~1,000,000 t at full draught (27 m) |

For more information about Allseas and "Pioneering Spirit", visit [www.allseas.com](http://www.allseas.com).