

Darren Fennell, ABB High Voltage Cables 2015-10-21

# ABB High Voltage Cables Effective Installation of Cable Systems Challenges and Lowering of Risk

# Installation Challenges and Lowering of Risk

## Agenda

1. Marine Surveys & Unexploded Ordnance
2. Burial Assessment & Burial Tool Selection
3. Route Engineering
4. MetOcean Analysis
5. Installation Engineering
6. DC Cables - Bundled versus Separate Lay

# Installation Organization

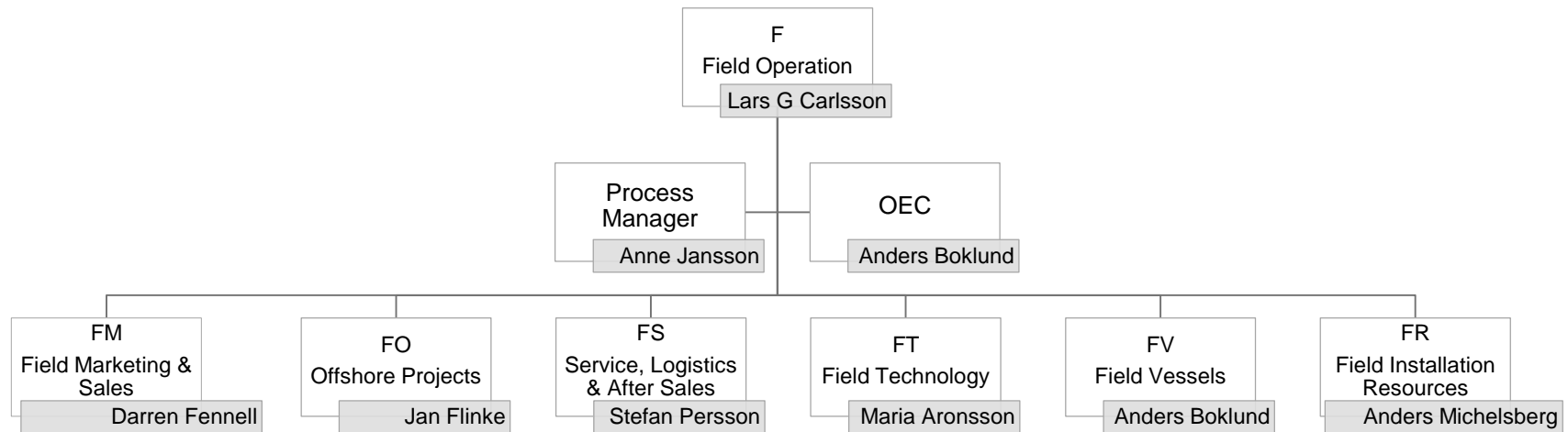
## Installation Portfolio

Complete Installation portfolio for all focus areas			
			
Offshore Wind Farms	Offshore Oil & Gas	Undergrounding	Interconnectors
<b>ABB</b> Project management Risk management Onshore & Offshore Engineering *Cable laying *Trenching equipment Vessel management Supervision Erection and jointing Testing after installation Fault location if a damage occur Repair of cable faults Turn-key responsibility		<b>Subcontracting</b> Route clearance *Cable laying Rock dumping Dredging Survey Guard vessels *Trenching equipment	

\*Dependent on suitability for Project – Case by Case Basis

# Installation Organization

## High Voltage Cables Installation Structure



# Installation Assets

## ABB Cable Lay Vessel (CLV)



- DP-Class III
- 2 Turntables
- 1 or 2 WROV (As required)
- Helideck supporting Sikorsky S92
- 2 Nr Cranes - 25T & 10T
- Insignificant dynamic load on cable
- Large weather window



# Installation Assets

## ABB Cable Lay Vessel (CLV) – Topaz Installer



- DP-Class II
- 1 Turntable (3300 -3600 mT)
- 1 WROV
- Crane 35mT
  - Heave Compensated
- Cable laying speed ~ 500-600 m/h

# Installation Assets

## ABB Trenching Tool– OJ200



- Tool based on existing tools - Proven Design
- Jet Sledge - Developed by ETA
- Simultaneous Laying and Trenching
- Capable of burial depth up to 3m
- Equipped with depressor

# Installation Assets

## Trenching – Canyon Frame Agreement



### Frame agreement with Canyon

- → Secured availability for ABB
- Supported by new built DP III vessel Grand Canyon

### T1200 & T1500

- New built state of the art jet-trenching system
- Cable burial up to 3m
- Simultaneous laying and trenching or post-lay trenching



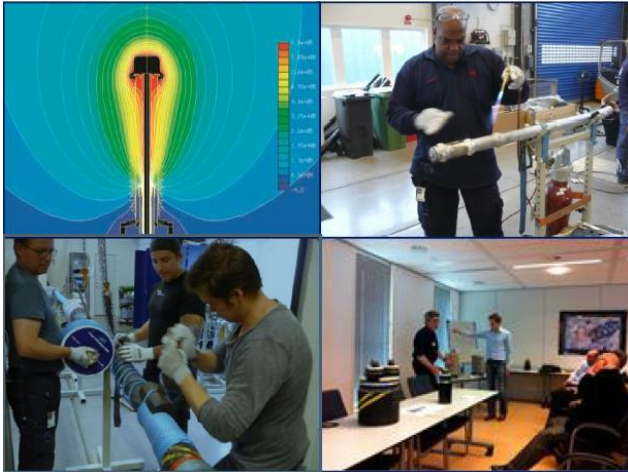
### I-trencher

- Rock cutter trencher
- Can cut up to 2m deep trenches
- Pre-lay trenching or post-lay trenching



# Installation Assets

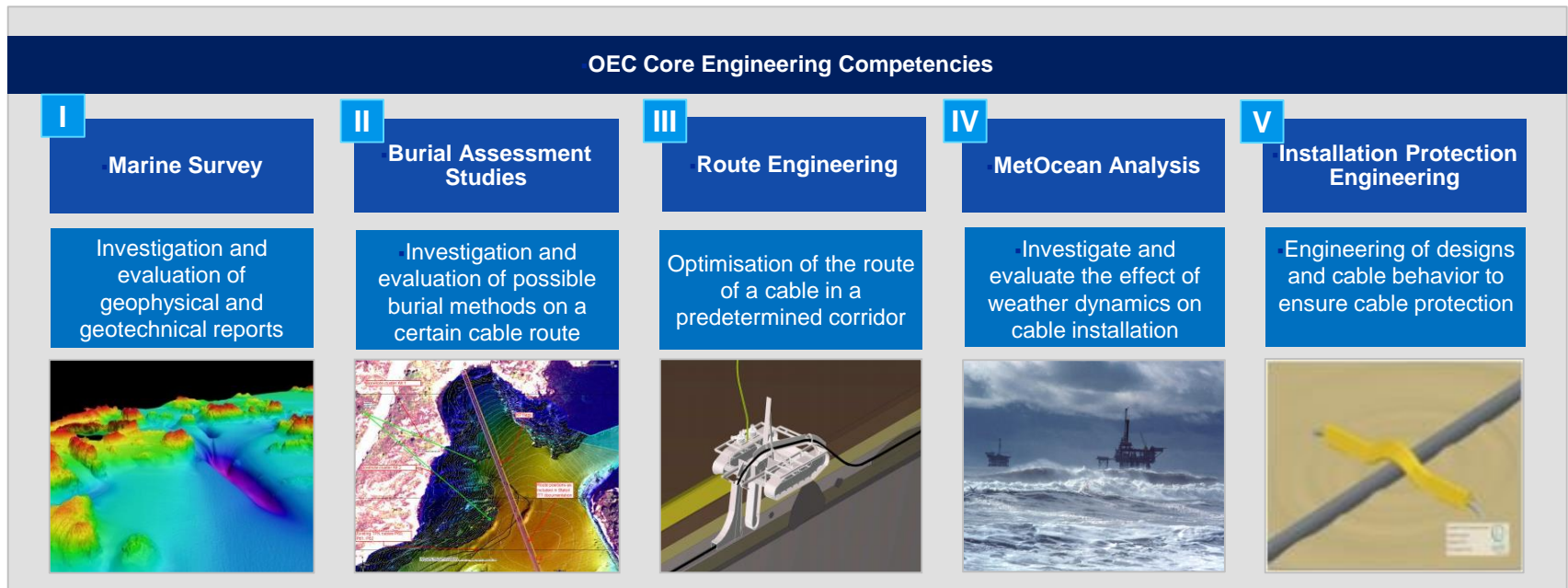
## ABB Training Center



### Training & Development of Employees

- Training, theoretical & practical
- Method development
- Tools development
- Test assembling of new accessories
- WPS, Welding Procedure Specifications
- Instructions
- Offshore Competence Group

# Offshore Engineering Centre (OEC) Engineering Competencies



- Focused on risk reduction management, in particular:
  - Project Planning
  - Execution Preparation
- Bringing together the main engineering components for offshore cable installation
- Founded in January 2012 in Rotterdam

# 1. Marine Survey

## Assessment of Client survey information



<b>ABB</b>		ABB Specification		Document part:	
Project:	2013-03-08	Project:	2013-03-08	Long:	1 (12)
Reference No:	Project:	Project:	Project:	State:	Client:

### MARINE ROUTE SURVEY SPECIFICATION

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### TYPICAL MARINE ROUTE SURVEY SPECIFICATION

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF ABB. IT IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PROJECT AND NOT FOR OTHER PROJECTS. IT IS TO BE KEPT IN A SAFE PLACE AND NOT TO BE LOST OR DESTROYED. IT IS TO BE KEPT IN A SAFE PLACE AND NOT TO BE LOST OR DESTROYED.

Recent Assessment of Client supplied surveys have highlighted the following:

- Gaps in survey coverage or narrow corridor
- Inadequate investigation of UXO items
- Inefficient Route Design
- Poor Burial Assessment Study (BAS)
- Results incorrectly presented on route alignment charts and reports

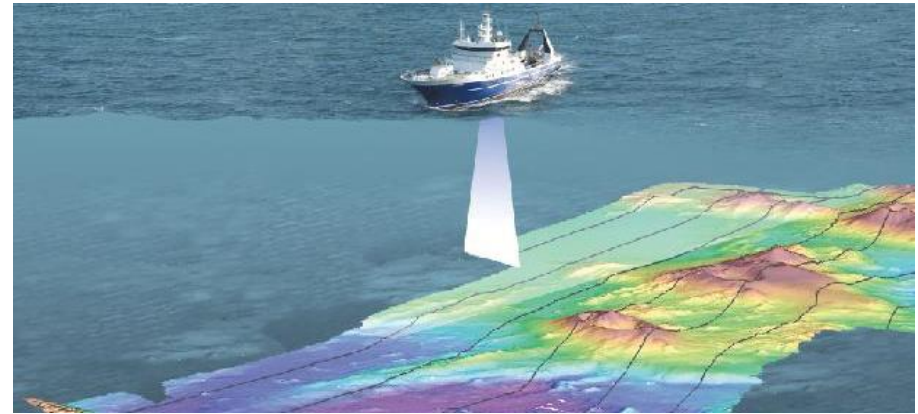
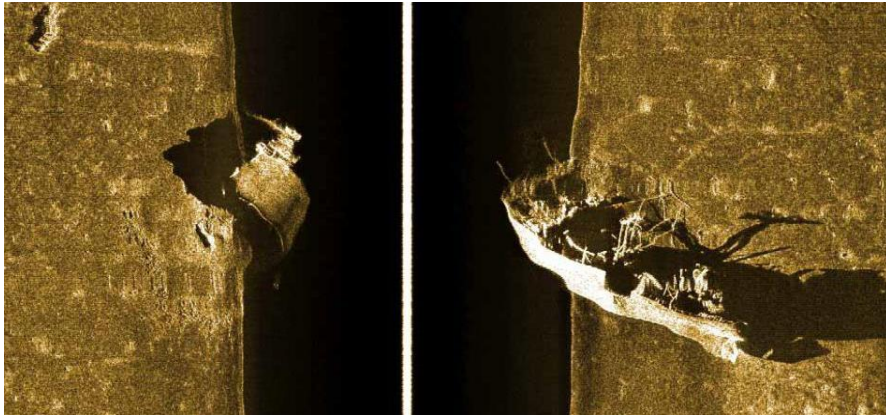
### NOTE:

**This may have a direct effect on the required scope of work, quality and ultimate contract price**

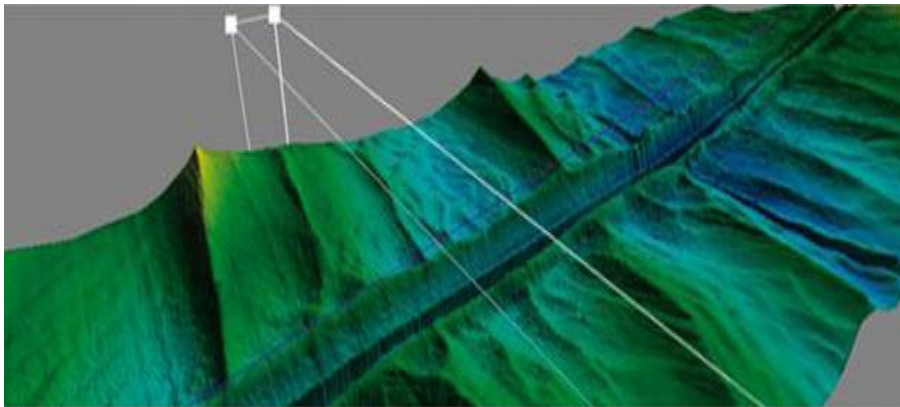
**ABB can supply a recommendation/typical marine route survey specification**

# 1. Marine Survey Survey Elements

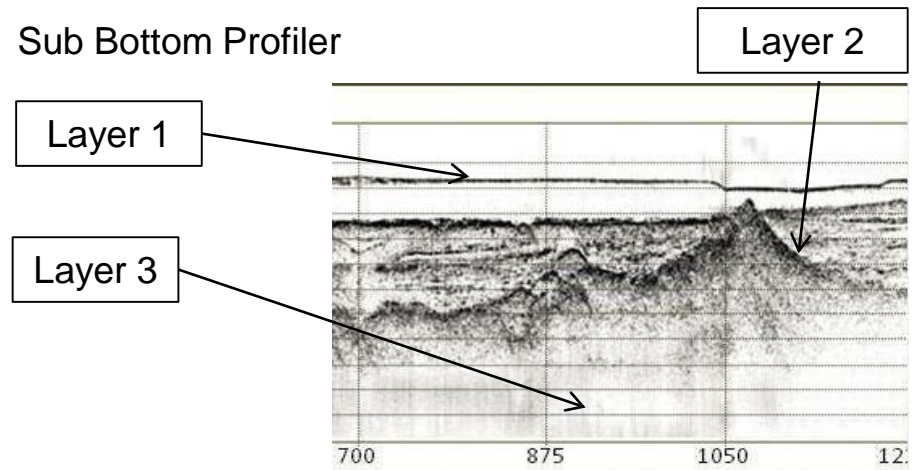
Side Scan Sonar



Multibeam



Sub Bottom Profiler





# 1. Marine Survey Soil Data



## Vibrocore

- Penetration of sea bed. Samples are recovered for route and trenching investigation.
  - Samples are normally sent to a laboratory for analysis

## Cone Penetration Test (CPT)

- Provide information of soil type, stratification, shear strength in clays & relative density and angles of shearing resistance in sand
  - Results are immediately available

## Recommendation

- The recommended number of sediment samples is in the region of 1 Nr per 1 km
- However, sea bed samples should be taken as required to confirm sediments

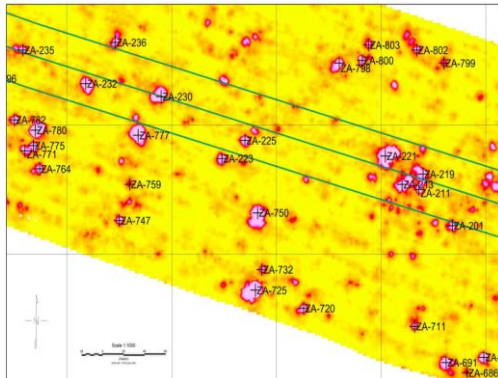
# 1. Marine Survey UneXploded Ordnance (UXO) Risk

UXO dumping sites and minefields

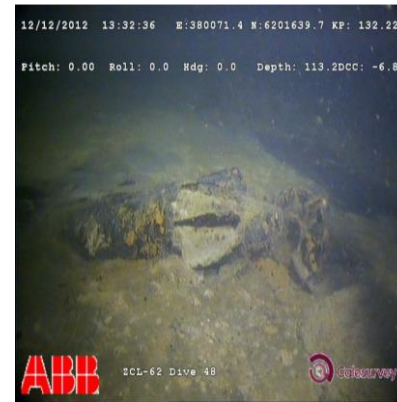
- Conventional Ammunition
- Chemical Ammunition (Mustard gas)

Detected with magnetic survey

- Not every magnetic anomaly is an UXO
- Perform Proper UXO Survey & Desk top Study
- Density & Pattern of UXO's



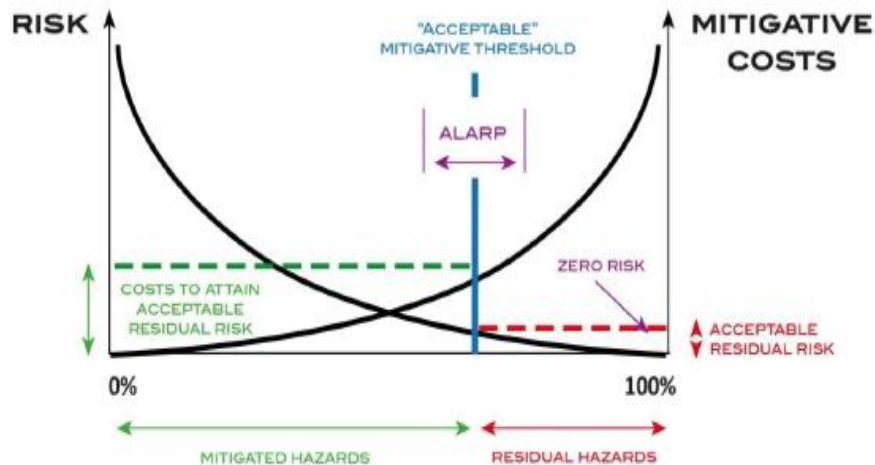
Which of these  
buried magnetic  
contacts really is  
an UXO?



Magnetometer

# 1. Marine Survey UXO Risks - Risk Management Framework Overview

As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP)



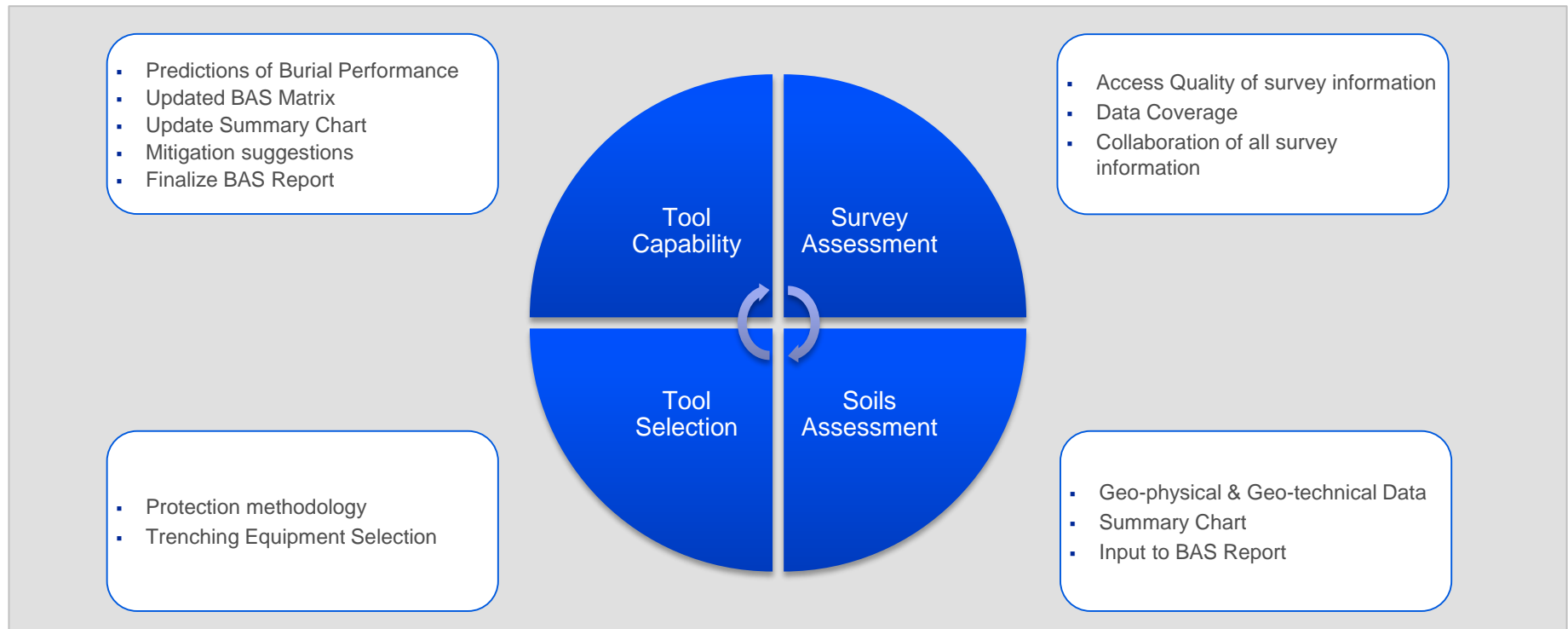
**Risk Management Framework is Divided into 8Nr. Phases:**

1. Hazard Assessment
2. Risk Assessment
3. Mitigation Strategy
4. UXO Specific Survey Requirements
5. Target Discrimination
6. Mitigation Actions
  - Avoidance – Route Engineering
  - Inspection
  - Disposal
7. Sign Off – ALARP Certificate
8. Deal with Residual Risk

## 2. Burial Assessment Study and Burial Tool Selection

### ABB Burial Assessment Study (BAS) Process

Burial Assessment:- investigate the soil related risks on a cable route to define the optimal method of achieving the required protection





### 3. Route Engineering Risk Management

Route engineering reduces the installation risks by avoiding problems whilst staying inside the provided corridor.



Sandwaves

“Problems” to avoid include the following:

- Steep slopes →  $> 12-15^\circ$
- Boulders →  $> 0.3$  m heights
- Difficult soils → For instance Rock
- Archaeological findings → Wrecks
- When possible other (not involved) countries
- Sandwaves

Cable curvatures → Preferable  $R = 500$ m

- Curvatures with a radius  $< 500$ m are possible but not preferred

Optimize crossing locations/angle with other subsea assets

# 3. Route Engineering

## Common concerns from Clients

### ***“It makes the cable route longer”***

- Yes in some instances, in other instances it makes it shorter
- Severe micro re-routing in the past has caused maximum increase in cable length of ~1%

### ***“Any re-routing introduces new risks”***

- Yes – it is very much about balancing risks.
- This certainly applies to UXO's
- Therefore surveys should not be too restricted in width

### ***“It makes it all more complicated”***

- Yes – But rather onshore with no vessel than offshore with vessels & associated day costs
- It very much depends on what you compare it with; Sea cables are a main infrastructure projects.

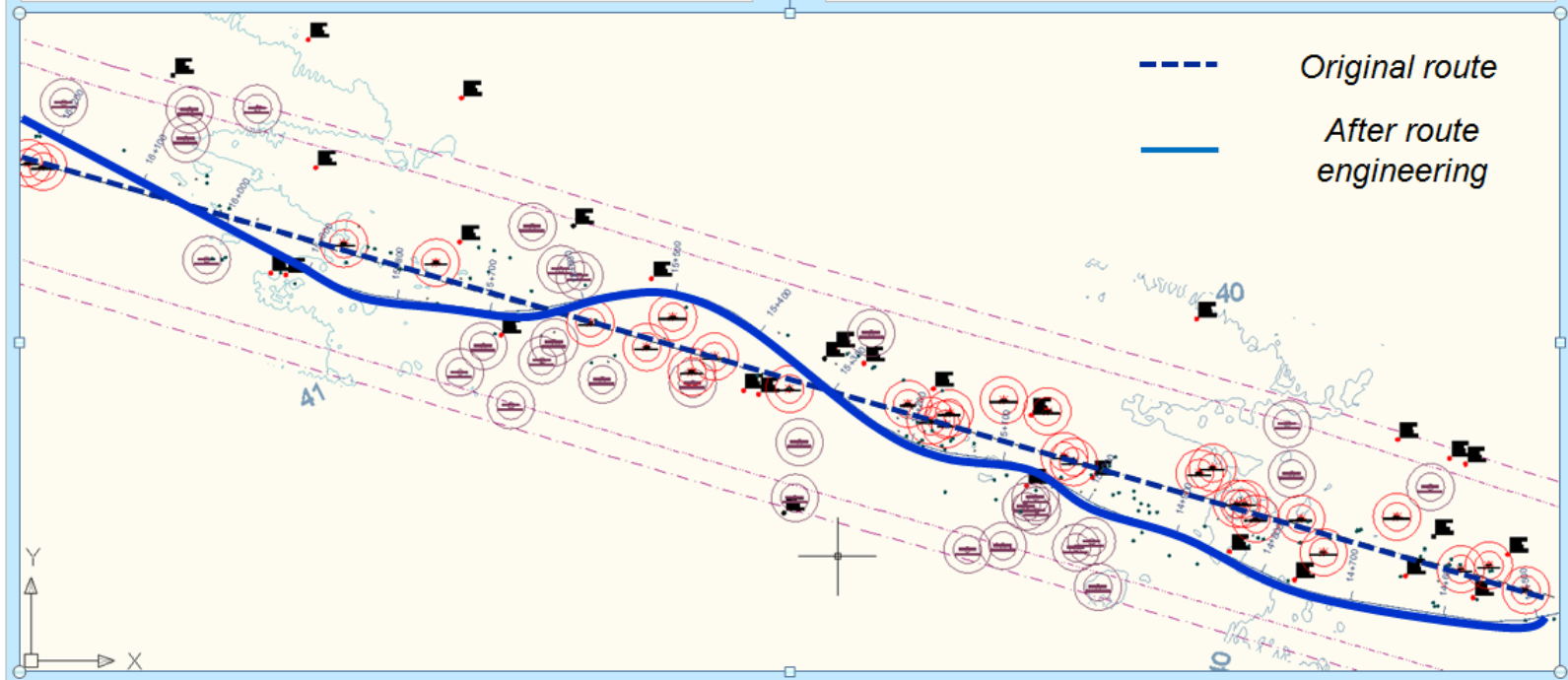
### 3. Route Engineering - Practice Examples – Object avoidance

#### Original Route:

- Potential threats: e.g. boulders and UXOs
- High risk on possible damage to the cables
- Increase in costs and possible delay due to removal of objects offshore

#### After Route Engineering:

- Minimise risk by adjusting the route
- Costs offshore are a factor  $> 8$  higher than onshore  $\rightarrow$  cost efficient
- A well done preparation pays off!!!



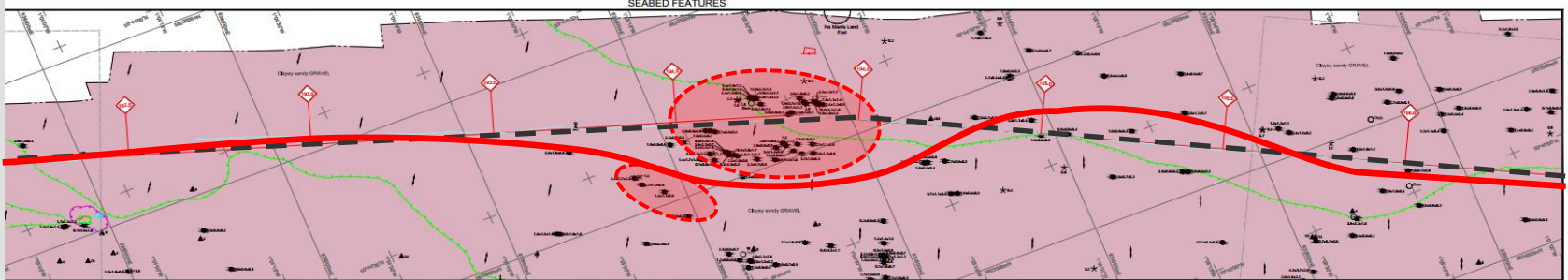
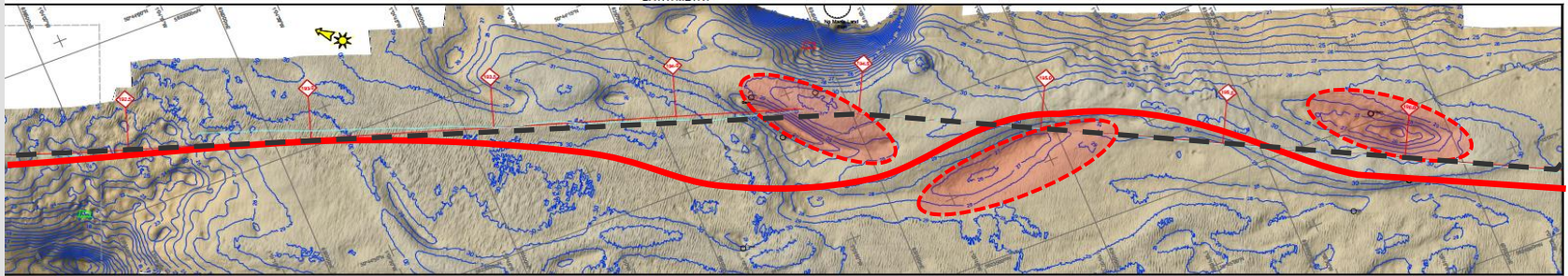
# 3. Route Engineering: Practice Examples– Object and undulation avoidance

## Original Route:

- Potential threats: Undulations and Objects
- High installation risk of possible damage to the cables & working above trencher capabilities
- Increase in costs and possible delay due to removal of objects offshore and risk of unprotected cable

## After Route Engineering:

- Minimise risk by avoiding the obstacles
- Minimise risk by avoiding steep slopes
- Reduce risk of installation problems during the lay and burial campaign





# 4. MetOcean Analysis

## What is Workability Assessment



Workability assessment looks at project specific weather risk for offshore installation operations.

- It is an assessment of:
  - Vessel performance
  - Tool performance
  - Against expected weather conditions

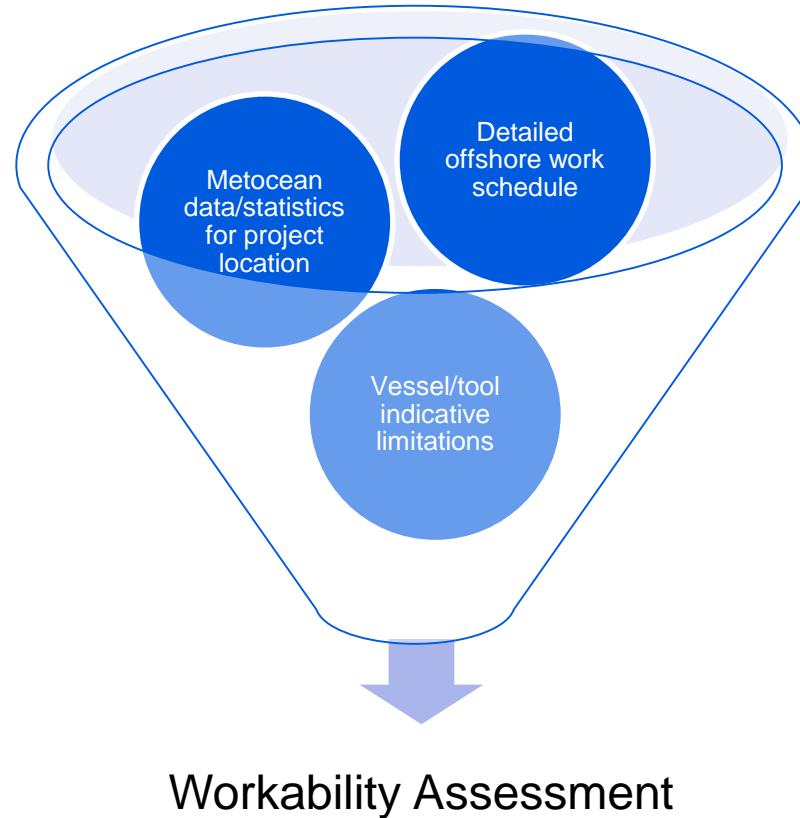
## 4. MetOcean Analysis

### MetOcean factors to consider



- Wave height and direction
- Wind speed and direction
- Current speed and direction
- Visibility, sub sea and at surface
- Ice
- Temperature of air and water
- Tidal heights

## 4. MetOcean Analysis Inputs - Overview



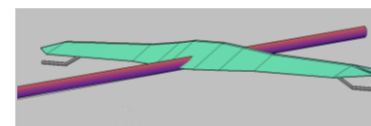
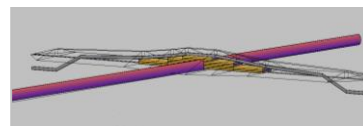
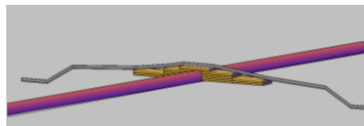
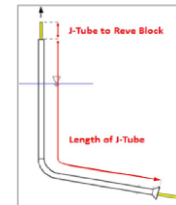
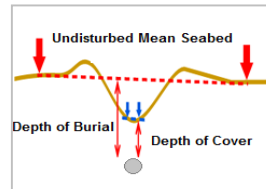
# 5. Installation Engineering

## Design and engineer mitigation methods for cable threats

### Engineering of cable protection design

*Design and engineering of cost efficient solutions for cable protection*

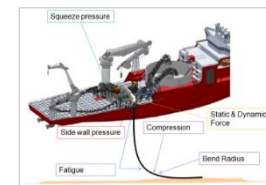
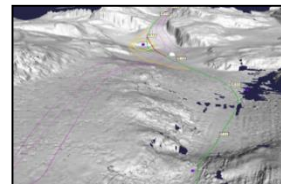
- Crossing design
- Rock placement design
- Trenching design
- Dredging engineering
- Pull-In engineering
- PLGR & route clearance design



### Cable installation design

*Engineering and analysis of the cable dynamics during and after installation:*

- Cable dynamics engineering
- Free span analysis





# 5. Installation Engineering

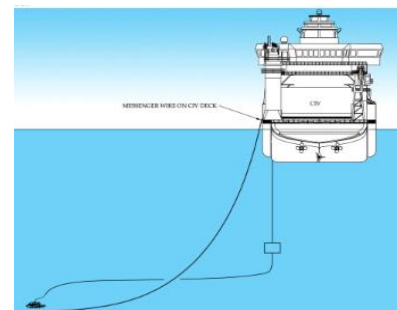
## Cable Laying - Pull-in Works

The world's first HVDC cable for 100 kV, 20 MW, Gotland-Swedish mainland. manufactured in 1953

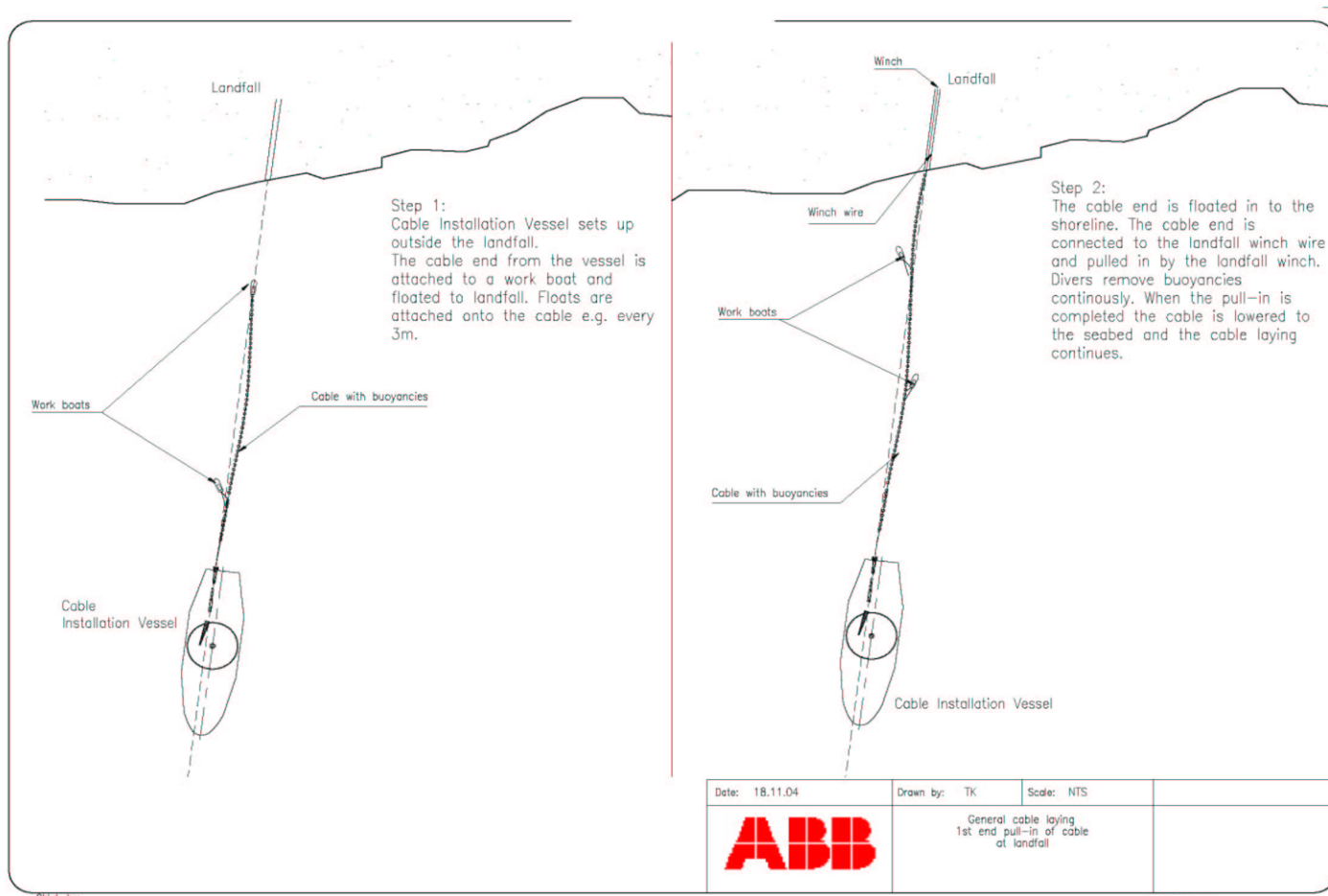


### Pull-in to Landfall

- Float in (Distance from Shore)
- Connect cable to messenger wire prior to pull in
- Shallow water vessel (Beach if required)
- Transition joint -Onshore cable to Offshore cable

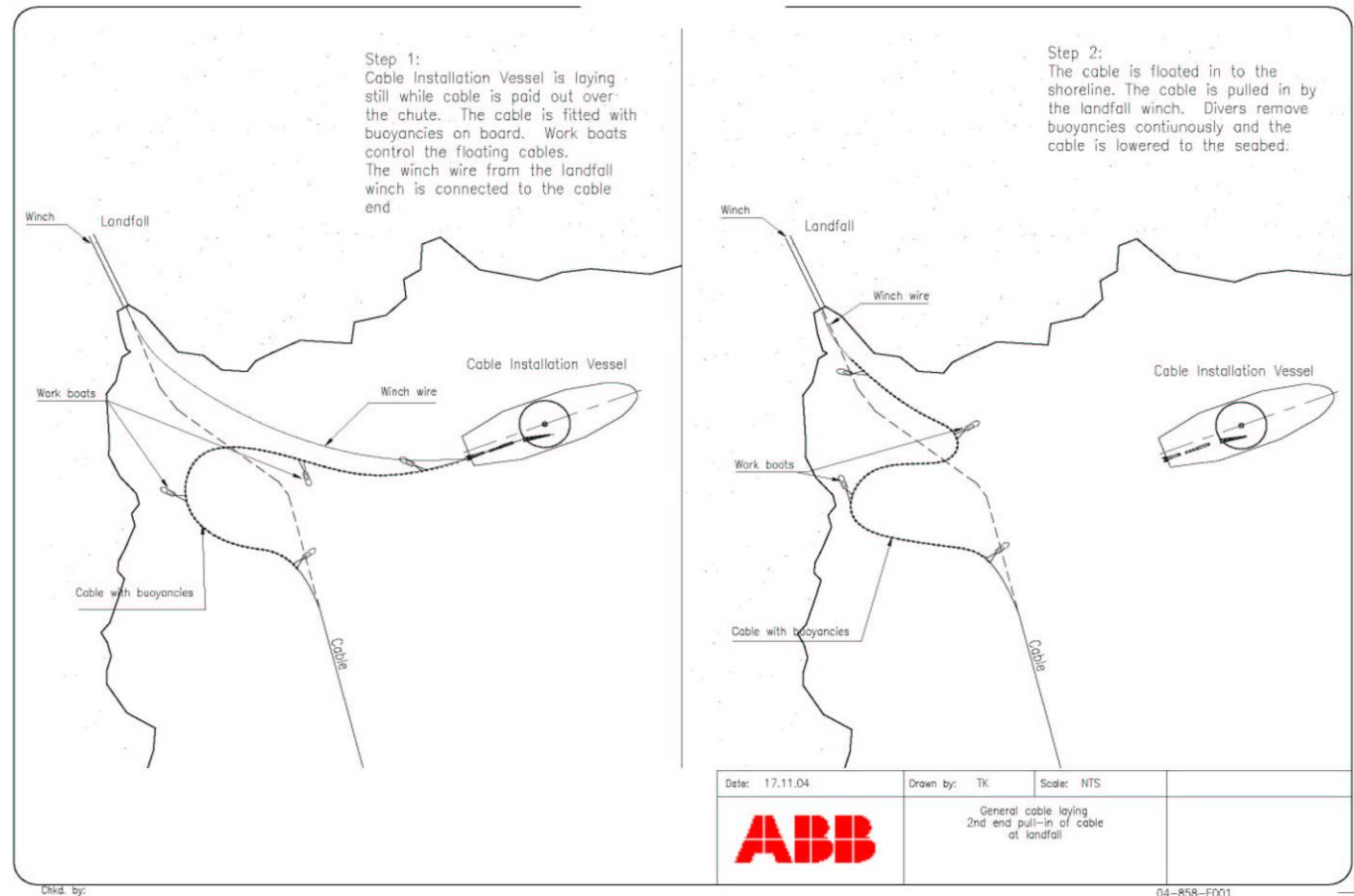


# 5. Installation Engineering Schematic – Shore Pull 1st End



# 5. Installation Engineering

## Schematic – Shore Pull 2nd End



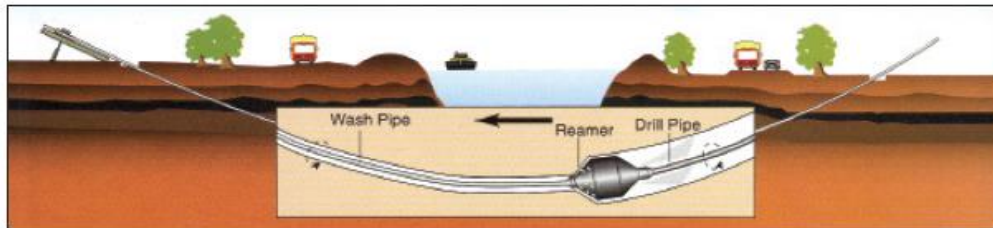
# 5. Installation Protection Engineering

## Landfall Preparation

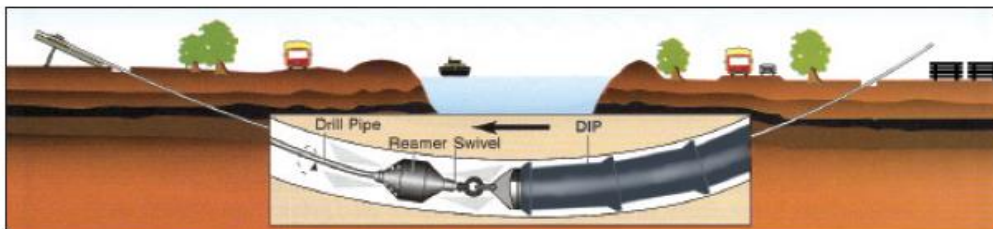


### Landfalls

- Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)
- Open cut
- Transition Joint Bay (TJB)
- Concrete foundation for winch



**PRE-REAMING**



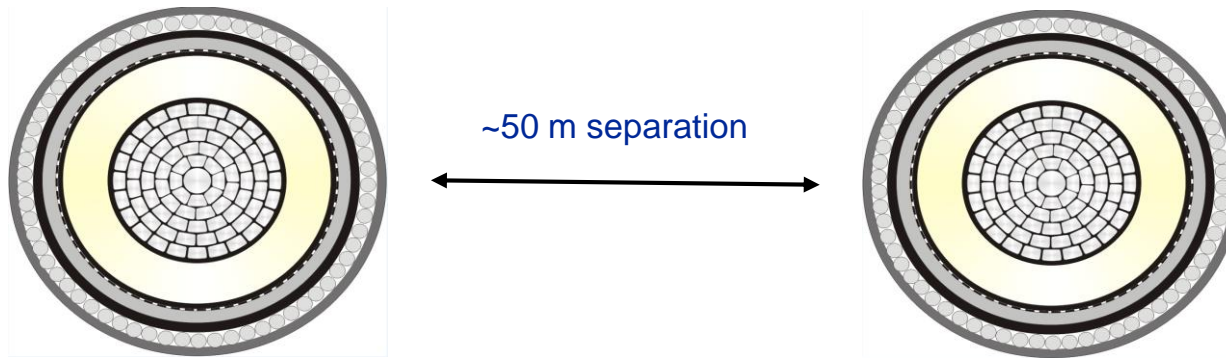
**PULL-BACK**

Schematics are courtesy of the Directional Crossing Contractors Association



## 6. Single Lay vs Bundled Cables

### HVDC Single Cables - Advantages

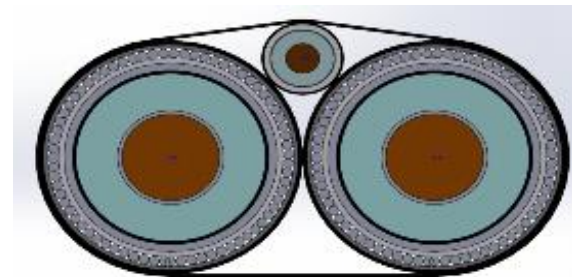


- No need of double turntables on cable lay vessel
- If an electrical failure occurs only the damaged cable has to be repaired.
- If an emergency cut and seal is required only one cable will be affected
- Possibility to lay longer lengths in one campaign without jointing (i.e. only utilize the larger turntable)
- Possibility to reduce size of conductor

# 6. Single Lay vs Bundled Cables

## HVDC Bundled Cables - Advantages

- Significantly lower installation cost
- Half the Operational Time
  - *Reduced risk for Waiting on Weather (WoW)*
  - *Reduced risk for incidents during laying/trenching due to half the operational time*
- Half the soil and UXO risk
- Favorable in areas with high currents (more stable)
- Reduced loading time since two turntables can be loaded simultaneously
- Half the environmental impact (Trenching, Dredging, Rock Placement, PLGR etc)
- Half the number of crossings (cost, permits and crossing agreements)
- Reduced risk of mechanical failure (due to one “target” for trawlers and anchors)
- Half the quantity of Pre-sweeping (if required)
- Significantly less jointing time
- “Beneficial” for getting permits
- Earlier completion date
- One Route Engineering



# Risk Management

## Client – Contractor Interaction

The Client – Contractor interaction is an very important aspect of the project

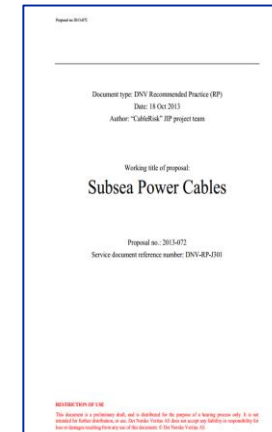
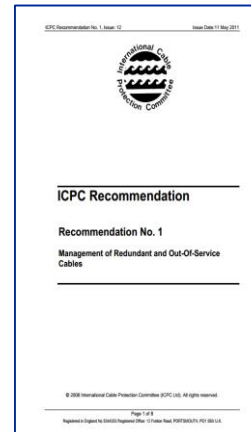
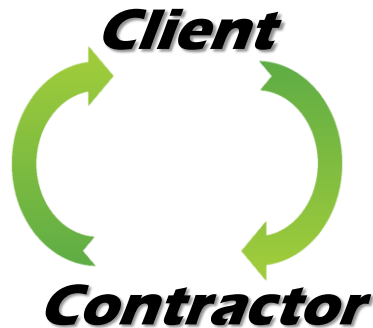
*"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."*  
- Henry Ford

### Good Communication

- Teamwork
- Good and open contact between all involved parties
- Open working relationship

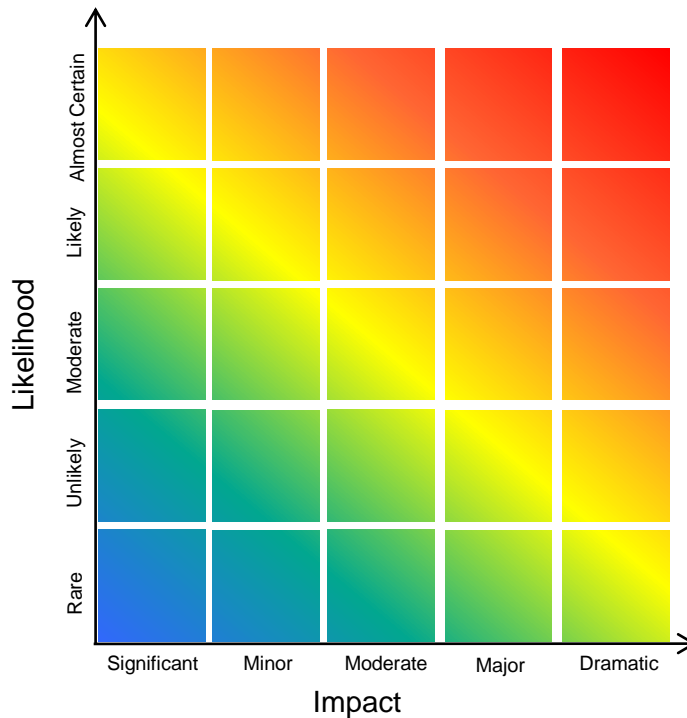
### Use of Subsea Power Cable standards

- Recommendations of the ICPC
- DNV-RP-J301: Subsea Power Cable
- Applying standards may save time & money



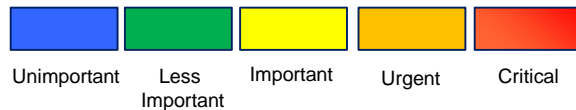
# Effective Installation Summary

- Monitor and coordinate residual risks during all installation phases
- Take proper mitigation methods to keep these risks as low as reasonably possible



## Avoidance & Mitigation

- Good quality information
- Risk Assessments
- Cable Protection Assessment
- Route Engineering
- Client – Contractor Interaction





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