

Title (en)

Method for the installation of a gravity, self-elevating oil production platform at sea

Title (de)

Verfahren zum Installieren einer selbsthebenden Schwerkraftplattform zur Ölgewinnung auf See

Title (fr)

Procédé d'installation d'une plate-forme gravitaire auto-élévatrice pour l'exploitation d'un champ pétrolier en mer

Publication

**EP 0963906 B1 20020403 (FR)**

Application

**EP 99401357 A 19990604**

Priority

FR 9807176 A 19980608

Abstract (en)

[origin: EP0963906A1] The substructure (1) has a base (3) with at least two columns (4) projecting up from it. A floating bridge (2) sits on the base while it is towed to an intermediate deep water site. The substructure is ballasted until the bridge floats on the water and can be locked to the columns at the right height. It is then deballasted, towed to the final site and reballasted until it rests on the seabed. A floating assembly comprising the substructure and the floating bridge resting on the base is towed to a sheltered intermediate site with a depth greater than that of the final installation site for the platform. The substructure is ballasted to lower it until the bridge floats on the water. Ballasting is stopped when the base reaches a predetermined depth and the bridge is locked onto the columns. The substructure is deballasted until the bridge reaches a predetermined height above the surface of the water. The assembly is towed to the final installation site, and the substructure is reballasted until it rests on the seabed. The floatation of the bridge is ensured by including a sealed hull integrated in the bridge, or by a barge on which it is temporarily mounted, disengaging the barge after the bridge is locked to the columns. Platform for carrying out such a process, also comprising means of ballasting and deballasting the base, means of guiding the bridge on the columns, and means of locking the bridge onto the columns. The bridge is a hull with positive floatation. The base contains storage compartments for petroleum products.

IPC 1-7

**B63B 35/44**; **E02B 17/02**

IPC 8 full level

**B63B 35/44** (2006.01); **E02B 17/02** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)

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