

## FUTUREON FIELD ACTIVITY PLANNER TRANSFORMS PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION FOR A MID-SIZE EUROPEAN OPERATOR

Time really is money in offshore and subsea installations, with operators working against the clock. The faster a project can be executed, by incurring the fewest delays or errors and the least production downtime, the greater the chance of delivering on budget.

But with thousands of small but critical decisions to be made in a typical installation, coordinating a joint effort between multiple parties is no easy task. That's why one of mid-size European operator turned to FutureOn to develop an innovative solution to drive efficiency and reduce risk.

### THE CHALLENGE

The company, an independent oil and gas operator, was looking to exploit a large oilfield in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. The ambitious operator aimed to reduce costs by using existing infrastructure in a neighboring oilfield, and has appointed an independent engineering firm to install a cable along the sea floor.

Their Project Manager explains "Collaboration between the three organizations means having to work across multiple disciplines and languages. This increases the complexity of communications, decision-making and project management – all of which could lengthen the delivery timescale."

"Each company uses a different type of planning software, with Gantt charts provided as the basis for project discussions. But it can be almost impossible to get diverse teams of operations personnel, managers and budget holders on the same page. Sketches and static PowerPoint charts can't give us timely status updates or a unified view of critical milestones and dependencies."

The operator turned to FutureOn, with whom they already had a working relationship, for a solution. The Oslo-based company is a specialist in 3D visualizations and software development for major subsea and offshore engineering companies. "FutureOn have over a decade's worth of insight into this market, so they're familiar with the language and operational realities as well as the technology," says the Project Manager.

### SOLUTION

The Field Activity Planner solution developed by FutureOn uniquely brings all project data – assets and activities, both subsea and topside – into plain sight through an easy-to-understand visualization.

The solution complements the use of Gantt charts, which are still maintained to plan activities. The intuitive interface presents all the project data as an animated timeline, with a customizable set of information layers. Users can navigate to a snapshot of the project for any date using a simple slider, and toggle information layers as required.

Field Activity Planner spans the entire process of offshore and subsea installations, as well as marine operations – from planning and feasibility to preparation and actual operations. It gives users a simplified view of activities being carried out on shore, together with the status of vessels, rigs and installations.

“Field Activity Planner simplifies the business of understanding what’s already there and what has yet to be installed at any point in time,” commented the Project Manager, “it presents the field layout graphically, with vessels, trenching, production, rock tumblers and pipe information layers that you can switch on and off, depending on your remit.”

The solution is available on an annual subscription basis per concurrent user. The license includes an allocation of FutureOn’s technical resources so the software can be tailored to the customer’s specification. “We work closely with FutureOn to evolve the functionality, based on our requirements,” says the operator’s representative. “When we need to alter anything or add new capabilities, they are very responsive in implementing the requested changes.”

## SOLUTION AT A GLANCE

### Planning and feasibility:

- Operational planning
- Quality Assurance of planned activities
- Optimization of design and plans
- Feasibility evaluation

### Preparation:

- HSE performance
- Familiarization
- Cross-disciplinary communication
- Preparation of procedures
- Forecasting of planned activities

### Operations:

- Online monitoring
- Eliminate scheduling conflicts
- Improved visibility
- What-if analysis
- Activity tracking and measurement

## BENEFITS

### **Return on investment**

“The Field Activity Planner is the next generation visualization tool for project planning. It integrates with the planning tool we use every day,” says the Project Manager. “It will make a big difference to project management and has the potential to offer significant cost savings.”

### **Simplified collaboration**

By providing a unified view of the project, Field Activity Planner simplifies multi-language, cross-disciplinary communications.

This reduces the opportunity for misunderstandings and scheduling conflicts, and supports knowledge transfer, collaboration and creative problem-solving.

### **Better decision making**

The solution enables activities to be tracked against the project plan and any deviation easily measured. The ability to perform ‘what-if’ analysis allows the outcome of decisions to be modelled in a risk-free environment before taking action in the field.

### **Reduced risk**

Increased visibility allows a safety zone to be established around the installation, to enable compliance with Health & Safety Executive requirements. Vessels are prohibited from entering or remaining in the zone at specified points of the project.

### **Future-proof investment**

The solution actively encourages joint development between the customer and FutureOn. Upgrades and new releases are included in the license, automatically giving licensees ongoing value through added functionality.