Making Jack/St. Malo Happen:
How Chevron Unlocked the Lower Tertiary Trend

Chris Riccobono

Jack and St. Malo are truly a game changer for Chevron.

Mark Williams

Everything is superlative in terms of size, magnitude, reach, water depth, funding.

Narrator

Jack and St. Malo. Two of the largest oil and gas fields ever discovered in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Reservoirs more than 26,000 feet deep, under 7,000 feet of water.

Paul Siegele

Once the discoveries were made then it was clear what some of the development challenges were going to be, which included the decision at Jack St. Malo to put a central host between the two fields that were pretty far away.

Karen Galloway

Immediately we had to start thinking how we would plan the project, how we would build in as many variables while keeping things as simple as possible.

Ken Roseboom

Chevron was the general contractor and we contracted to multiple contractors, and we ended up with the best equipment to do the particular task.

Paul Walker

We are talking about the beauty of people with multiple disciplines, different nationalities, different companies. All different perspectives facing different issues. You'd be amazed when they are aligned what they can unlock.

Narrator

Unlocking deep reservoirs takes tremendous expertise. It also requires advanced technology.

Hugh Barclay

A lot of the people outside of the industry don't realize we are very high-tech industry; we invest a lot of money in research and development.

Steve Thurston

Jack St. Malo will have a multitude of new technologies being deployed to safely develop and deliver that production.
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Aaron Conte

One of the things that is really going to help the development of deepwater Gulf of Mexico is the enhanced single trip multi-zone system that was installed on JSM.

Bill Wood

This system allows us to individually treat and stimulate the entire reservoir over a great vertical interval basically by just moving our tools up and down in the hole we can actually treat all of those zones.

So that saves us a massive amount of time and it also allows us to individually treat the reservoir way it needs to be treated.

David Knight

The biggest technical challenge from the facility's side was really developing the subsea infrastructure, the boost system.

Narrator

Subsea boosting is essential to long-term success at Jack and St. Malo. While pressure in the reservoirs will initially force hydrocarbons up to the production platform, what happens when that pressure naturally tapers off?

Chris Riccobono

Subsea boosting is putting large pumps on the seafloor that will supplement the energy from the reservoir to move the oil and gas from subsea to the top sides processing facility.

Chris Hey

Subsea boosting is not new. It's been done before. But on Jack St. Malo, in terms of the water depth, the pressure rating, the power of the pump, there's nothing else like this in the industry.

Narrator

In fact, numerous technology advances have been deployed at Jack St. Malo. Some address the challenges of working in water more than a mile deep. Some support building an infrastructure more than 250 miles offshore. And others are focused on maximizing oil and gas recovery.

Narrator

While much of Jack St. Malo’s technology rests on the sea floor, there’s a lot above the water line.
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Steve Thurston

At 177,000 barrels per day capacity, the Jack St. Malo floating production unit is the largest floating production unit that Chevron has in the Gulf of Mexico.

Narrator

That production unit separates oil, gas and water before pumping hydrocarbons into a pipeline that takes them to shore.

Narrator

The four-column hull that serves as the base for the production unit was built in Korea.

Renard Falcon

Transport of the hull, because of the size and weight, was an issue. To address that we actually had a new build vessel built.

The Vanguard, the vessel that supported us from the Korea to the Gulf of Mexico is the largest transport vessel in the world.

Narrator

The hull was then moved to Ingleside, Texas. That’s where the topside production unit was built, and then lifted onto the hull.

Narrator

While the production unit was being built, pipelines were being laid to move the oil and gas from the production unit.

Narrator

Upon arrival on-site, the semisubmersible production unit was moored in place.

Narrator

Over the next 11 months, pipelines were connected to the unit and the meticulous work of commissioning and start-up took place.

Eric Sirgo

For the hookup and commissioning I think people need to remember that we are in 7000 feet of water and we are 200 miles offshore. So most all of the work is done around this deepwater environment where you are picking up pipelines off the ocean floor and bringing them up to the facility.
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Mike Illanne

The work on process safety and environmental protection, to make sure that we had the right design, the right procedures to make sure that this asset can be operated reliably, protecting both human and the environment, has been outstanding. And I am very confident that we'll have a great record going forward.

Today Jack St. Malo is the fourth deepwater development operated by Chevron in the Gulf of Mexico. With its numerous technical achievements, Jack St. Malo also serves as a foundation for future deepwater developments.

Paul Walker

Jack St. Malo will be remembered for bringing projects for long-term technical issues in the lower tertiary. We’re unlocking that and that unlocks a whole new basin in the industry and in the Gulf of Mexico.