Wheatstone Topsides

Mike Watkins, Platform Manager, Wheatstone Project

We're dealing with one of the biggest platforms in the world.

The engineering that goes into this has taken a couple of years at least to get all of these plans together, and the detail procedures, all the safety checks. There's a lot of work in this this type of operation.

To prepare for the load out we have to jack the topsides up 20 meters so we're jacking a 36 thousand tonne structure on four jacking towers up 20 meters.

We lower off the topsides on to the deck support frame and then that combined structure will then be loaded out, total weight of nearly 45 thousand tonnes, on to the Hereema 851 vessel.

We are transporting the topsides at its full height so we can float above the legs of the SGS.

It's on the open seas to Australia now.

Once it arrives in Australia, they'll set up anchor, mooring patterns etc around the SGS.

The barge is then aligned and moved in along mooring lines between the SGS legs. And then it'll be lowered off via ballasting of the barge into its final location until the topside load is fully taken on the SGS.

Chris Miller, Project Director, Wheatstone Project

You know when we finish one of these jobs I think about it in two lights. I think professionally what we accomplished. But I also think about the team of people that we've brought together.

We knew at the end of the day what the platform had to do, how do we want to build it and then, as its getting built, how to ensure it gets done safely, the right way, the first time.

Which brings us today and so that brings us here to today. What a great accomplishment.