

Seadrill's Information System Manager, Steffen Myklebust is anticipating the new version of Synergi to get an incident management system that is 100% both on- and offshore.



West Polaris is one of Seadrill's various offshore installations that are benefiting from using eForm. (Photo: Seadrill)

Reporting fast and unhampered offshore

Seadrill has adjusted the Synergi® eForm interface according to taste while successfully implementing the 'offline version' of Synergi. This assures reporting from more employees and enables reporting from remote locations.

About Seadrill

Seadrill is an international offshore drilling contractor providing services within drilling and well services. Corporate head office is in Stavanger, Norway and the company employs some 7,000 people representing more than 25 nationalities, operating in 15 countries on five continents.

Seadrill is a deepwater drilling pioneer and operates at depths of up to 3,000 metres. This requires highly advanced systems and experienced staff, and naturally, these kinds of depths increase the technological challenges and risks. Moreover, in a span of three years, Seadrill has gone from operating five to presently 40 rigs worldwide and has more than tripled its workforce.

Their Synergi® incident management system is more important than ever. Many companies in shipping and offshore operations are experiencing slow and unreliable data connections, which is why they should do what Seadrill has done, claims the company's Information System Manager, Steffen Myklebust:

"We needed an offline registration possibility to spread Synergi usage to remote locations. It took three months to get eForm up and running, and after one year's usage, we are very happy with the result."

Out of some 7,000 employees about 3,000 are able to report in Synergi. While the standard form of Synergi is used at the rigs in Europe, eForm rules in Asia and the Gulf of Mexico. Here, registered cases are sent to the central system via e-mail and further distributed to employees via e-mail.

"Synergi® eForm can be seen as a prolongation of the normal online Synergi system," says Myklebust. "Though eForm is offline, it doesn't

seem like that to the user." They report from rigs and ships into the central system as if they were working in the normal Synergi system. When they click 'submit' the case, a file is generated that is automatically emailed to the central database, where the Synergi application imports the information.

As Seadrill have many low-end users with minimal Synergi training, they decided to simplify the registration process in the eForm version. It looks much like the standard Synergi system but is much more user friendly, according to Seadrill's Information System Manager.

All fields not used were removed and it was required that the user should only see relevant fields for the case type. Information has been grouped in logic sections and scrolling is used instead of tabs. Input validation ensures that no important fields are skipped and the whole registration is done on one single page.

"Now it's as simple as it gets. Usability was the most important issue to us but the project has also given us a solution that is more stable and easy to administer. We now have many new users who were not able to register cases before," states Myklebust, adding that their next step is the replication module to be found in the new Synergi version. "That will be Synergi the way we really want it – updating at night, both ways, via satellite.