Maritime Developments has entered a partnership with high performance pipeline manufacturer Magma Global to develop a unique well intervention solution for the offshore oil and gas market.

The joint venture will design, manufacture and deliver a complete back-deck package for deployment and retrieval of Magma’s unique product offering, the m-pipe®, to maximise operator’s return on investment in the well intervention sector.

m-pipe® is a high-strength carbon fibre pipe manufactured using a high end oilfield polymer. It offers significantly better high-pressure, high-temperature (HPHT) and sour service capability than traditional steel-based products in deep-water applications, making it an ideal choice for subsea intervention market.

Complementing the product’s unique flexible design, Maritime Developments will provide a complete deployment/retrieval package, including a bespoke reeler system with a built-in tensioner to minimise back-deck footprint and mitigate risks involved in well intervention.

Derek Smith, chief executive of Maritime Developments, said:

“This is an exciting time for Maritime Developments as we set out to build on our proven expertise in providing forward-thinking back-deck solutions for the energy sector with this new partnership.

“The joint venture with Magma will allow us to push the innovation boundaries once more by delivering an operator-friendly and cost-effective solution in our specialist field of back-deck operations.”
Maritime Developments targets well intervention with joint venture

Derek Smith
CEO

“M-pipe® has been designed to address ongoing challenges faced by oil and gas operators, including the need to maximise production from existing fields by more effective light well intervention.”

“Our ongoing partnership with Maritime Developments facilitates a stepwise improvement in current intervention capabilities, combining a high specification pipe with a proven subsea delivery system.

“MDL’s system will allow m-pipe® to be deployed in a highly efficient and safe manner as a full back-deck solution, with more rapid pipe spooling, deployment and retrieval.

“m-pipe®’s low weight, around ten times lighter in water than steel pipe equivalent, will also enable the use of smaller deployment vessels, a key benefit in well intervention.

“As part of Magma’s partnership with MDL, we can deliver a full package that offers intervention line rental or sales or a combination of both, together with full after-sales support for the operators, depending on their individual needs.”

Steve Hatton, technical director at Magma Global

“m-pipe® will optimise the functionality of the m-pipe® by using our proven equipment, packaged in a way that will deliver the most efficient footprint for handling the product by the operator.

“The m-pipe® is a fantastic product and our handling system complements it perfectly - that is why we are committed to supporting Magma in this venture as well as by delivering other deployment systems for their remaining product range.”

m-pipe®

Lightweight: 1/10th of weight of a steel or un-bonded flexible riser in water

No fatigue degradation when operating within specification

Better erosion resistance and damage tolerance than steel

Operational temperatures up to 350°F

Lower flow resistance than steel or un-bonded flexible solutions

Pipe diameter up to 15” can be spooled for storage, transport and deployment

Outstanding sour service performance

At sea: How the new m-pipe® handling system will appear installed on-deck
Maritime Developments seals 15th anniversary with first VLS order

Maritime Developments has secured the first order for its innovative portable overside vertical lay system (PVLS) from a leading subsea installation contractor.

The order comprises of a bespoke vertical lay system tower together with a Maritime Developments’ 4-track tensioner, to be used in a groundbreaking North Sea field development.

The delivery of the solution will complement Maritime Developments’ full suit of back-deck equipment, as the north-east company celebrates its 15 years in business.

PVLS is a portable solution for the deployment and retrieval of subsea umbilicals, risers and flowlines (SURF products). The system facilitates transport of products from on-deck carousels or reel drive systems to a vertical orientation so that they can be installed over the side of a vessel or through the moon pool of a vessel.

The compact footprint of the solution allows for the use of lower day-rate vessels, reducing the operational costs for the client.

Derek Smith, Maritime Developments chief executive, said:

“We are delighted to have received our first order for a vertical lay system from one of our major international clients.

“The addition of the system to our portfolio will not only complement our suit of back-deck solutions for handling of SURF products - it also stands as a testament to all the hard work put in by our team as we celebrate 15 years in business.

“Additionally, this new contract increases the value of our back order to £7million, standing us in good stead for 2015.”
Bespoke tensioner boosts MDL rental fleet

Maritime Developments has added its bespoke 50-tonne 4-track pipelay tensioner to its rental range, ready to take up projects from the start of 2015.

The latest addition to the company’s suit of back-deck equipment for hire complements a 400-tonne reel drive system (RDS) as well as a range of winches, electro-hydraulic power units and ancillary products already available for hire.

Thanks to its innovative design, the 4-track tensioner can be used vertically, horizontally or on a ramp. Combined with the cylinder shell package and failsafe hydraulic cylinders and accumulators built onto the track, the solution minimises the likelihood of damage to the product during operation. While the flexible design, allowing for it to operate in both 2- and 4-track modes and changeable positions for horizontal, vertical or tilted operation make it a universal and long-term solution for SURF product operators.

The company secured a patent for the design in July 2014. To date, two 50Te units have been delivered to major energy clients since the product’s launch in May 2013. The systems have been used in international projects, including the North Sea and Asia-Pacific.

Mike Gaskin, commercial director for Maritime Developments, said:

“The 4-track tensioner is one of the key products in our equipment range and is bound to drive the business forward.

“The delivery of this product was a stepping stone to developing our vertical lay system, which will complete our full suit of back-deck equipment.

“Together with our range of reel drive systems and winches, Maritime Developments offers the complete back-deck package for installation and retrieval of SURF products, both for sale or rent.”
Key appointment boosts MDL’s electrical division

Maritime Developments has appointed an electrical systems engineer to join its market-leading electrical department.

Richard Davies will be responsible for the design and development of controls for the company’s wide range of electrical equipment, including reel drive systems (RDS), 2- and 4-track pipelay tensioners, and winches.

The new appointment brings Maritime Developments’ electrical team up to eight, highlighting the remarkable growth of the division after it was established in 2012. The company is looking to add two further members of staff to the department in response to growing demand for its services.

Richard said: “Prior to joining the company, I had been working on Maritime Developments projects for a couple of years and really enjoyed what I was doing here. With time, I got more involved not only with the controls, which was my focus at the previous job, but also with the machine-building process.

“The company will have more control over what software goes into the machine and how it is configured, which will allow us to react more quickly if any changes are requested by the client.”

Kevin Cordiner, electrical manager at Maritime Developments, said: “The rapid growth of the electrical services division has been a huge achievement for the business. We now have a team able to cope with the demands for the provision of this key service – and to do so to our high company standards.

“The company has invested hugely in this unit since its launch in 2012, with a clear vision of delivering machinery that is more operator-friendly to drive down costs for both sides. We are looking to build the team up further as we anticipate more work in this department in the upcoming months.”
Third winch package tips electrical delivery over £12million

Maritime Developments has surpassed £12million in sales of its electrical equipment as it delivered its third package of winches for an industry major ahead of schedule.

The set of 10 winches, ranging between 5-tonne and 40-tonne specifications, is part of a total order of four packages for the same international client. Each set also includes Maritime Developments’ 10-tonne overbender tensioner (OBT) for the installation and recovery of SURF products.

The initial order in 2012 was followed by a combined order of 30 winches and three OBTs, scheduled for three separate instalments by December 2015.

All of the systems on order feature electrical drives and are supplied with dedicated electric power units (EPUs).

The equipment will be used for product handling at a number of locations around new purpose-built vessels. They can be operated in either manual, constant tension or render mode and integrate with the vessel’s system control and data acquisition (SCADA).

Since setting up the electrical department in July 2012 the company has already delivered more than 40 electrically-driven items of deck machinery worth over £12million.

Mike Gaskin, commercial director at Maritime Developments, said:

“We have delivered another major package of equipment ahead of schedule, which stands as a testament to the level of commitment and professionalism of our team.”

Our in-house facilities allow for safe and quick turnaround of jobs as well as to thoroughly test the equipment ahead of delivery.

“This delivery cements our commitment to providing the best service to our trusted clients with whom we have established strong business relationships.

“The teams from both companies are working efficiently together and are building on each other’s strengths, further increasing the productivity of our equipment and service and ensuring our equipment is delivered ahead of schedule.”
New 75Te tensioner available to industry

Maritime Developments is set to complete the design of its first 75-tonne tensioner boosting its bespoke 4-track tensioner range.

The new addition follows the company’s first order for a vertical lay system (VLS), designed to operate at tension up to 75Te. It comes as a response to an increased demand for Maritime Developments’ products from major oil and gas operators.

The new 75Te tensioner will follow the design of Maritime Development’s patented 4-track tensioner which offers a universal back-deck solution for the client, as it can be shifted from horizontal to vertical operation without further adjustments.

Derek Smith, chief executive at Maritime Developments, said:

“Maritime Developments specialises in flexible product handling equipment in the sub-100-tonne line pull market place and the demand for the 75-tonne tensioner has been driven by our clients.

“Our increased product range addresses the challenge of deeper waters and larger product weights faced by offshore operators today.”

Giants: The existing 50Te tensioner alongside the larger 75Te version

Maritime Developments will be exhibiting at Subsea Expo 2015 (Stand 23) at Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre on 11th-13th February 2015