



Deepwater Oil Spill - Inserting the Transition Spool - and Open Thread

Posted by [Heading Out](#) on July 12, 2010 - 9:18am

Topic: [Environment/Sustainability](#)

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At about 1 pm (Eastern time) on Sunday, I checked on the feeds, and it appears, using the camera on the BOA ROV 1, that the transition spool has been lowered into place (the old riser was removed at about 3 am this morning) and is now ready to be inserted into the top of the riser.



Flange removed from the well, and the surface awaits the transition spool.



Transition spool approaches the flowing well

I will update as I notice other things of interest - though will be out some of this afternoon.

UPDATE 1. Apparently there was some soccer game or something on this afternoon (Sunday), so I became a bit distracted, and was not watching when the transition spool was seated, some time around 3 pm. Since then they have been tightening the bolts. The next step will be to set the Lower stack on top of the spool, and then lock it in place.

UPDATE 2. The Ocean Intervention ROV 1 keeps looking at a pressure gage as it manipulates around the transition spool.



Pressure gage (which goes up to a pressure of 6,500 to 7,000 psi)

I suspect that this is the pressure in the hydraulics when they do the final tightening of the bolts on the transition spool, to ensure that they are adequately all tightened, since, after looking at the



Torque wrench being moved around the bolts holding the transition spool in place on the BOP.

Obviously assembling the rig is taking a bit longer than I thought, though I think I may have seen the Lower capping stack somewhere around in an earlier shot.

UPDATE 3. (Monday 8:46 am) There is a fair amount of activity going on, but without a script it is hard to see what all of it is - at the moment it appears that they are staring at gages, wondering why there is no oil flowing in the kill line.

And the stack is now on its way down.



Stack being monitored by the Inspiration ROV



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