### MATERIAL ALERT

### Subject; Faulty elbows ex Zibo Wel fit, China

### 1.0 Background

For the Valhall Re-Development, BP is trying to source topsides pipe and fittings from reputable, western suppliers. However in today's market this is not always possible and we have found that many suppliers are using far east, and in particular, Chinese suppliers for materials. In particular, we are finding considerable quantities of 316L stainless steel coming from these areas. The attached report gives details of defective elbows supplied to the project that originated in China.

### 2.0 Fittings supply.

The 6 off 36" Sch 40 316L stainless steel elbows were purchased by Heerema, Zwijndrecht from SFF in Stavanger, Norway and were destined to be part of the flare system (see Figure 1). SFF had, in turn, bought from another stockist, Arcus, in Holland who had purchased from the original manufacturer, Zebo Wel Fit in China. ISO 9001 and PED certificates for Zebo are included in Appendix A together with the original certificates for the elbows and plate supplier.

It would appear that SFF did not carry out a visual inspection of the elbows prior to release. We are also waiting to hear if Arcus have undertaken any audits or independent testing of Zebo to include them on their suppliers list.

### 3.0 History

Contrary to project requirements, SFF had supplied the above elbows without getting approval from BP. However, the vigilance of the BP inspector found them in the Heerema stores and sought out their certification. This aroused the first suspicions as the 3.1 certificate did not show that the weld seams had been X-rayed. Upon request we received the attached X-ray report which clearly indicated that extensive repairs had been made.

On removing the protective plastic wrapping it became clear that many of the weld defects were still present and had not been repaired (see Figure 2). In addition there was extensive undercut and what appeared to be extra sections welded into each end of the elbows (Figures 3, 4 & 5). At this stage the elbows were rejected and the supplier notified. However as an additional check, one elbow was subject to X-ray and the results were appalling. In addition to all the problems observed on the welds including lack of fusion, the base material was found to contain cracking. This is shown in detail below.

### 4.0 Actions

As a result of the above, we have taken a number of actions to try and eliminate or at least further manage the supply from less reliable sources. These include,

a. Reminding our fabricators and vendors of their responsibilities which are clearly stated in the design documentation this requires specific project approval of said vendors.b. Recommending they or their suppliers carry out a 100% visual inspection prior to release of any non Western supplied material.

c. Implementing an extensive PMI programme to ensure correct materials have been supplied – at the same time visually inspecting items as PMI is done. (It is recognized that the poor quality welding is not related to PMI but considering other issues around at present, it was deemed to add value and would also through up anymore items supplied from China or similar).



Figure 1 Elbows as received.



Figure 2– Porosity in weld seam



Figure 3 Undercut, LOP etc.



Figure 4 Apparent additional section. Note possible pitting along HAZ



Figure 5 Porosity/pitting.

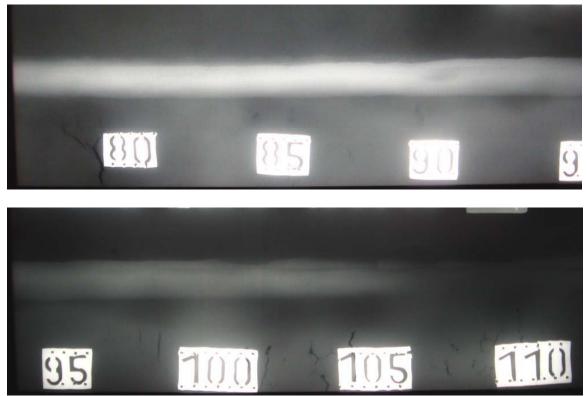


Figure 6 X-ray showing base metal cracking.

### **APPENDIX A**

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	VER	TAS	
	CERTIF	<b>CATE</b>	
for Pr conforming to	oduct of Mater Pressure Equi		
	Award	to	
ZIBO WEL- Address: NO18	FIT METAL PRO	DUCTS CO., 255418, ZIBO, CHIN	LTD
Bureau Veritas certifies the production for pipe fittings requirements of Pressure Ed specification. A quality assu- audited by Bureau Veritas to Certificate No. : IDD/Q-07/0 Product description: Pipe Fi	and found that the ty quipment Directive 97/ rance system establish verify its conformity wi 18-01	pes Identified here). 23/EC, Annex I, Arti ed and operated by th the Directive as wi	nder comply with the cle 4 and the required the manufacturer was all.
Approved manufacturing site		· · · ·	
Audit Report No.: IR- IDD/G	-07/018		: :
This certificate is valid until:	20", July, 2010		
Subject to the continued satisfact realified surveyors from Bureau V	tory operation of the com lerites.	pany, annual audits ar	e to be performed by
Made at : Shanghai, P.R.C. On : 21st January, 2008		Signed by :	Gilles Far C LT
			Gilles Fan C. L. LT

	B U R E A U V E R J T A S	
	Annex to the Certificate for Product of Material Manufactu	rer
	Certificate No. : IDD/Q-07/018-01	
[]	the pipe fittings for approval in acc. with PED 97/23/EC:	
The fit requirer	ttings for which the references are indicated below comply with the exercise set out in the annex I, and Article 4 of the directive 97/23/EC	ssential s
	Material grade Material specification Comments	
	WPB; WP5; WP9; ASME SA 234/SA 234M fittings and Pipe f WP11;WP22 Welded by plat	itting
	WP304; WP304L; WP316; ASME SA 403/SA 403M Celsius Degre c. Performed impa	than 0 e.
	WP316L. batch by batch	
<ul> <li>Sati mar EM</li> <li>Sati</li> </ul>	into account the following survey carried out by the qualified survey a Veritas Shanghai District: isfactory review of the technical documents and inspection records for mufacturing process. PQR No.EM1007; EM1008; EM1009; EM1010; EM10 1018. isfactory audit on the above mentioned factory and issue the audit report ref 018 Dated on 19th, July, 2007.	r approva D12; EM1

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# **Certificate of Registration**

### MOODY INTERNATIONAL

This is to certify that the Quality Management System of

# Zibe Wel-fit Metal Products Co., Ltd.

No. 18, Lushan Road, Fenghuang Town, Linzi District, Zibo, Shandong Province P. R. China

has been assessed and tsund complying with

# ISO 9001: 2000

Approval is hereby granted, for registration providing the fulles and conditions relating to certification are observed at all times. This certification has been accredited by a member of International Accreditation Forum MLA for Quality Management System. The certificate is not valid until the annual hologram is presented.

#### **CERTIFICATION SCOPE:**

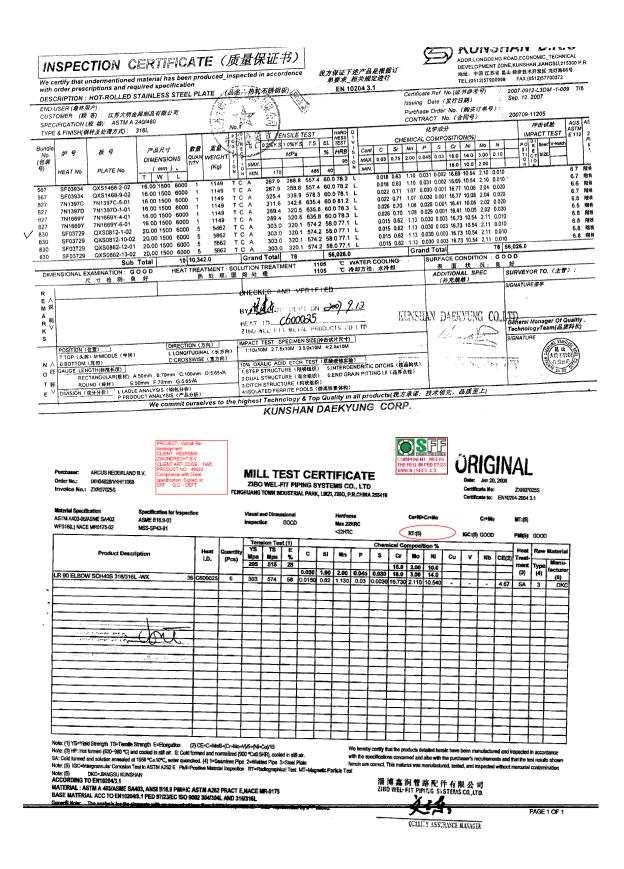
Design and Manufacture of Stainless & Carbon Steel Bult-welding Pipe Fittings and

Accessories.

# REGISTRATION NO.: 110611043

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Moody International Certification Edd



					PRODUCTS CO., LT	D			Exa	mina	tion Report	
₩ / 通博鑫利金属制品						射线检验报告						
		NO 18, LUSHAN ROAD, LINZI, ZIBO, P.R.CHINA 255418 中国淄博市临淄区路山路18号 255418				8	8 Report No. 报告编号: Date of Exam. 检验日期			ZBXR-0025S-001 2007-12-28		
Clien	nt 客户:				Contract	No.合				o. 订单号	: XR0025S	
Desc	. 工件名称:	EL			Size 规格	f:	SCH40S 3	6	Heat I	D 炉号:	C600025	
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2	01A1	1R	<b>_</b>			22	01A2	5				
3	01A1	2		1	WP	23						
4	01A1	2R	1			24						
5	01A1	3		~	WP	25						
6	01A1	3R	1			26						
7	01A1	4	1			27						
8	01A1	5	4			28						
9	01A1	6	1			29						
10	01A1	7		7	WP	30						
11	01A1	7R	1			31						
12	01A1	8		~	WP	32						
13	01A1	8R	1			33						
14	01A1	9		~	WP	34						
15	01A1	9R	-			35						
16	01A1	10		2	WP	36						
17	01A1	10R	1			37						
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