



# **BSEE Standards Workshop**

Subsea HIPPS, Key Sticking Points

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- Summary of Granherne Report: Evaluation of High Integrity Pressure Protection Systems (HIPPS)\*
- Current Initiatives
  - Upstream subsea relief
  - Comments from recent experience

\* Report Performed for MMS, Issued Apr. 12, 2010

# Evaluation of High Integrity Pressure Protection Systems (HIPPS)

- Report covered the following subjects specifically for subsea HIPPS:
  - HIPPS Valve Leakage
  - HIPPS Valve Response Times
  - HIPPS Equipment Material Selection
  - Length of Fortified Section
  - Flowline vs. Riser Burst in Deepwater
  - Recommendations on Regulation
- Following summarizes critical aspects

# HIPPS Valve Leakage

- New valves leak free
- If operation leads to wear and tear/leakage, what will operators/regulators need to assess?
- Identified Challenges
  - Realistically detectable leak rates in operation
  - Detection sensitivities
  - Packing duration to overpressure sensitivities
- Designs should consider sensitivities
- Consideration of leak contingency during system design would streamline assessment in operation

# Leak Sensitivities Identified for Consideration

- Detection sensitivity to:
  - Pressure transducer capability and errors
  - High temperatures
  - Low test pressures
  - High test volumes
  - High test GORs
- Packing duration to overpressure sensitivity to:
  - High initial pressures
  - Low downstream volumes
  - Low production fluid GORs

# HIPPS Valve Response Times

- Response times linked to:
  - Length/Volume of fortified section downstream
    - Smaller volume requires faster closure
  - Degree of fortification downstream
  - Impact of closure speed on pressure surges upstream for low GOR fluids
    - High speed yields greater surge in pressure

# HIPPS Equipment Material Selection

- No HIPPS-specific material selection issues identified for:
  - Technical design
  - Regulatory requirements
- Use same methods and materials as other subsea oil field equipment

# Length of Fortified Section

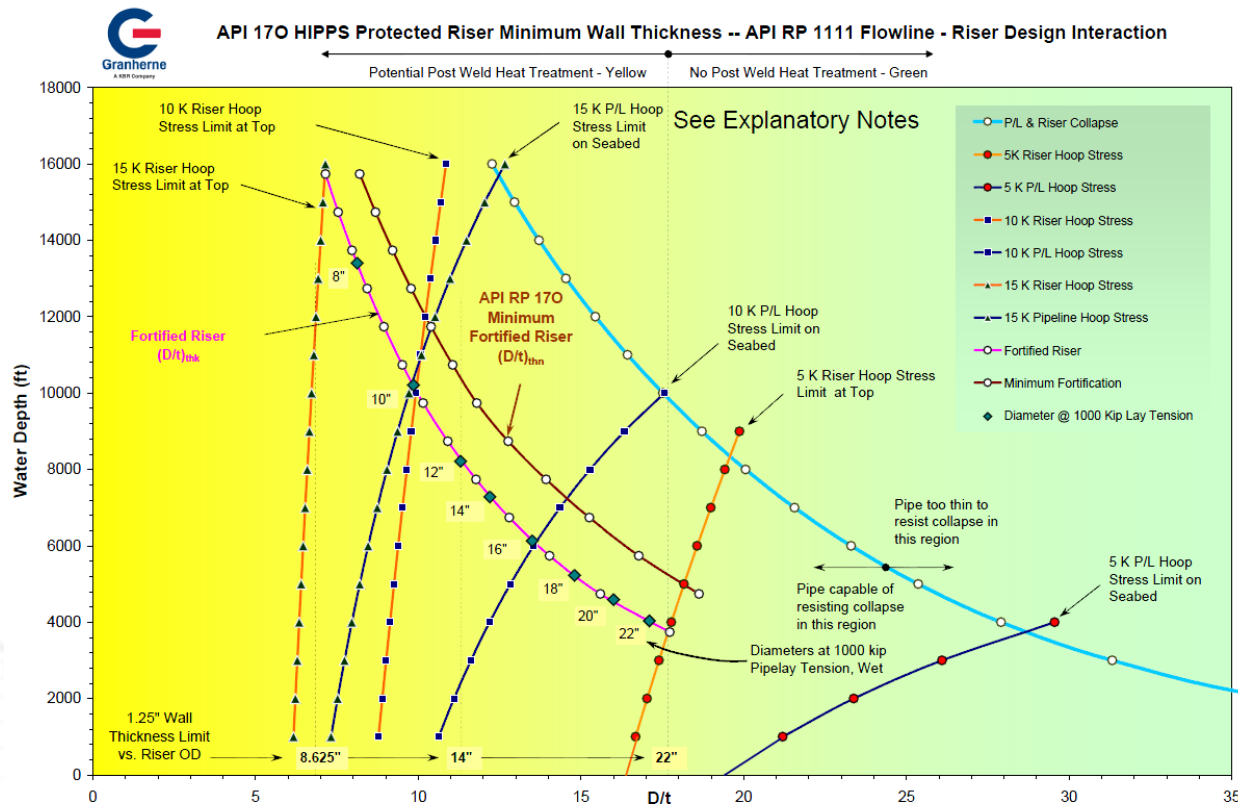
- Linked to valve response time
- Flow assurance assessment required
- Space less of a premium subsea than on a topsides

# Flowline vs. Riser Burst in Deepwater

- External head in deepwater can cause pipeline to be more burst resistant than riser
  - Increases net pressure to burst flowline
  - Can change FL design limit state to collapse
- If HIPPS fails, critical zone may then migrate to the top of the riser due to:
  - Proximity to people and process
  - No external reinforcement from water head

# Flowline vs. Riser Burst in Deepwater (Cont.)

- Evaluate complex depth, pressure rating and pipeline diameter interaction for FL and Riser



# Flowline vs. Riser Burst in Deepwater, (Cont.)

- May need to reinforce riser
  - Not always practical
- Alternative is relief system
  - Upstream of boarding valve on riser raises safety concerns
  - Safely away from facility was expected to be impractically expensive
  - Area of ongoing KBR-Granherne research

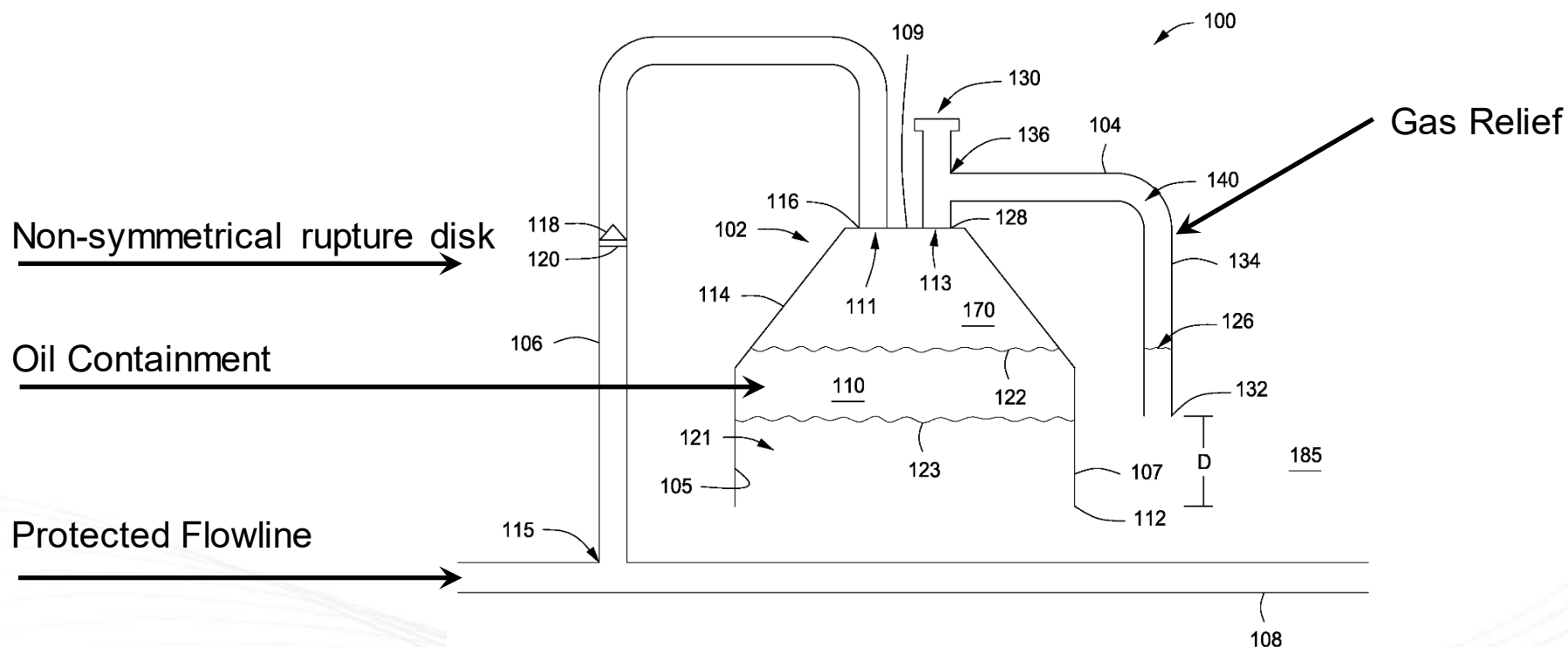
# Recommendations on Regulation

- Use API 1111 (i.e., Limit State Design) for pipelines

# Current KBR Subsea Relief Initiative

- GOM storm abandonment scenario
  - Valve failures upstream of boarding SDV
  - Platform relief/flare shutdown/storm damaged
  - Packing time to overpressure > repair/restart time
- Unlikely all valves (SCSSIV, Tree, HIPPS) open
  - Contingency protection thus for leaking valves
  - Leaking rates likely low / full flow relief unnecessary
- Subsea solution must resist external pressure
- Provide Separation / Venting to mitigate pollution

- Patent Pending Device



\* Patent Application PCT/US2013/044299