


## Drone Technology used for Inspection of Kinsale Area

- Project     
  Technology     
  Waste Management     
  Operator     
  Cleaning  
 Well P&A     
  Disconnection     
  Removal & Lifting     
  Other (Please Specify)

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**CYBERHAWK**  
Aerial Inspection and Surveying Specialists

### Overview (max 250 words)

Kinsale Energy, previously Marathon Oil Ireland (MOIL), has been operating gas fields off the County Cork coast since 1978. The gas wells in the Kinsale Area have been producing for 40 years and it is anticipated they will reach the end of their productive life by 2020/21, when the gas reserves will have been depleted. At this point, decommissioning activity is expected to begin, which will see the wells permanently plugged and associated facilities, including two offshore platforms and the onshore Inch Terminal, decommissioned.

Ahead of decommissioning, Kinsale required visual inspection of various points on the onshore and offshore assets and opted to use Cyberhawk's drone solution to achieve this.

### Challenge (max 250 words)

The workscope included inspections of multiple difficult to access areas, such as the underdeck, risers and conductors and splashzone. Platforms underdecks are traditionally difficult to inspect because access by rope access or scaffolding can be challenging and it can take several weeks to conduct the inspections, incurring high costs and requiring technicians to work at height for extended periods of time.

A 3D model of the external faces of the asset was also required.

## Solution

Drone technology has presented a viable solution to these challenges. A highly skilled pilot can overcome the lack of GPS underneath the platform and fly fully manually to complete inspections which are quicker, safer and cost-effective.

The Cyberhawk team of two, an experienced offshore pilot and an industry trained inspection engineer, were flown to the first platform then transferred to the standby vessel to conduct a full underdeck inspection of the second (unmanned) platform. Following this, the Cyberhawk team then returned to shore to inspect a communication tower at the Inch Gas Terminal.

As well as the integrity assessments, our team also captured data which allowed a 3D point cloud model of the platform to be generated.

## Results

The integrity assessments, together with the 3D point cloud model, provides data which supports contract tendering, planning and scheduling, and also provides onshore staff with an understanding of the asset that they may not have previously benefitted from.

The 3D model in particular has also provided the operator with a detailed, dimensionally accurate 360 degree view of the asset which means decommissioning activity can be planned using contextualised, up-to-date visual information.

<https://www.thecyberhawk.com/case-study/decommissioning-asset-inspection-for-kinsale-energy-in-ireland/>

See pictures on following pages...

Photos





