

23 August 2018

## ALE JACKS-UP TOPSIDE 14M AND AIDS SPEEDIER LOAD-OUT



The time and cost efficiency of ALE's Mega Jack system has been demonstrated while completing a 14m-high jack-up of a topside in Mexico.

As the Mega Jack had its own starter beams, extensive time and cost savings were made as the client did not need to fabricate temporary beams.

For a cost-effective load-out onto the barge, the topside needed to be jacked-up over 10m so it could be placed on the a specially designed desk support frame (DSF) for the load-out. The Mega Jack was the most viable option as limited site space meant they needed to avoid any disruption to other site operations.

The topside, weighing over 13,000t, was jacked-up to 14m high in stages. Upon reaching the first jacking phase 5.5m high, the client could access the forklifts under the topside, which was a major advantage as they could continue operations and optimise the project schedule. Once at full height (14m), the DSF could then be installed underneath and jacked-down ready for the load-out.

For the jacking operation, ALE configured the Mega Jack with eight towers, each with 5,200t capacity. This provided the strength needed to lift such a heavy weight whilst evenly distributing the ground loading pressure.

Teun Van Gorp, Project Manager/Engineer for ALE who specialises in the Mega Jack system, said: "It is fantastic to be involved in such a unique project. As the

Mega Jack is much more efficient than other systems on the market, with quicker assembly and jacking speeds, it provided a smart solution that saved time and overall costs.

“The Mega Jack was also a safer option for us operating in a busy site, as its inherent contingencies reduced the overall ‘critical operation’ and no working at height or welding connections were required. By using a world-leading jacking structure such as this, the client saved money by not investing in fabrication, which also gave them the long-term competitive edge. We are really happy with the achievements so far and are preparing for the next phase.”

This is part of a full offshore service contract where ALE is executing the weighing, jacking, load-out and installation of the topside, jacket and platform. The next stage will involve the load-out and the offshore installation, with all offshore operations expected to finish in October.

## **ENDS**

***Issued by the ALE Press Office. For more information, please contact Sarah Maia, Group PR Officer, 01782 977 146 or [s.maia@ale-heavylift.com](mailto:s.maia@ale-heavylift.com)***

**Image 1: ALE jacking-up a topside 14m high.**

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS: ABOUT ALE**

ALE delivers a highly tailored, end-to-end service covering every aspect of the handling, transportation and installation of heavy, indivisible loads, including lifting, transporting, installing, ballasting, jacking and weighing.

ALE provides strategic heavy-lift services to a wide range of sectors, including civil, oil and gas, energy, nuclear, offshore, renewables, petrochemical, ports, marine, minerals and metals and mining.

ALE has more than 30 offices across Europe, the Far East, Africa, America, South America, the Middle East and Australia. It is fully compliant with international standards of safety and excellence, including Quality standard ISO 9001:2015, Environmental standard ISO 14001:2015, and Health and Safety Standard OHSAS 18001:2007. Further information can be found on the ALE website at [www.ale-heavylift.com](http://www.ale-heavylift.com).