

# PROJECT MANAGEMENT

## Project Management

International

### Marine Operability Review of an Offshore Barge Oil Product Transfer Facility

Client: Trafigura Beheer BV  
Location: Bata, Equatorial Guinea  
Period: August 2010

#### Review of Marine Operability Aspects of an Oil Products Transfer Barge

Trafigura have an interest in partnering with the local developer of an oil products transfer and storage facility in Bata, Equatorial Guinea. Construction of the facility was completed in 2009, but the facility had not been put to use due to partnering arrangements.

Operational procedures for the product transfer processes and marine operability aspects for the installation were not available. Consequently, Trafigura commissioned PMI to undertake a review of the installation and to report on the status quo with respect to marine operability.

#### The Methodology

Three distinct work packages were undertaken:

- High-level desk top study of the marine and climatic environmental conditions at Bata, using published data
- A Site visit to the installation, incorporating:
  - Inspections and measurements



- Measurements aboard the barge
- Interviews with the facility operator, construction contractor, and local maritime authorities
- Visit to the shore-based installation, and Port of Bata

- Preparation of a report on the as-built facility, based on the desk top study and site visit.

#### Review Output

Based on the investigations, it was clear that the terminal was unsafe, from marine operability aspects, for the Client to berth vessels of over 3,000DWT at the Product transfer barge. This was primarily due to the

fact that the location, configuration, and capacity of the barge anchorages were indeterminate, given information at hand.

PMI recommended that a dive investigation, followed by some engineering analysis be performed as a next step to understand the facility marine operability capabilities.

