

# Sensorlink

## Corrosion and Erosion Monitoring Using High Accuracy UT – Subsea, Topside and Underground

Icorr – 8 June 2023

Kjell Wold

Business Development Director

Email: [kjell.wold@sensorlink.no](mailto:kjell.wold@sensorlink.no)



ISO 9001:2015 certified | IECEx certified | Achilles JQS qualified

# Company Facts

Sensorlink specializes in innovative solutions for pipeline integrity management based on ultrasound technology

- Established in 1997
- Spinoff from NTNU/SINTEF (*one of Europe's largest technology and R&D centers*)
- Head office in Trondheim, Norway



# Reference List - Recent Highlights (Apr 2023)

## PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> and PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> Swarm (Dry)

More than 200 deliveries (<5500 sensors) delivered since 2011

- Middle East – buried and open pipelines – 20 stations - 16 sensors each
- SEA – offshore erosion monitoring – 10 platforms, > 400 sensors
- Oceania – pipeline – 8 locations – 8 sensors each
- Kazakhstan – pipelines/refining – 6 locations – 24 sensors each
- Canada – Oil Sands – 10 Swarm belts – 24 sensors each



## UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> (Subsea)

38 subsea deliveries since 2008

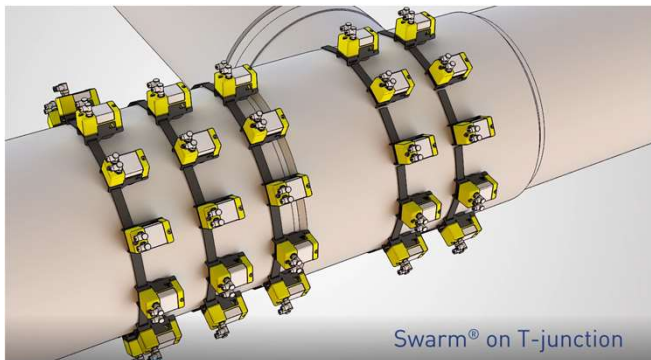
- Azerbaijan - 10 UltraMonit devices
- Australia – UltraMonit retrofit system to existing pipelines
- Australia – erosion monitoring – 10 + 7 units
- West Africa – diver installed retrofit system
- Middle East – 7 UltraMonit Systems



# Current Trends in Integrity and Corrosion/Erosion Management 1/2.

## Inspection and monitoring both needed

- Inspection cover total asset according to plan
  - Periodic
  - Moderate/low sensitivity
  - Focus on safety – fit for service - repairs
- Monitoring cover selected locations
  - Continuous – on-line
  - High sensitivity – fast information
  - Proactive actions (mitigation, process control)
- Trend towards increased monitoring share of integrity program



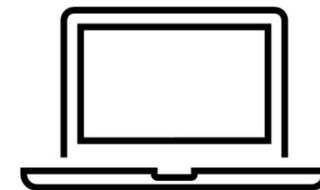
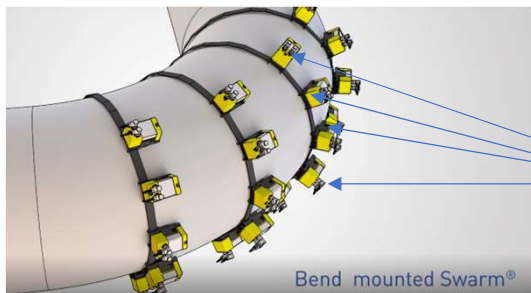
## Non-intrusive replace intrusive monitoring

- Intrusive (probes): high sensitivity/fast response
  - UT closing sensitivity gap
- Non-intrusive benefits
  - Safety
    - Penetration of pipe not needed
    - High pressure retrievals not needed
      - Particularly important in sour service (safety)
  - Low long time cost (retrievals and replacement of equipment not needed).
  - More reliable measurements
    - Measure metal loss where it is
    - Not affected by patterns or deposits influencing measurements

# Current Trends in Integrity and Corrosion/Erosion Management 2/2.

## Wired vs. wireless communication

- Wireless makes on-line communication affordable – particularly brown fields
- Wireless standards established (ISA 100, WiHART)
- Wireless battery powered
  - Compromise on life/measurement frequency
- Wired solutions externally powered
  - Frequent measurements possible
    - Better trending, faster/more reliable information



## Focus on actionable information

- Which decisions shall be made based on monitoring data?
- Type of data needed?
- Format of data preferred?
- Solutions to provide needed information?
  - Measurement technology?
  - Communication?
  - User interface (software)?

# High Accuracy UT Drives Transition Towards Non-Intrusive Monitoring

- **Accurate** Pulse Echo measurements and advanced processing provide easy to understand data – metal loss measured where it happens
- **High accuracy/repeatability** (down to 2,5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) ensures fast information allowing proactive actions and process optimization
- **Safe** and low maintenance/operational cost



## Sensorlink UltraMonit®

Subsea pipeline wall thickness monitoring (corrosion and erosion)

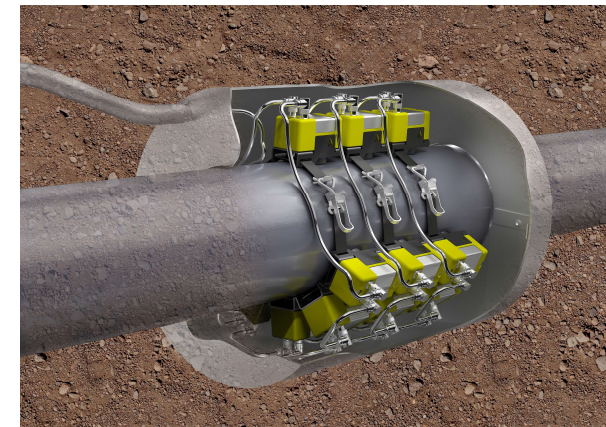


## Sensorlink PipeMonit® Swarm

Topside/Landbased wall thickness monitoring

## SensorlinkPipeMonit® Swarm

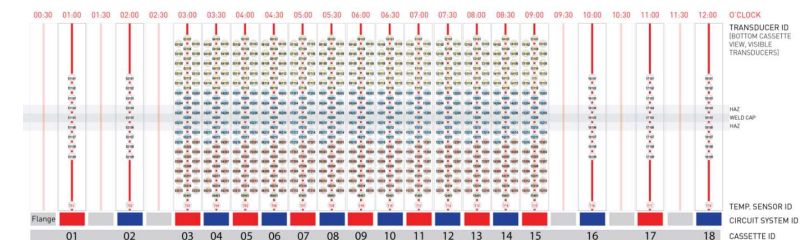
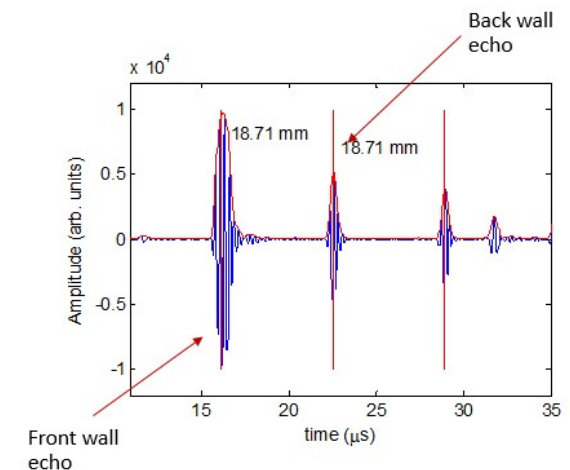
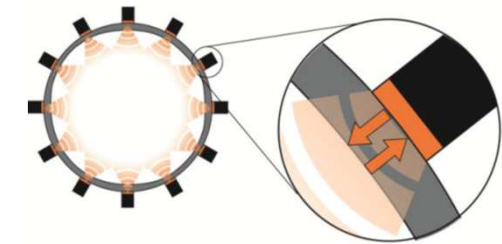
Cover for buried pipeline applications



# Sensorlink Technology

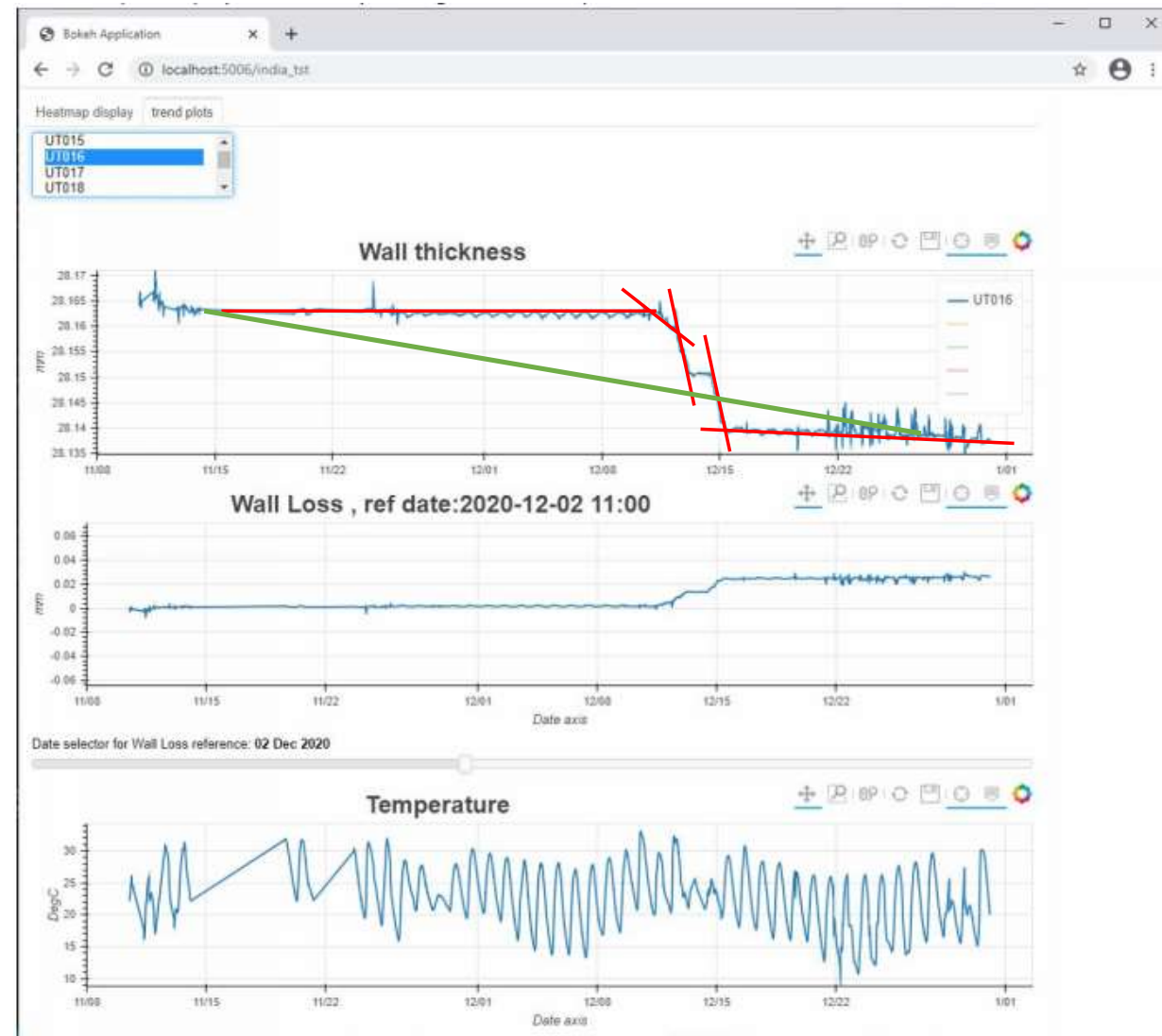
## Wall thickness monitoring using Single Element Pulse/Echo Transducers

- Non-Intrusive
- Direct wall thickness measurement of pipe wall
- Not sensitive to pipe wall thickness
- Matrix driven to cover area of interest
- Temperature rating from -40 to 550°C (pipe wall temperature)
- Fixed sensors combined with advanced signal processing detects wall loss from less than .1 mills (2.5 micrometres) pending on product and installation location



# Swarm<sup>®</sup>/Ultramonit<sup>®</sup> Benefits

- Consistent over time – independent of operator
- Data processed and digitalized on location
  - Direct use of data by user
  - Application software for data analysis not needed
- Straight forward data interpretation
  - Trusted information
  - Informed actions
- “Best in class” data accuracy and repeatability
  - Early actions – before damage
  - Efficient corrosion and erosion management
  - Optimized process and operation





# Sensors Optimized for Different Applications



## SWARM S1

- Temp -40 to 125
- IP 67
- Repeatability 0,0025mm
- daisy chained for maximum of 250 S1 sensors per datalogger
- Communicates through SDL or FDL Dataloggers
- Certification:
  - EX ib IIB T4 Gb



## SWARM LT

- Temp -40 p to 150
- IP 66
- Repeatability 0,01mm
- Single channel sensor with a maximum of 4 sensors per datalogger (option 4 x 4 with Multiplexer wired solutions)
- Commucates through Swarm S2 Datalogger
- Certification:
  - Ex II 2G Ex ib IIB T4 Gb



## SWARM HT

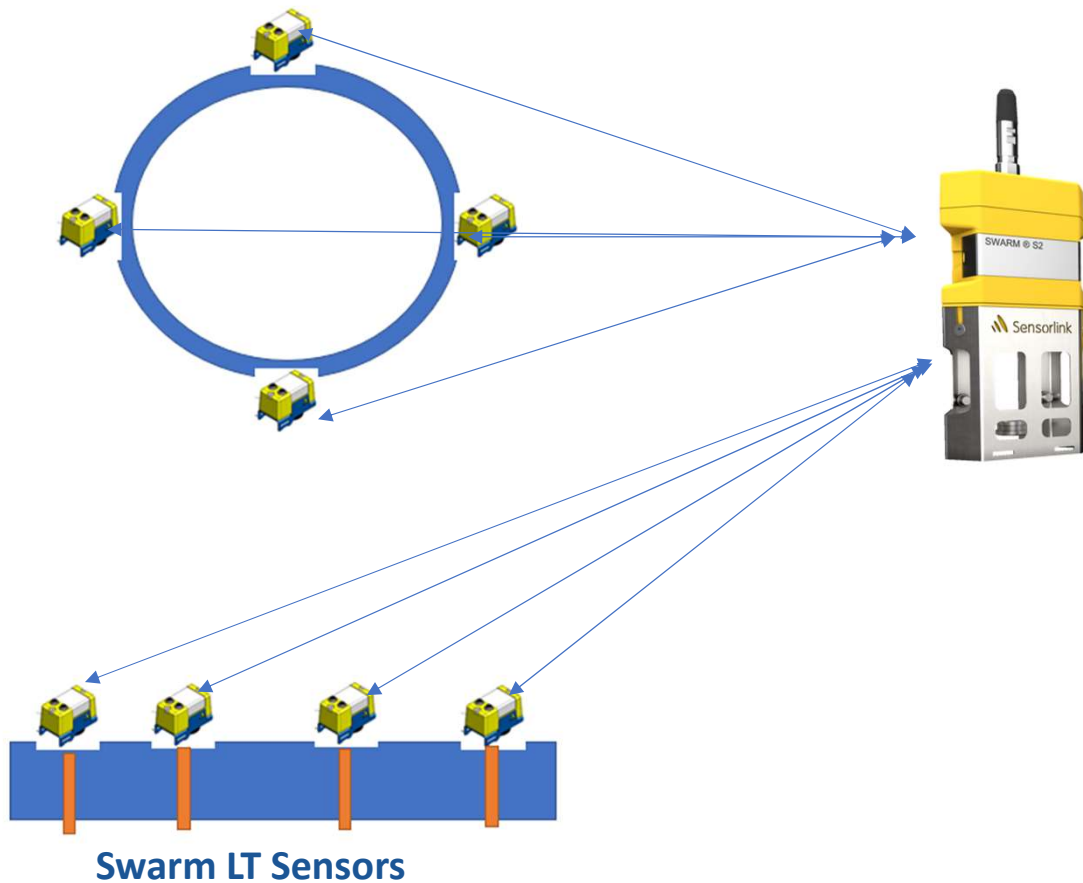
- Temp 150 to 350
- IP 66 and 68
- Repeatability 0,01mm
- Single channel sensor with a maximum of 4 sensors per datalogger
- Communicates through Swarm S2 Datalogger
- Certification:
  - II 1 GD Ex ia IICT\* Ga



## SWARM UHT

- Temp 350 to 500
- IP 66 and 68
- Repeatability 0,01mm
- Single channel sensor with a maximum of 4 sensors per datalogger
- Communicates through Swarm S2 Datalogger
- Certification:
  - II 1 GD Ex ia IICT\* Ga

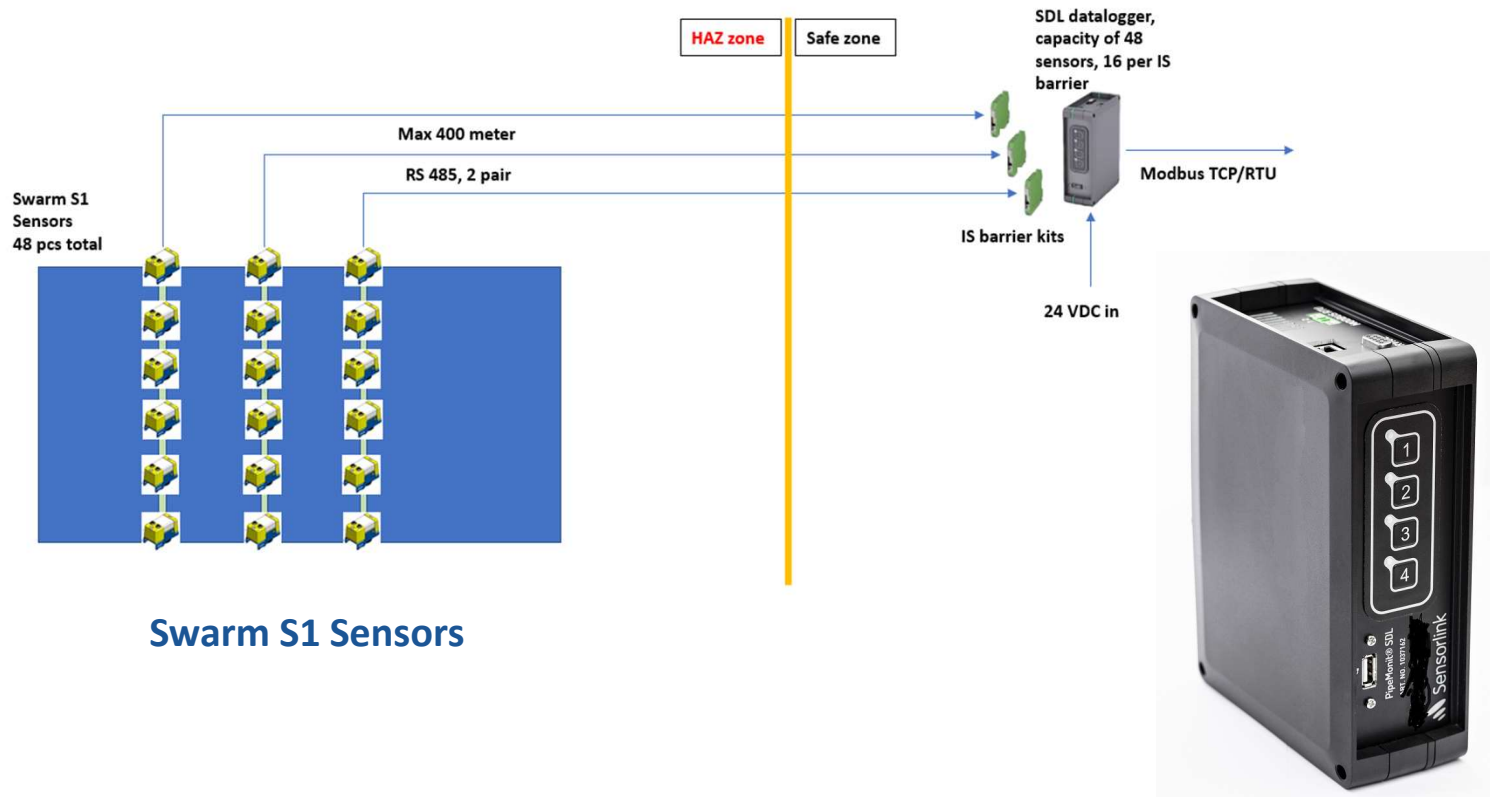
# PipeMonit® Swarm S2 Datalogger (Ex)



## Main Specifications:

- Ambient temp -40°C to 70°C
- Data output options:
  - Bluetooth
  - Wireless ISA 100 (WiHART Q3/2023 – LoRaWan Q1 2024)
  - GSM
  - Modbus TCP/RTU
- Data delivered
  - Wall thickness
  - Temperature on pipe
  - "Data Quality Stamp»
- Power options
  - Battery operated (industry standard batteries)
    - 24 VDC/110-240VAC
- Ex rating
  - Ex II 2G Ex ib IIB T4 Gb

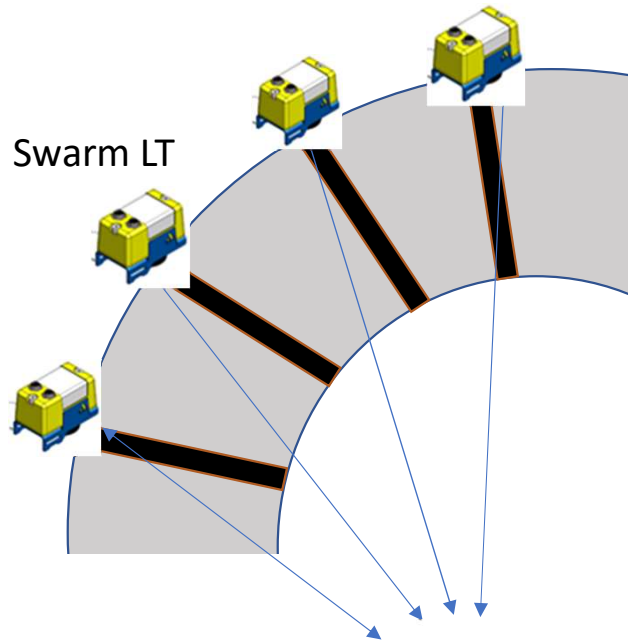
# Pipemonit Swarm SDL Datalogger (safe zone)



## Main Specifications:

- Ambient temp -20°C to 50°C
- Data output options:
  - USB
  - Modbus TCP/RTU
- Data delivered
  - Wall thickness
  - Temperature on pipe
  - "Data Quality Stamp»
  - CSV format
- Power options
  - 24 VDC/110-240VAC
- Ex rating
  - None, need ExD housing for ATEX zone
  - Barriers needed when installed in safe zone

# Sensorlink Wireless Configuration Sketch



Swarm LT

## Explanation:

- 4 Swarm LT sensors hooked up to Swarm S2 Datalogger (max 10 meter cable)
- Swarm S2 Datalogger hooked up to RadioHub
- RadioHub converts signal to ISA 100, WiHART for wireless Transmission
- Standard (or other) Wireless Gateway
- Wired connection to DCS or user data base

1 – 4 LT sensor wired to Swarm S2 datalogger (max 10 meters)



Swarm S2



RadioHub

WirelessHART

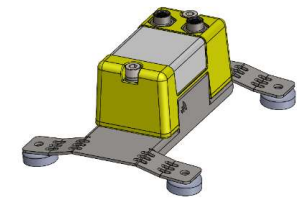


Standard WiHART Gateway

DCS or Customer Data Base



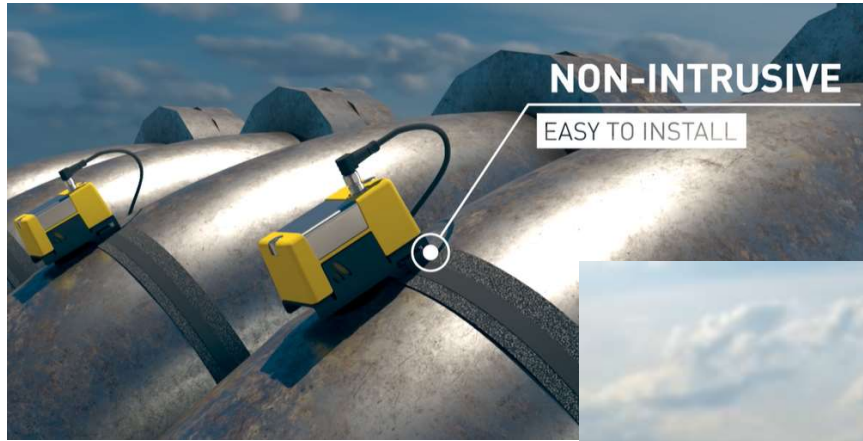
# PipeMonit® Swarm for Topside/Landbased Applications



Magnetic clamp for Sensor installation (welded installation optional)

Strap installation allow flexibility in installation and configuration

# PipeMonit® Swarm Platform Topsides/Plants



- Strap, magnet or welded sensor attachment
- Multiple Swarm LT sensors per strap
- Multiple Swarm LT sensors per Swarm S2 Datalogger
- Wired or wireless communication
- Batteries or permanent power



- Typical applications:
  - Carbon steel flowlines and process piping
    - Tuning and verifying corrosion inhibitors
    - Process tuning and root cause identification
    - Integrity verification
  - Corrosion Resistant Alloys
    - Erosion monitoring and wall thickness verification
    - Sand detection
    - Flow rate optimization
- Value
  - Safer operations
  - Extended equipment life
  - Reduced OPEX (planned maintenance and repair)
  - Optimized production rates
  - Non-Intrusive => Low investment – low operating cost – no added operational risk!

# PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> Swarm (Buried) Pipelines

- **Typical applications:**

- **Unprocessed crude or gas pipelines**
  - **Bottom/Top of Line Corrosion**
- **Predictive:**
  - **Investigate critical points – low spots, condensation points....**
- **Reactive:**
  - **Monitor corroded areas identified through ILI or other inspection**

- **Value**

- **Safety – reduce risk of unexpected incidents**
- **Cost reduction –**
  - **Optimize ILI frequency**
    - **Reduce if low corrosion rates**
    - **Increase if high corrosion rates**
  - **Plan maintenance and repairs**
  - **Extend asset life**



# Swarm Installation Buried Pipe





# PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> Swarm on Riser Bend

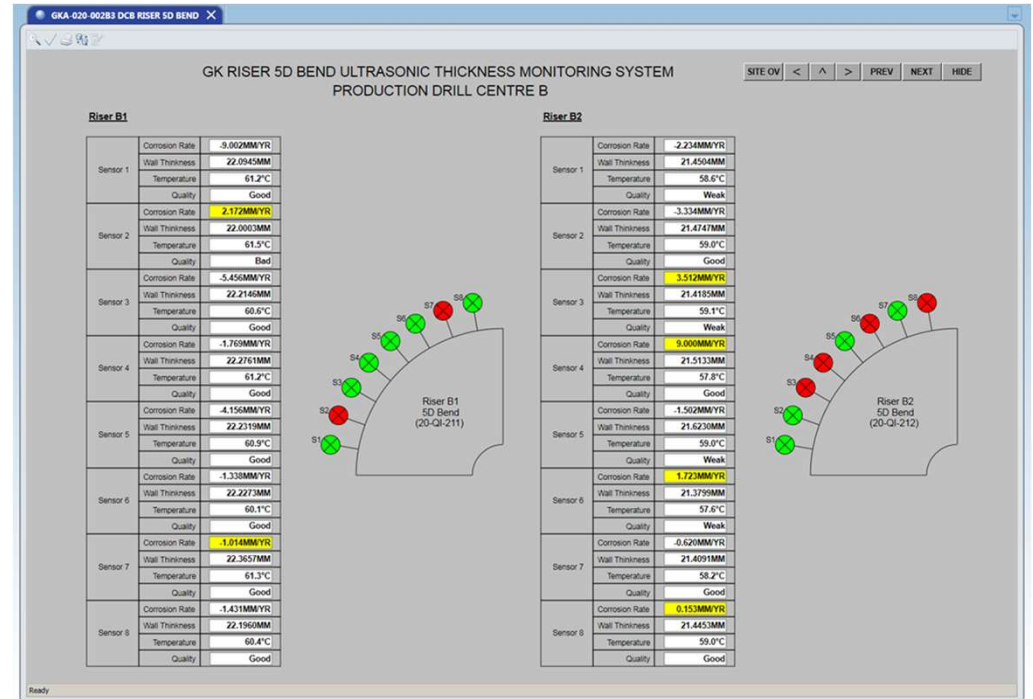
Swarm S1 w/ protective cover



Swarm S1 with fire protection



Swarm Visualisation



# PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> Swarm UT Sensor Belt for Extended Pipe-Life



- Typical applications:
  - Mining/Sand Oil Production
  - Monitor erosion/corrosion at critical clock positions
  - Rotate pipe to maximize pipe life based on erosion/corrosion measurements
- Value
  - Extended pipe life
  - Reduced risk for unexpected failure
- Key data
  - 24 sensors per belt
  - Repeatability typically 25 micrometer
  - On-line and off-line options
  - Not certified for hazardous areas

**Low-Cost Option for Field Applications!**

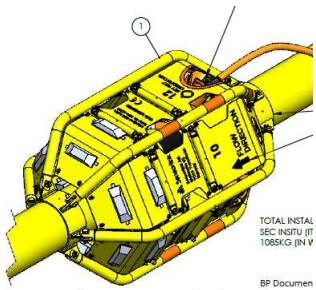
# PipeMonit® Swarm in Refineries

- **Challenges:**
  - Many locations
  - Difficult access
  - High Temperatures
  - Complex corrosion challenges
- **PipeMonit® Swarm Benefits:**
  - Sensors up to 500 °C
  - Cost-effective
    - Up to 4 sensors per datalogger
    - Wireless communication
    - Commercially available batteries, easy replacement
    - Data processed on location - application software not needed
  - Best in class accuracy/repeatability

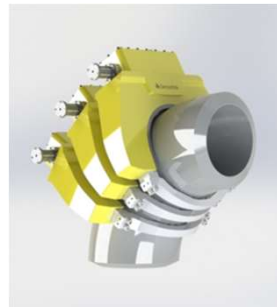


# UltraMonit - Subsea systems

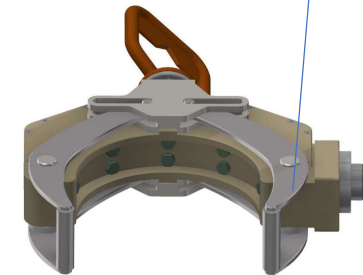
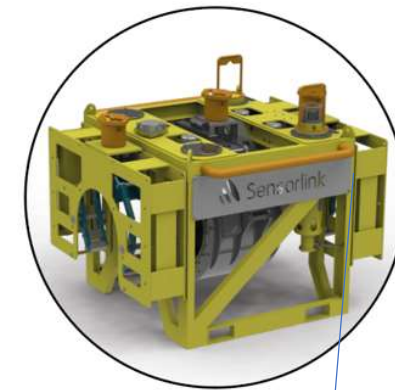
Fixed installations/  
new pipelines



Retrofittable  
modular design



Retrofit  
installations



# UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> - New Subsea Pipelines

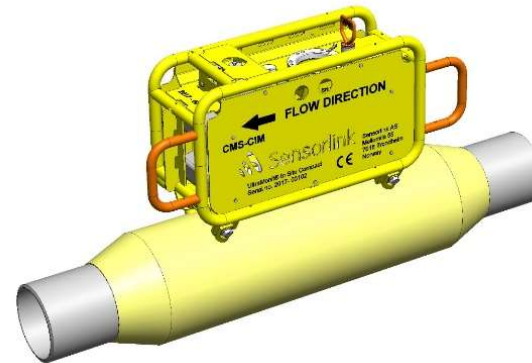
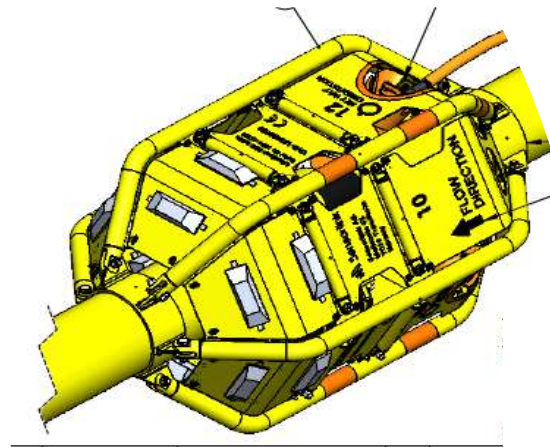
## Typical applications:

- Carbon Steel Pipelines
- High content of corrosive media like CO<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>S
- Gas condensate wells
- Often installed close to well (highest potential for corrosion and condensation/temperature drop)
- Corrosion monitoring on weld/HAZ

## Value:

- Safety – avoid unexpected corrosion damage and leaks
- Verify and tune corrosion inhibition
- Optimize use of inline inspection (ILI)

Reference: AMPP Corrosion 2021 Paper No 16715



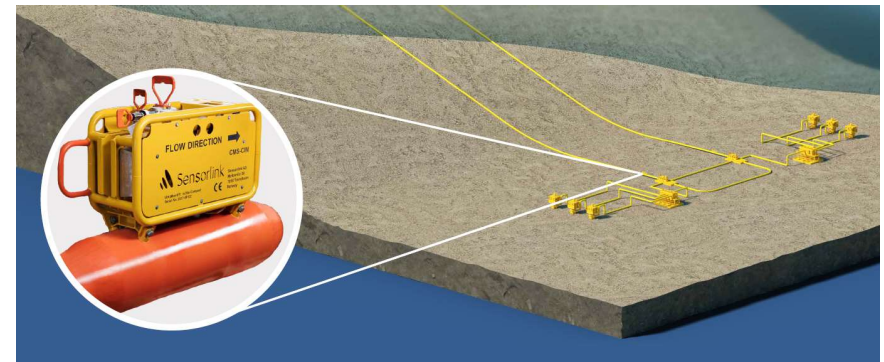
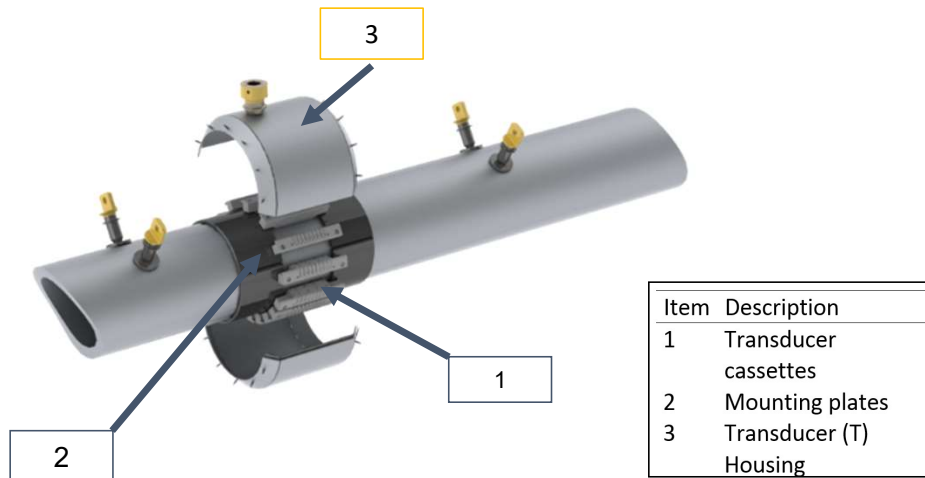
# Layout of UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> - New Subsea Pipelines

The UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> Unit is assembled by Sensorlink

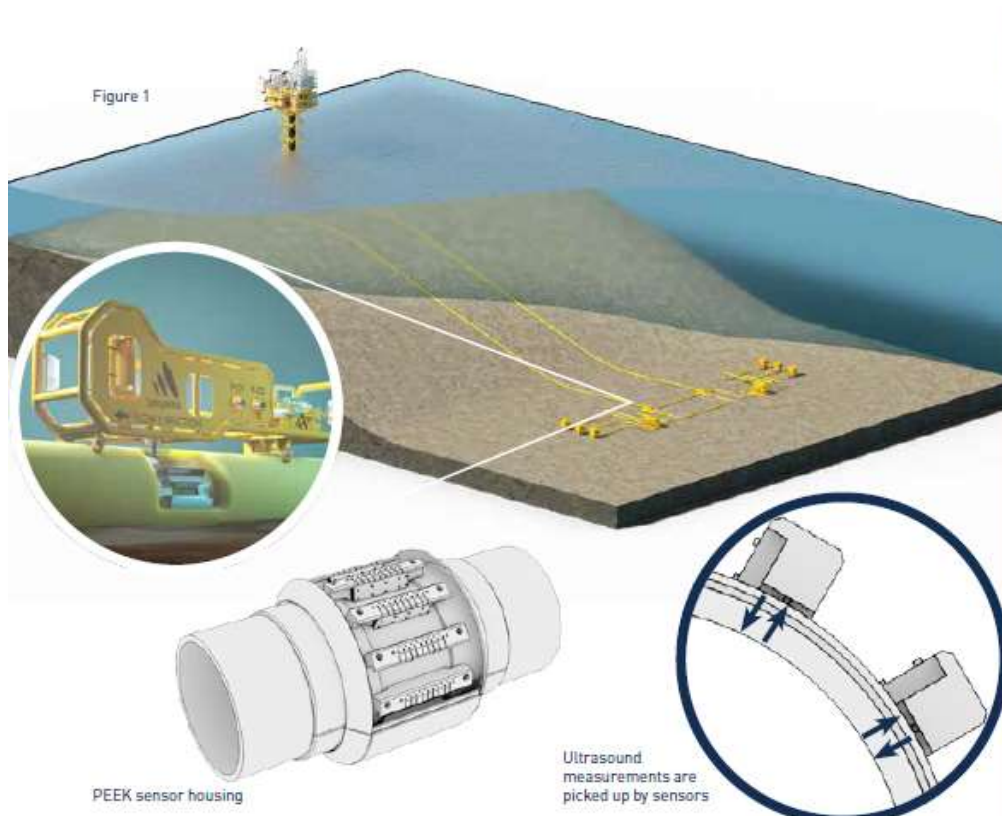
- Client provide spool, with weld if corrosion monitoring on weld is important
- Sensorlink weld mounting plates and mount transducer cassettes and transducer housing
- Housing is pressure tested and filled with silicone oil
- Coating is applied
- Bumper frame with electronics is assembled to the spool

## Capacities

- Wall Thickness Accuracy:  $\leq 0.1$  mm (0,004 inches)
- Sensitivity:  $< 2,5\mu\text{m}$  (0.1 mills)
- Temperature:  $150^{\circ}\text{C}$  (302 F)
- Water depth : 3000 meters (10 000ft)
- Design life: 30 + years
- Qualified according to API 17F



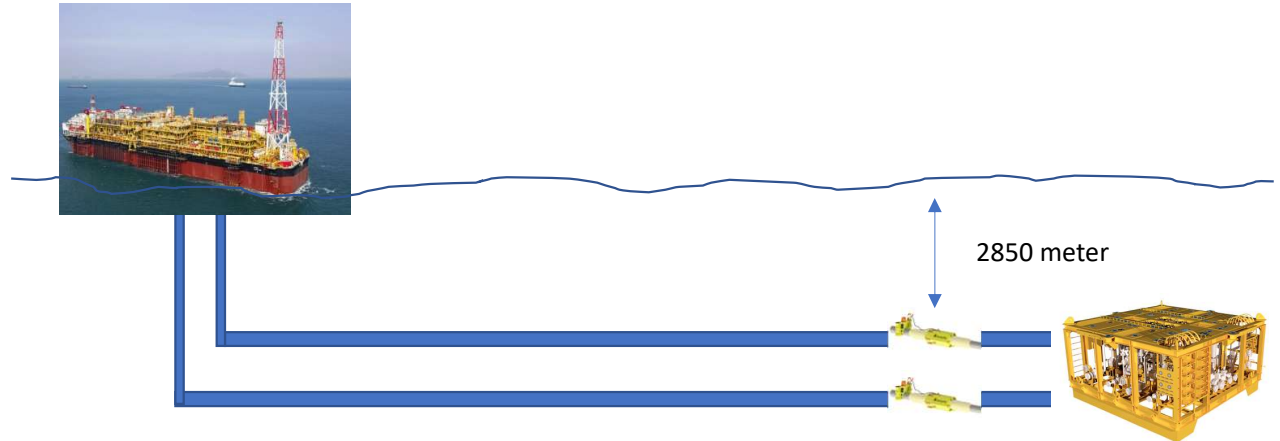
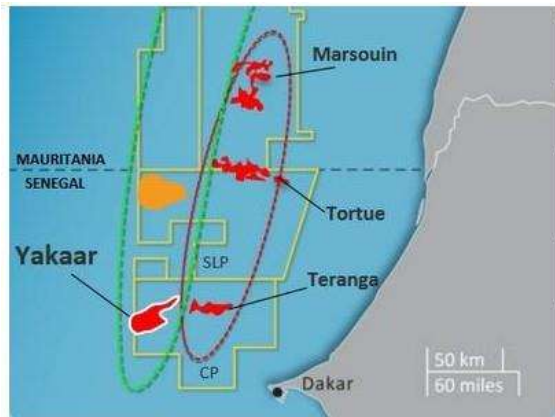
# Use Case, Caspian Sea



- 16 inch flowlines (10) feed condensate from 30 wells
- One UltraMonit In Situ installed on the first CS/CS weld after the FTA (Flowline Termination Assembly)
- Online and real-time feedback on corrosion rates used to evaluate inhibitor effectiveness
- 104 transducers per instrument

Reference: AMPP Corrosion 2021 Paper No 16715

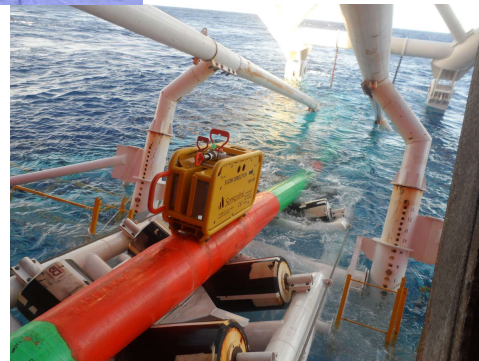
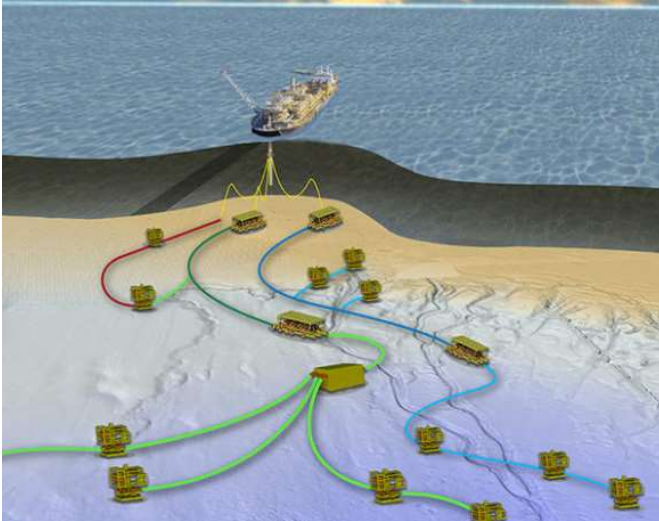
# Use Case – Offshore West Africa



- 120 km offshore Senegal/Mauretania
- 2850 meter water depth
- 2 x production lines 16,75 inch
- Online and real-time feedback on corrosion rates used to evaluate inhibitor effectiveness
- 700 transducers per instrument



# Use Case, Offshore Australia



- **Subsea tieback, 31 km**
- **2 x 24 inch pipelines from field to FPSO**
- **One UltraMonit In Situ installed close to PLET on each pipeline**
- **Online and real-time feedback on corrosion rates used to evaluate inhibitor effectiveness**
- **700 transducers per instrument**

# UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> Subsea Corrosion/Erosion Monitoring

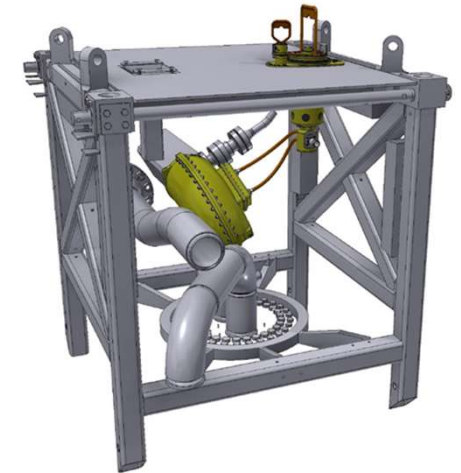
## Concept:

- Installed on X-mas tree before installation or during dry maintenance
- Array of Ultrasound transducers
- Subsea clamp with sealing
- Pressure compensated
- Retrieveable datalogger
- Self contained unit with batteries or connected to subsea control system

## Value:

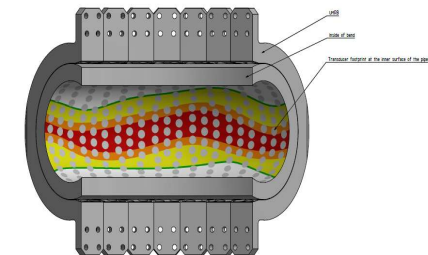
- **Safety:** Avoid unexpected erosion damage and loss of containment
- **Economics**
  - Early warning if sand production/erosion increase – extended asset life
  - Optimize production rates versus sand production/erosion rates

Retrieveable datalogger



Subsea clamp with sealing

Array of transducers



Erosion pattern example as per flow assurance analysis

# UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> Subsea Retrofit

Tool for non-intrusive wall thickness monitoring.

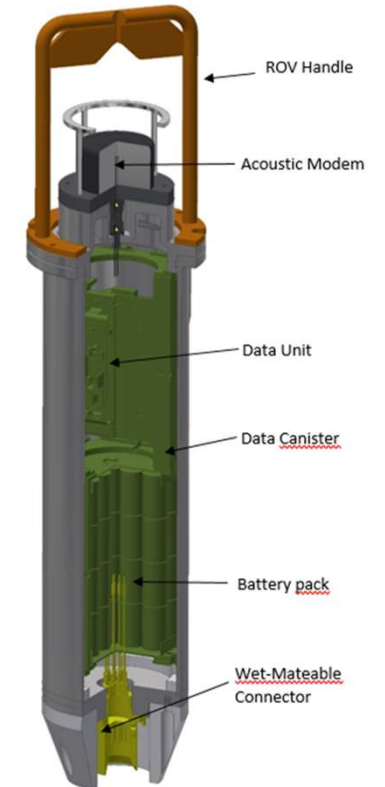
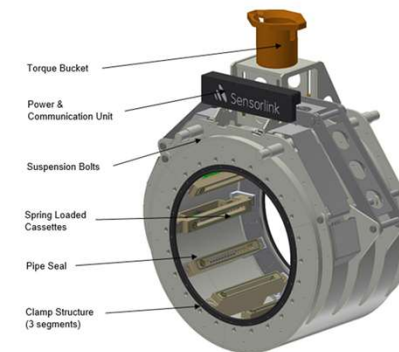
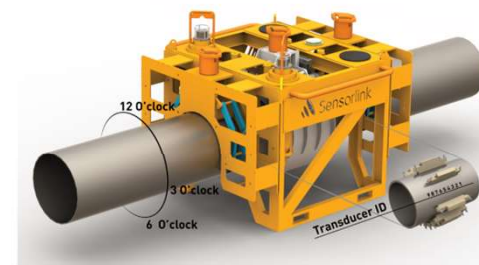
Provides pipe wall temperature, wall thickness, corrosion/erosion rate, and corrosion profile estimation.

Typical build-up of UltraMonit<sup>®</sup> retrofit

- Bumper frame
- Clamp with transducer elements
- Datalogger
- Battery/batteries

The transducers can be arranged according to client requirements, either in elements or in a matrix to cover more pipe wall

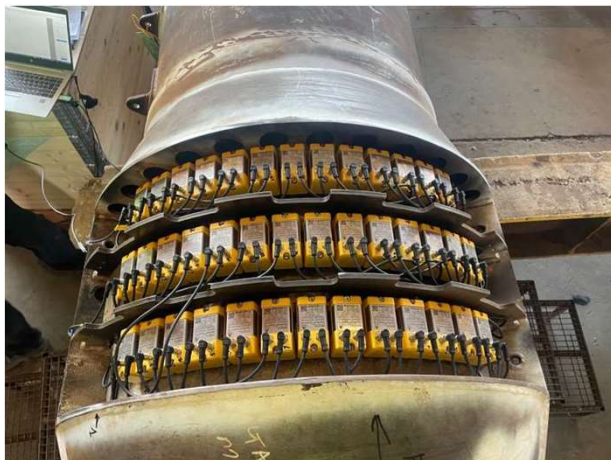
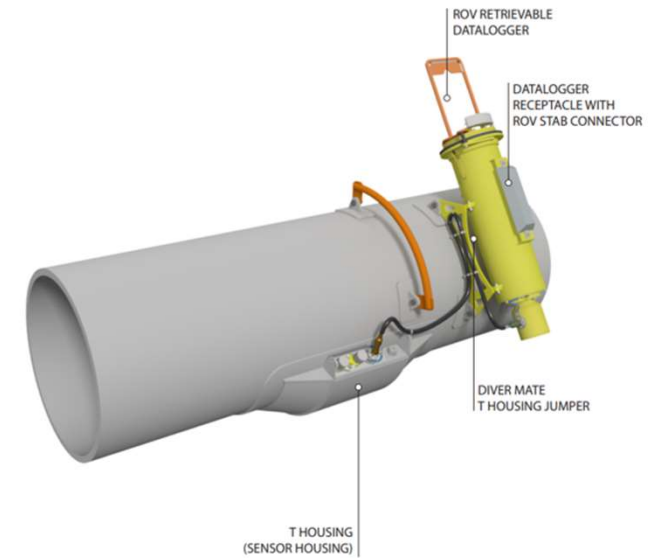
- Capacities
- Accuracy:  $\leq 0.1$  mm (0,004 inches)
- Sensitivity:  $< 10\mu\text{m}$  (0.4 mills)
- Temperature:  $150^{\circ}\text{C}$  (302 F)
- Water depth : 3000 meters (10 000ft)
- Design life: 15 years



Data Canister

# UltraMonit® Shallow Water Subsea

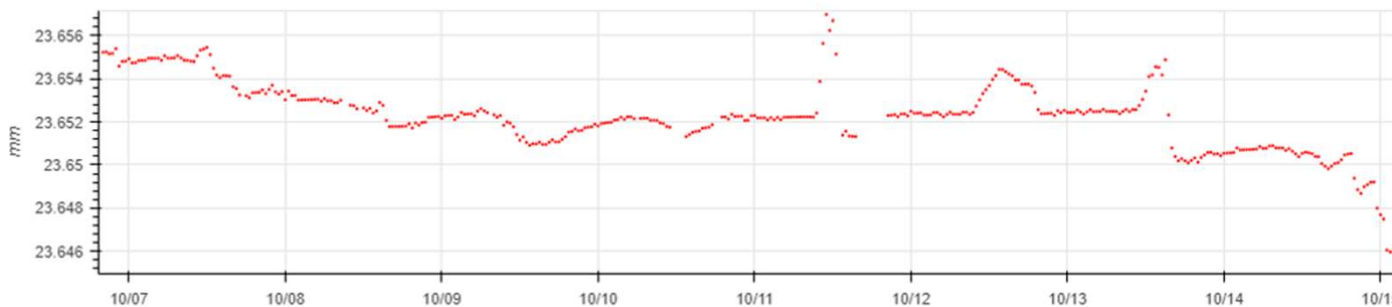
- Actual application 50 meters
- 40 High Accuracy UT sensors bottom of pipe
- Sensors in closed oil filled chamber
- Data logger installation/replacement by diver or ROV
- Upgrade to external power/online communication possible
- Installation 2023



# Proactive corrosion and erosion management

## Ultramonit<sup>®</sup>/Swarm<sup>®</sup> measurements allow proactive use of corrosion/erosion monitoring data

- Inhibitor tuning
- Optimized production rates
- Crude feed blending



Metal loss versus time data (one sensor) from erosion test stainless steel pipe.  
Unfiltered, temperature compensated data. Observe random variations in +/- 2 micron range

## Suggested approach:

Set flag when corrosion/erosion rates exceed random variations:

- Warning:
  - 1 day rate exceed 1 mm/y
- Managing
  - 1 week rate exceed 0,2 mm/y
- Integrity
  - 1 month rate exceed 0,05 mm/y

Flag settings tuned to actual measurement variations

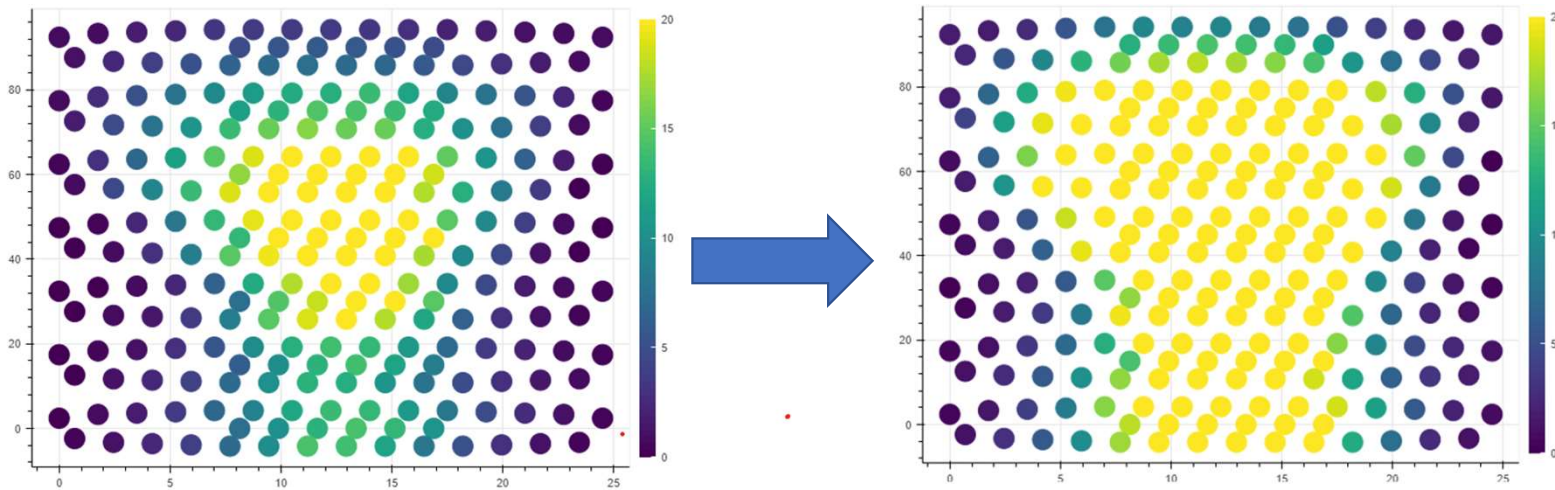
*2,7 micron/day = 1 mm/y  
2,7 micron/week = 0,14 mm/y  
2,7 micron/month = 0,03 mm/Y*

*Accuracy/response time can be improved by more frequent measurements/filtering (wired systems)*

# Ultramonit<sup>®</sup>/PipeMonit<sup>®</sup> Swarm Data

Efficient tracking of corrosion/erosion distribution and growth

Data processed and digitalized on location – straight forward data interpretation and reporting



*Format for metal loss mapping subject to change*



**Distribution of UT sensors at Subsea Bend**

# Intrusive vs Non-Intrusive Sand/Erosion Monitoring (SL Swarm)

- Both systems measure erosive effect of sand particles
- Intrusive system
  - + Very high sensitivity 0,01 – 0,1 micrometer – very fast response to sand production
  - + Multiple elements – increased probability for detecting sand
  - - Intrusive
    - Costly access systems, probe consumed, field retrievals, extra turbulence, wake frequency qualification
- Sensorlink Swarm
  - +/- High sensitivity (2,5 micrometer) – fast response
  - + Erosion at pipe wall measured directly
  - + Data processed on location – direct transfer to DCS
  - + Non-intrusive
    - Safety not compromised, maintenance free, no additional erosion caused by intrusive probe



**NOTE:**  
Quantification of sand based on erosion rates is possible in theory, but highly dependent on flow rates and not recommended by Sensorlink

# Summary

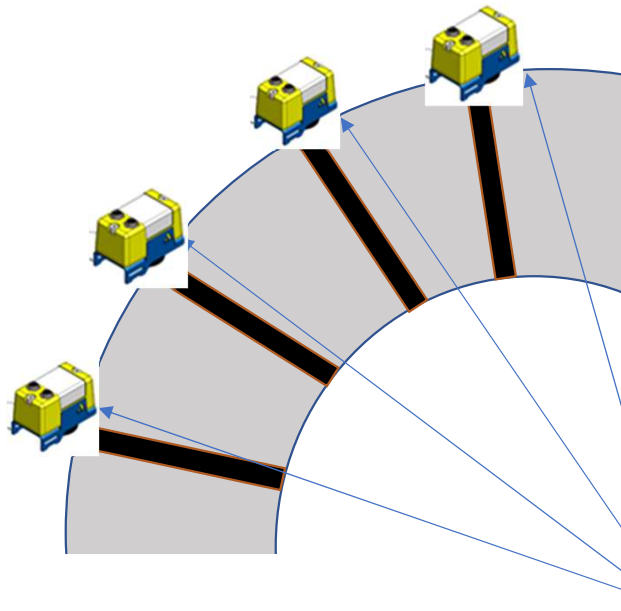
- Full range of topside and subsea solutions.
- Array of high accuracy pulse echo sensors provide:
  - High resolution/repeatability (2,5 micrometers)
  - Wall thickness measurements easy to understand and relate to
  - Heat maps for distribution of erosion/erosion rates
- Combined solutions with intrusive and non-intrusive corrosion and erosion monitoring available
- Sensitivity of high accuracy UT allows proactive corrosion/erosion/sand management

Try It!

Fast and reliable information that is easy to understand  
=> better operational decisions



# Suggested start-up solution with Swarm LT sensors in bend



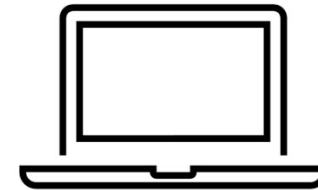
1 – 4 LT sensor wired to  
Swarm S2 datalogger  
(max 10 meters)



Bluetooth

Note: Antenna applicable for  
wireless communication only

Laptop PC – Pipeview  
Software



Thank You for Listening



Kjell Wold

Business Development Director

Email: [kjell.wold@sensorlink.no](mailto:kjell.wold@sensorlink.no)

ISO 9001:2015 certified | IECEx certified | Achilles JQS qualified

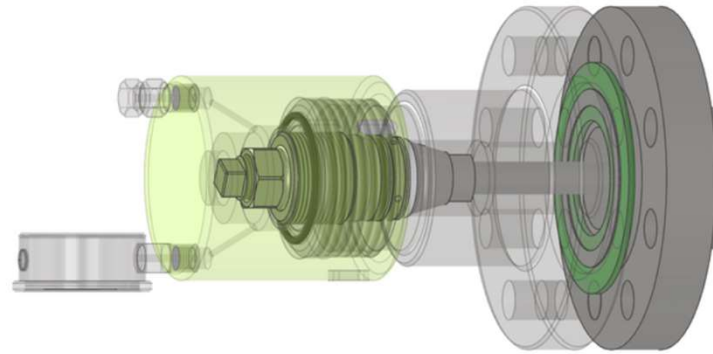
# Combined Intrusive and Non-Intrusive Solutions

## Axess-Corrosion:

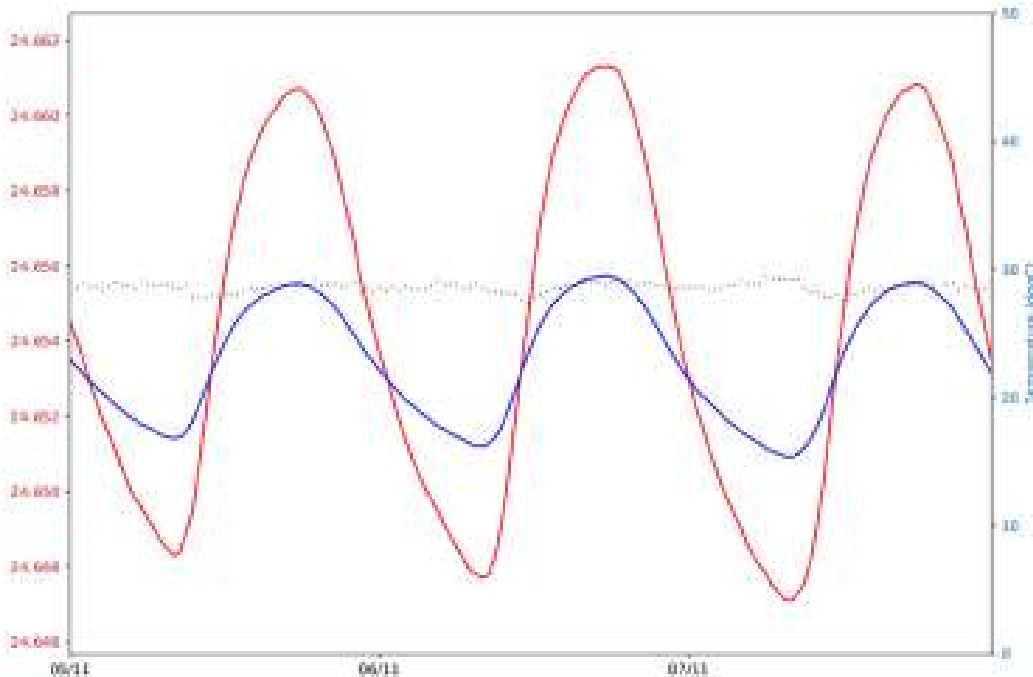
Full range of intrusive corrosion and erosion monitoring

- Access Fitting Assemblies
- Corrosion and Erosion Probes
- Injection Systems
- Instruments - Transmitters

Innovation award at AMPP Corrosion 2023  
– Axess Janus Guard System



# Potential for further enhanced measurement accuracy



## Example from sand/erosion trial:

Red: Wall thickness using Sensorlink default temperature compensation (CS)

Blue: Measured temperature

Black: Wall thickness, temperature compensated using improved temperature coefficient (SS)

## Accuracy/sensitivity can be enhanced by:

- More frequent measurements and averaging to eliminate random variations (system power dependent)
- Select measurement times to avoid periodic fluctuations (e.g day/nigth)
- Tune temperature compensation to actual material and temperature coefficients