

APPLICATIONS

Roll bending machines provide quality, capabilities required by PSV builder



SITUATION

Britoil Offshore Services Pte. Ltd. is a designer, manufacturer, and global provider of marine transportation and anchor-handling vessels for oil and gas projects worldwide. The company previously purchased vessels from local shipyards in the Far East and China, but the quality of materials, workmanship, cooperation, and delivery were not up to the firm's expectations, so it decided to set up its own shipyard.

David Hill, Britoil CEO, stated, "To enable us to build such vessels in our own shipyard, we have had to purchase some sophisticated manufacturing equipment from Italy, Germany, Finland, and the U.S."

RESOLUTION

After carefully studying all the rolling machine and section bending machine manufacturers, the firm selected an MH325M four-roll machine from MG SRL. Its central and side supports allow for rolling of 10-ft.-wide plate at 1 in. thick, but it also has been able to roll 1.5625-in.-thick plate of lesser widths. The company also purchased an AR200 section bending machine that can bend pipes up to 10 in. dia. and uses a traction tool and special rolls for bulbs from 3.9 to 11 in. tall, as well as a smaller AR110 section bending machine with special rolls for bulbs from 2.3 to 5.5 in.

"These three machines together are more than capable of rolling and bending everything required for the construction of our platform supply vessels [PSVs]," said Hill.

All of the machines are equipped with MG's CNC Touch Command EVO control to help ensure accurate automatic bending. It is developed on a real-time Linux platform, generated following the machine geometry. The closed-loop system has an ongoing dialogue between the CNC and onboard machine sensors. The CNC reads the values and, if necessary, corrects them in real time, allowing for total control and no material waste.

The system adapts to different materials, and the operator can choose the required shape via simple input of base parameters. It controls accessories such as central and side supports, motorized tables, squaring arms, and loading systems. It also can be equipped with remote assistance.

The firm recently completed the first PSV to be built in the Singapore region, at the P.T. Britoil Offshore Indonesia shipbuilding yard in Batam, Indonesia. Able to accommodate a crew of 60 people, this PSV is equipped with a DP 2 dynamic positioning system and a 9,150-sq.-ft. deck. It can store a variety of liquids, including 50,206 cu. ft. of fuel oil and 37,080 cu. ft. of potable water. With the assistance of its panel line from Finland and the MG bending equipment, the firm completed construction of the vessel in about 18 months.

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