New Improvements

TOFD & Phased Array

During recent years we have carried out a project for advanced inspection techniques aimed at developing a UT inspection system that allows us to inspect 100% of the weld area thus guaranteeing the integrity of the finished chain since we can now detect any type of defect.

After various phases of study, design and construction Vicinay Cadenas now has two new systems of inspection: TOFD and PHASED ARRAY.

TSA tower

During this past month of October Vicinay Cadenas has brought on line a new coatings application tower, this now becoming the second such tower. This allows us to meet our client’s needs and reach the highest standards of quality.

We should also point out that the new tower can also be used for chain inspections using the new technologies of TOFD and PHASED ARRAY discussed above. This represents a major improvement in quality assurance and logistics.
Organizational changes

Elena Madariaga – Alejandra Azcona
This past September our colleague Elena Madariaga retired after 46 years in Vicinay. Alejandra Azcona has taken up her work managing offshore projects for the Sales Process.

Tomás López – David Hernández
After 15 years spent at Vicinay Cadenas, our colleague Tomás López passes the leadership of the SIG Process to David Hernández.

José Mª López – Jon Rueda
After 42 years dedicated to the coordination of the inspection work on our chain, José Mª López is retiring, leaving the path forward to our colleague Jon Rueda.

Iñaki Madariaga – Elena Rodrigo
After 39 years at Vicinay, Iñaki will leave his position to Elena Rodrigo as responsible for testing in December.

Attendance at trade shows in 2012 Offshore

Elena Rodrigo

This past May Vicinay attended once again the most important offshore trade show: Offshore Technology Conference, OTC. This show is attended annually by all the companies involved in projects for the development of marine resources (primarily oil and gas) in the areas of exploration, production and protection of the environment at sea. Oil majors and operators, engineering firms and suppliers of goods and services are all present.

Izaskun Lertxundi and Marcos Bergua

The ONS show (Offshore Northern Seas) is celebrated every two years in Stavanger and is one of the most important Oil and Gas shows of the world. Vicinay has participated attends in each of these shows and it should be noted that each time we find more firms related to the field of renewable marine energy.

Global Offshore Wind 2012

This past June Vicinay Marine Innovation along with BEOG and the Basque Maritime Forum attended the GLOBAL OFFSHORE WIND 2012 show in London, dedicated to the offshore wind energy, that is to say energy produced by electrical generators installed at sea.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Report on sustainability

Once again this year Vicinay Cadenas presents its Report on Sustainability which covers all the important aspects on Corporate Social Responsibility carried out by the firm during 2011.
The ecological factor is receiving ever more importance in the work carried out at Vicinay. One example of this is in the verification of the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD Type III) that since 2008 cover the product ranges of chain and 2011 of fittings. These EDP constitute a communication, in a scientific and verifiable basis from Environdec (Swedish Organization) of the different environmental impacts produced over the life of the product. We must take into account not only the impacts generated during production of the chain and accessories but also those beginning with the steel maker and through the products use to the end of its service life.

Beyond this and through the “program for eco-efficiency in Basque industry 2010-2014” we are taking the steps necessary implant the operatives of eco-design to our products. This will reduce the environmental impact of our production and resulting in a more efficient use of raw material and energy usage in our fabrication.

Ecodesign and its implementation in H type shackles for joining polyester ropes

The importance of understanding chains and accessories both at a production process level and at a materials level is well known. Each day Vicinay demands more in this field and dedicates more resources to gaining knowledge about its own products.

In line with this, in 2009 we created a knowledge unit called “Materials” with the brightest young engineers working specifically analyzing and characterizing chains and accessories. In 2010 Vicinay Marine Innovation was created, as a new organization with the objective of working on lines of investigation that Vicinay, its clients and the market require.

Following this strategy and keeping in mind the importance of steel in our actual product, it was decided to start up a Metallurgical Unit. Thus we can internally analyze in greater depth the chains and accessories and can offer a quicker response to our clients and generate major knowledge on the interaction between product and process.

The tests we can currently offer are:

- Micro structure and grain size analysis
- Non metallic inclusion analysis
- Hardness sweeps
- Macro etching

This unit is managed by personnel from VMI and work was begun in mid November, with the aim to grow into a reference level testing facility for chain and accessories.

Metallographic unit

- Defect analysis
- Evaluation of different coatings (porosity and coat thickness)
- Evaluation of chain that have already been in service (micro structural analysis of corrosion, measurement of pitting depth)

News from Vicinay Marine Innovación
News from Vicinay Marine

New logos
New logos launched by FMAC, Brasilamarras and VMI

VM report on CSR
Vicinay Marine has published its Report on CSR 2011 where they detail the most important actions carried out by the affiliated members of the Group during 2011.

Seminars

In May of 2012 the Basque Maritime Forum (FMV) got in contact with Vicinay Marine Innovation asking them to present a breakfast seminar on “Opportunities for Naval and Marine Industry” organized by the joint Spanish and Norwegian Chamber of Commerce.

ICOE 2012 Dublin

In October 2012 VMI had the opportunity to attend the 4th International Conference on Marine Energies. There were more than one hundred presentations by experts divided into five different thematic areas. They included the principal themes pertinent to the development of new energy sources; environmental and normative aspects; economic and political dimensions of renewable marine energies; components (underwater anchor and cabling systems); and finally the launching, operations and maintenance of the installations in open waters.

29 FPSO Forum

From the 22nd to the 26th of October VMI had the opportunity to travel to Buzios, Brazil to participate in the 29th edition of the FPSO Forum.

Throughout the week representatives of different oil companies, engineering firms, class societies and manufacturers gathered to follow up on the Joint Industry Projects (JIPs). Works involved the management of life cycles, integrity of mooring lines, new regimes of loads, etc.

In our case, Vicinay Marine Innovation is participating in three of these JIPs: Out Of Plane Bending (OPB), Mooring Components Assessment (MCA), the development of a methodology for the evaluation of cracks in chain and accessories; and Seawater Corrosion of Steel Wire Ropes and Chains (SCORCH), new modeling of corrosion in marine environments.

This type of experience permits us to participate and learn of the newest advances in investigation carried out in our industry, while getting closer to fully understanding the needs of our clients.

Upcoming seminars

During 2013 Vicinay Marine will carry out the following technical seminars:
> Singapore
> Bilbao
> Houston

Condolences to the family of Gilbert de Laval

We express our deepest condolences to the family of Gilbert De Laval on the passing of this great person, the teacher of a whole generation of chain manufacturers that began the offshore industry in the 60s.