

STRENGTHENING GULF OF THAILAND EPRS READINESS WITH 12 OFF MORGRIP® COLLET CONNECTORS

CASE STUDY

WHEN A MAJOR GULF OF THAILAND OPERATOR NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN ITS EMERGENCY PIPELINE REPAIR CAPABILITY, CONNECTOR SUBSEA SOLUTIONS (CSS) WAS SELECTED TO DELIVER 12 OFF MORGRIP® COLLET CONNECTORS WITH MATCHING MISALIGNMENT FLANGES. THE PROJECT COMBINED DEMANDING TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS, A SHORT DELIVERY SCHEDULE AND LOCAL SUPPORT THROUGH PIPELINE AND PILING SERVICES (PAPS) TO REINFORCE LONG-TERM EPRS READINESS.

BACKGROUND

The client maintains contingency pipeline repair equipment to protect operational continuity. For this scope, the operator selected MORGRIP® to support new and ongoing requirements, despite being a long-standing customer of another vendor. The project therefore needed to build confidence quickly through technical alignment, documentation quality and predictable execution.

CSS's partner in Thailand, PAPS, supported both the commercial process and practical readiness, including personnel training so local support would be available for installation, inspection and maintenance while the assets are held in storage.

SCOPE

- **Equipment:** 12 off MORGRIP® Collet Connectors supplied as EPRS contingency stock, plus 12 off matching misalignment flanges.
- **Sizes and Ratings:** 6, 8, 10, 16, 20 and 24" across ASME B16.5 600 to 1500#.
- **Interfaces:** Flange adaptor configuration to suit client tie-in requirements, including ASME B16.5 RTJ weld neck flanges where specified.
- **Functional Requirements:** Length compensation and independent grip and seal activation for controlled installation and verification.
- **Materials and Assurance:** Mild sour service readiness with SSC-tested wetted materials; third-party inspection and certification by DNV.
- **Regional Support:** Partner support through PAPS Thailand, including trained personnel for installation, inspection and maintenance while in storage.



01 // CSS MORGRIP® Collet Connectors post factory acceptance testing.



02 // CSS MORGRIP® Collet Connectors prepared for packing.

CHALLENGES

- **Client-Specific Technical Requirements:** Specific requirements for connector functionality, activation method and approved materials of construction.
- **First-Time Engineering Collaboration:** CSS worked closely with the client's engineering team for the first time, ensuring technical alignment within a demanding schedule.
- **High-Volume Workshop Flow:** Managing 12 off connectors through build and testing without bottlenecks, while maintaining CSS procedures and MORGRIP® product quality.

SOLUTION AND APPROACH

CSS proposed a compact collet connector design that met the client's requirements while remaining cost optimised for contingency stock. From the outset, the focus was on delivering exactly to specification, at a competitive price, and within the agreed timeframe to support the operator's confidence in appointing CSS as a new vendor.

To strengthen regional readiness, CSS worked with its Thailand partner, PAPS, to support execution and ensure trained personnel are available to assist with installation, inspection and maintenance when required.



03 // CSS MORGRIP® Collet Connector assembly.



04 // CSS MORGRIP® Collet Connector offshore installation supported by PAPS technicians.

“This was a high-value order for a new vendor, and we understood the importance of delivering exactly to specification, within a challenging timeframe and at a competitive price. We are proud to have been selected to support the client’s repair contingency into the future, and to work alongside our regional partner PAPS to provide local capability for inspections, maintenance and installation support whenever required.”

John Spain,
Commercial Director

MOBILISATION AND EXECUTION

CSS managed the build and test programme through our Wednesbury, UK, workshop, maintaining steady throughput and minimising rework. To reduce workshop time without compromising verification, connectors were hydrostatically tested in pairs. Each unit passed the required test programme, witnessed by a third-party inspector from Bureau Veritas.

The full package was delivered within the scheduled timeframe, including associated misalignment flanges. Total project duration was eight months for the complete 12 off connector scope.



05 // MORGRIP® connectors tested in tandem.



06 // CSS MORGRIP® Collet Connector packed for shipment.

OUTCOME

The 12 off MORGRIP® Collet Connectors were built, tested and delivered within the agreed schedule, providing the client with contingency pipeline repair stock for its operations in the Gulf of Thailand. Some units have since been deployed for pipeline repair work, with CSS supplying replacement units to help maintain the client’s repair readiness. The client has since purchased additional MORGRIP® connectors for planned repair scopes, reinforcing its continued confidence in CSS and the regional support available through PAPS.