



November 21st, 2024

9th Dutch Exploration Day



Acquisition and Processing of the Southern North Sea's first OBN survey

Operational/Technical challenges & achievements

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Presentation Content



- Overview
 - Business case
 - Objectives, timeline & results
- Seismic Acquisition
 - Survey Technical Requirements
 - Survey Design
 - Seismic survey overview
 - Key Operational Challenges
 - Node move
 - Survey summary
- Seismic Processing
 - Pre-processing
 - Velocity Model building and FWI
 - Imaging
- Summary



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Business case



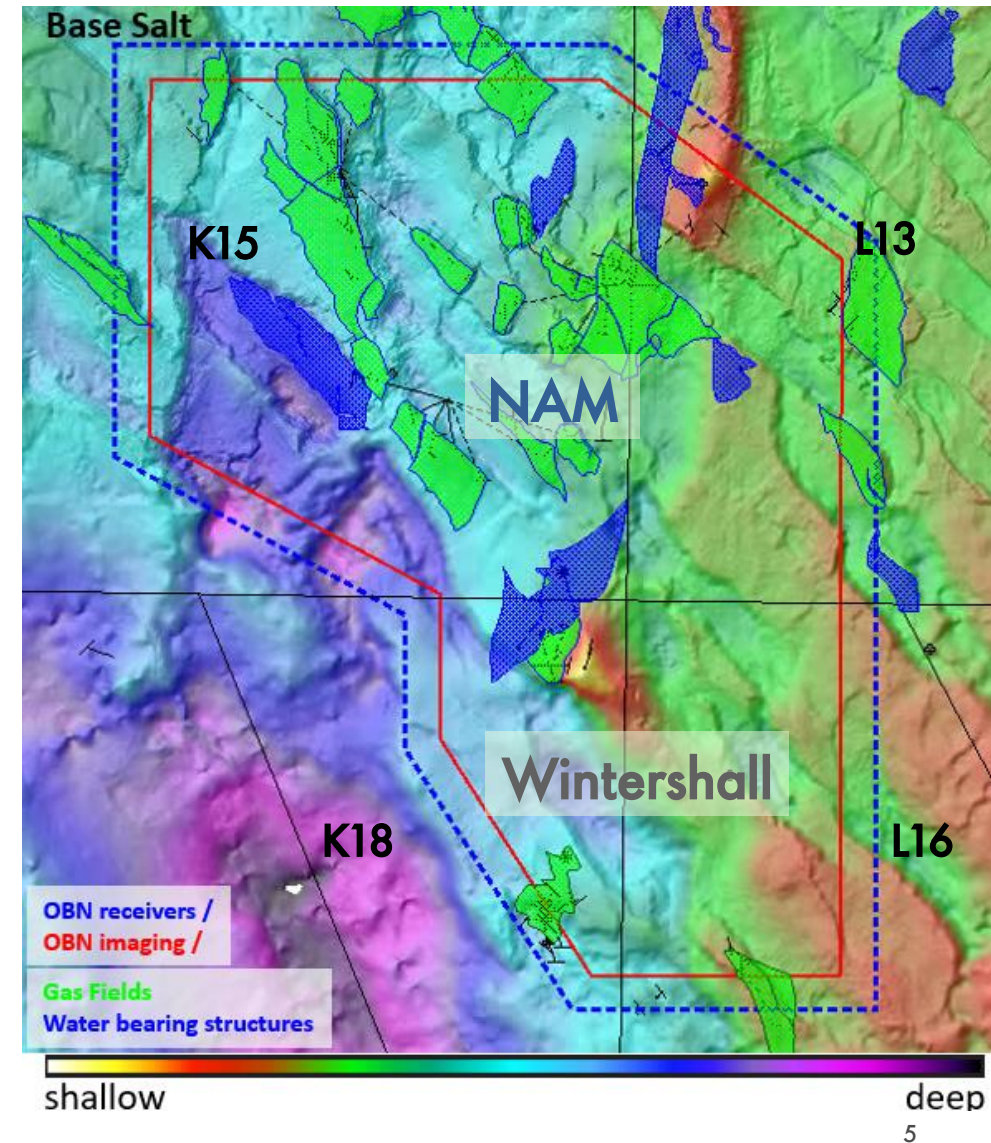
Business case. Why shoot a seismic survey now?

Overall cost-benefit relation of OBN(*) for the JDA and K18-L16

- Despite a highly developed area, stranded discoveries and several prospects potentially holding significant volumes are identified by both operators.
- Opportunity portfolio is high risk – for both exploration and development. High risk because of (very) poor imaging of sub-salt Rotliegend reservoir.
- De-risking by drilling would only address a single prospect rather than an entire portfolio – ‘low appetite’ to invest due to cost implications.
- Relative ‘low’ cost (compared to drilling) of OBN that allows for the polarization of the entire portfolio; hence reduces risks.
- ‘Now or never’. ‘Last’ opportunity to de-risk the portfolio with approaching EoFL. Further development could still benefit from existing infrastructure.
- Collaboration between EBN and the license partners: NAM (Project operator), Wintershall, RockRose Energy and ONE-Dyas

(*) OBN: Ocean Bottom Node

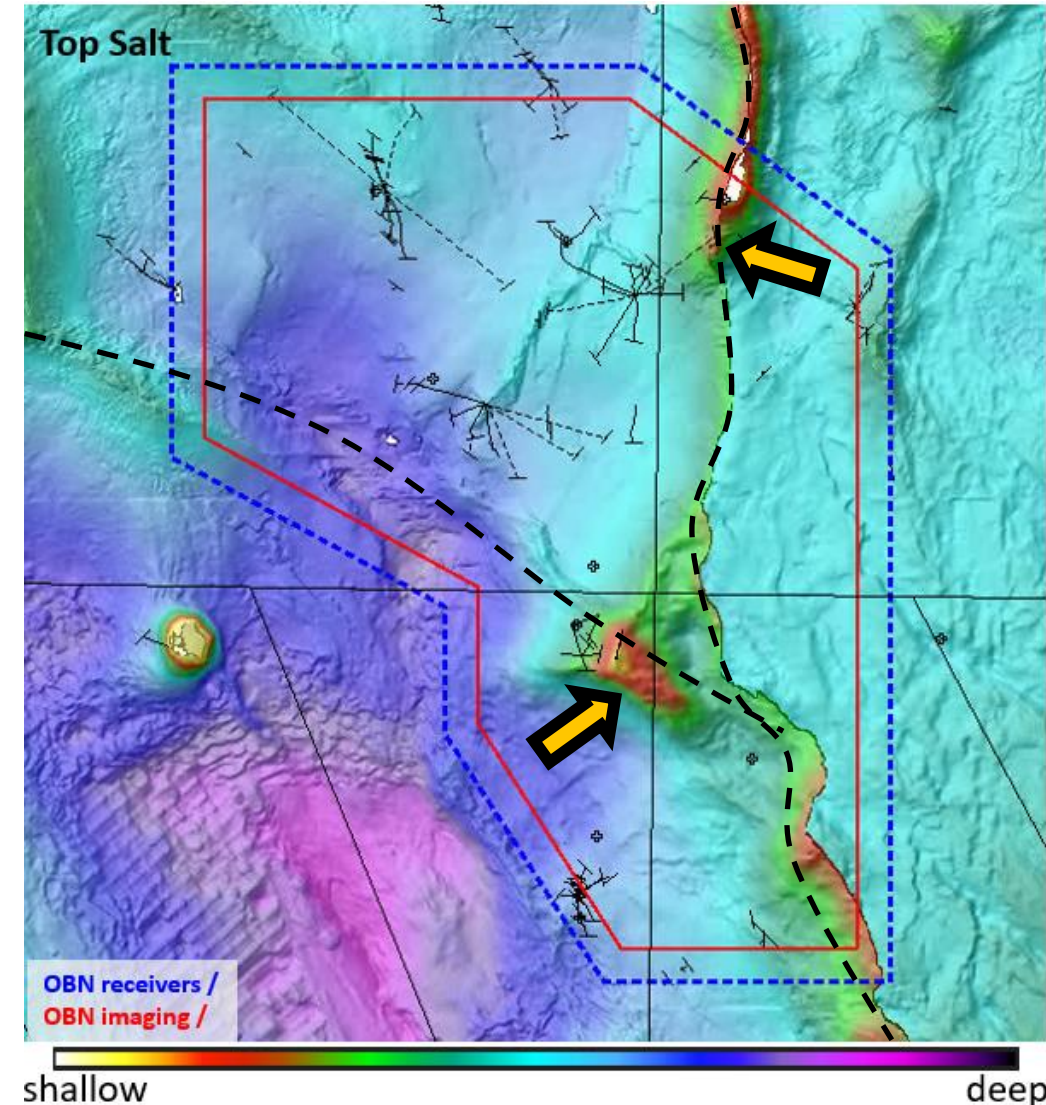
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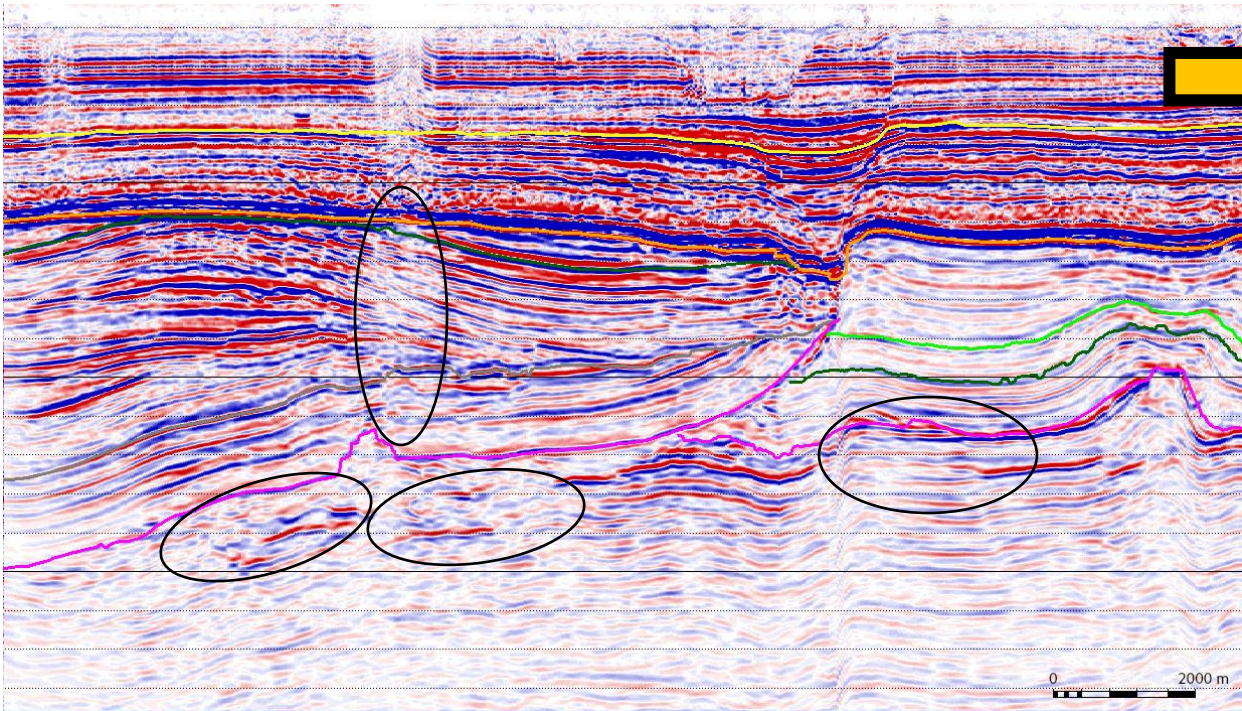
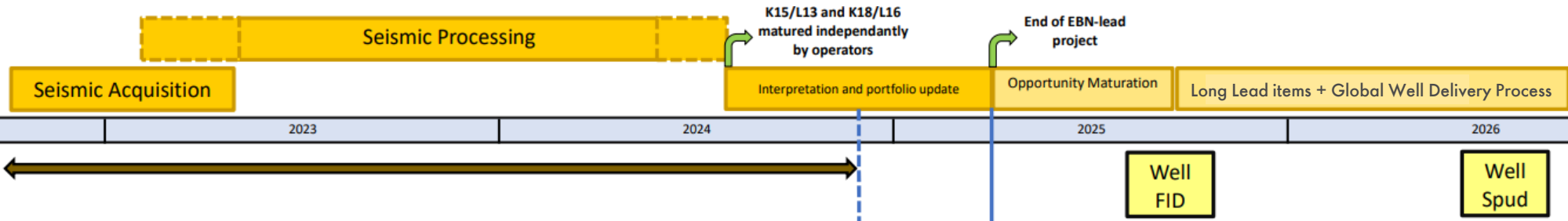
Objectives from improved 'sub-salt' imaging

Broadband, long offset & full azimuth to tackle negative effect of complex overburden.

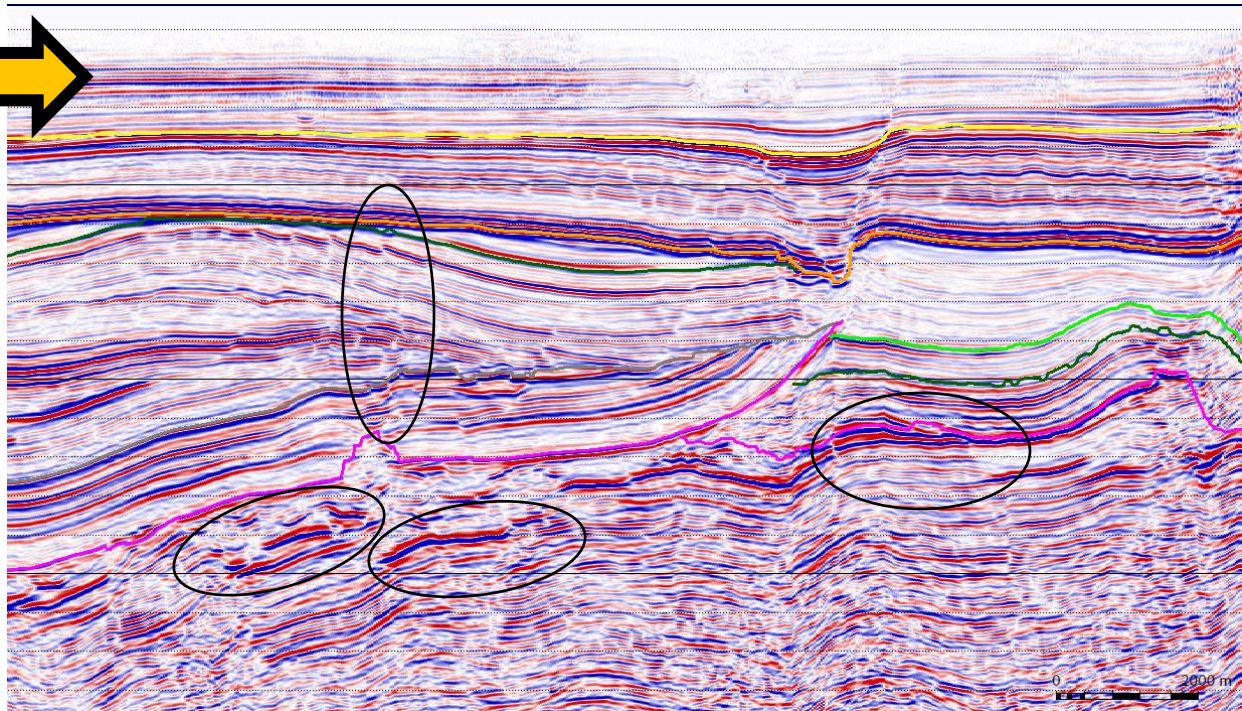
- Improved structural definition of the overburden. Impact on:
 - Geohazards (faults/floaters) identification (safer & 'smarter' wells)
- Improved depth prognosis. Impact on:
 - Gross Rock Volume (top structure and HC transition zone)
 - Optimum well design
- Improved structural definition of reservoir and faults. Impact :
 - Block definition, juxtaposition resolution (Gross Rock Volume)
 - Compartmentalization (Recovery Factor)
 - Optimal well placement
- Improved reliability of amplitudes. Impact on:
 - DHI signature (Common Top Depth stacks)
 - Seismically derived reservoir properties



Timeline and results



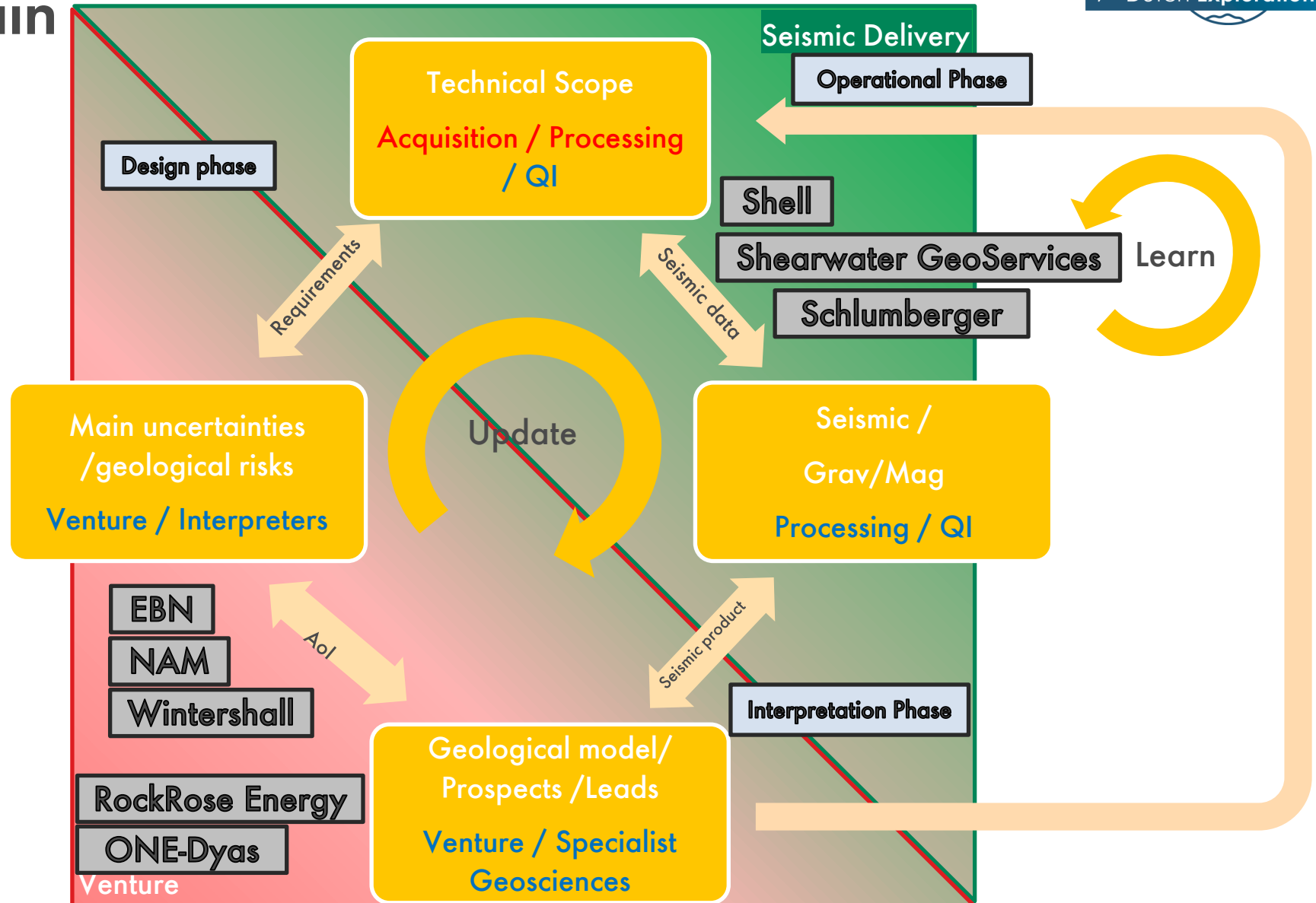
Legacy seismic (NAZ)



2024 OBN seismic (WAZ)

Seismic value chain

- Fully integrated team:
 - Venture/asset specifies requirements for seismic product – including AoI
 - Seismic delivery team (acquisition, processing, QI) delivers seismic volume/ potentially with attributes





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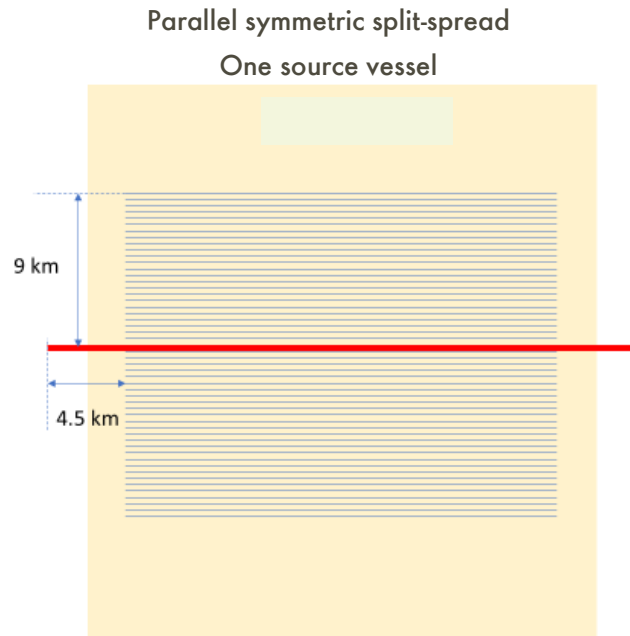
Acquisition

Design, implementation and operations



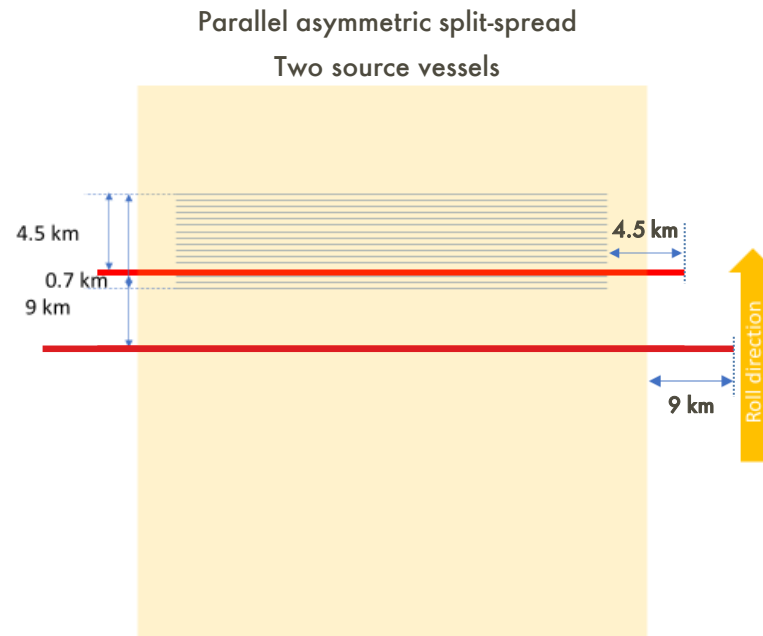
Seismic acquisition – survey design

Design - I



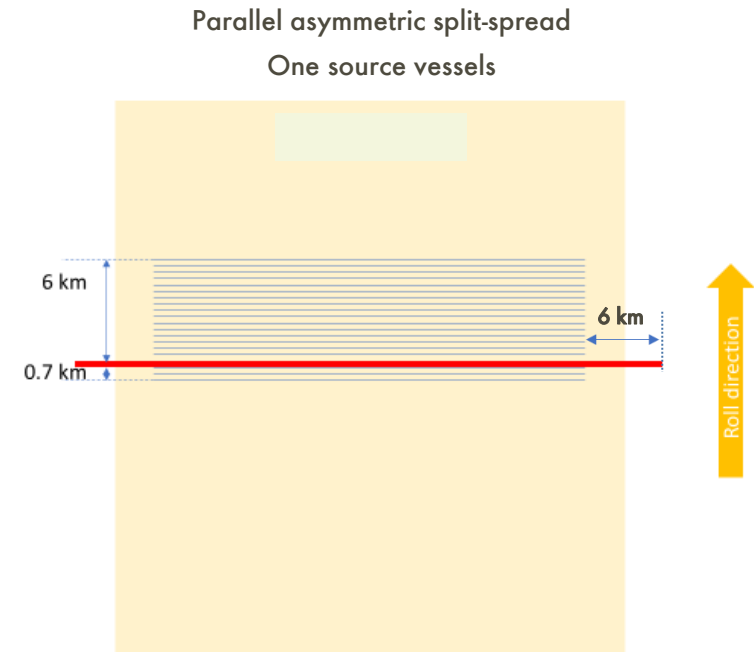
- Very high node requirement (~15,000)
- Limited node inventory with vendors

Design - II



- Blended acquisition – requires high-fidelity deblending for QI objective.
- Operational complexity

Design - III (Final)

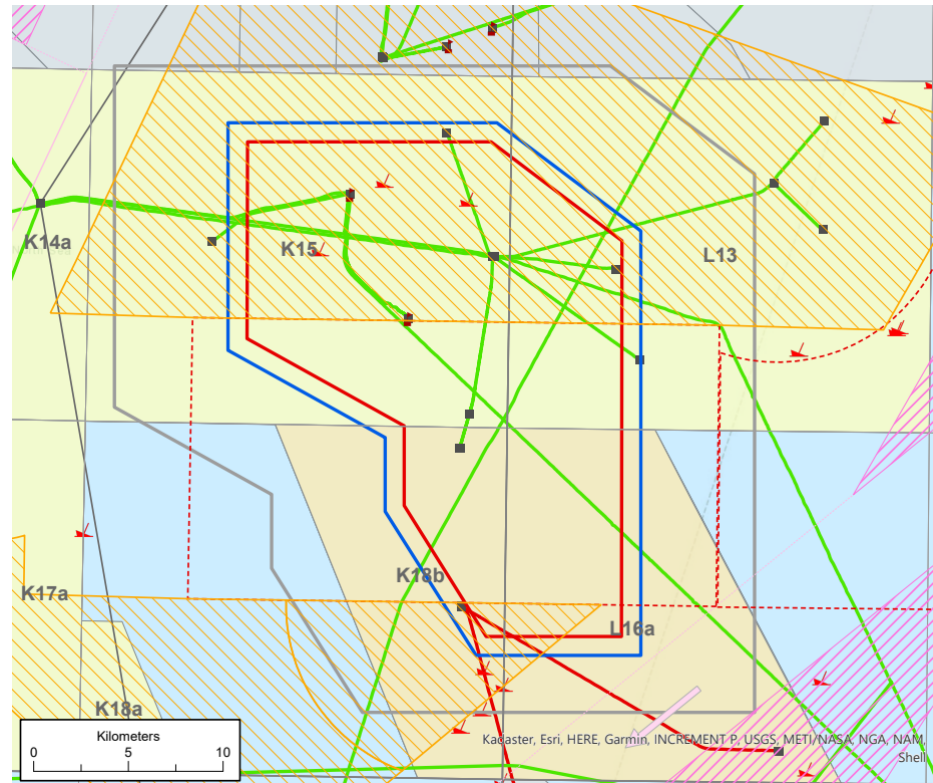


- Provides crossline offset of 6 km and inline offset of 9+ km.
- No simultaneous source.

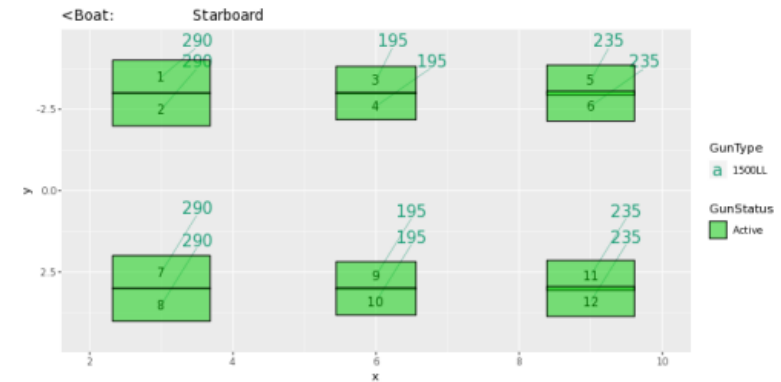
Seismic acquisition – survey parameters, outline & source design

Survey Parameters

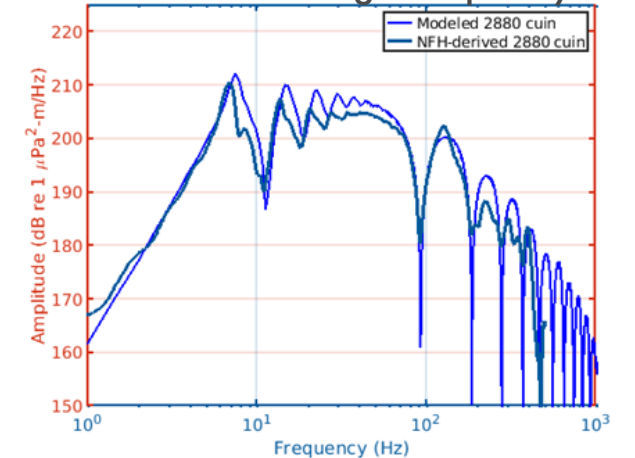
Acquisition Geometry	Node-on-a-rope – one source vessel
Acquisition Style	Asymmetric split-spread
Max. x-line offset	6000 m
Receiver Spacing	75 m receiver point/350 m receiver line
Migration operator	6 km
Source	Triple source
Source volume	2880 cui
Source spacing	50m x 50 m
Receiver line/shot line orientation	E-W/E-W



Production Source Array2880 cui

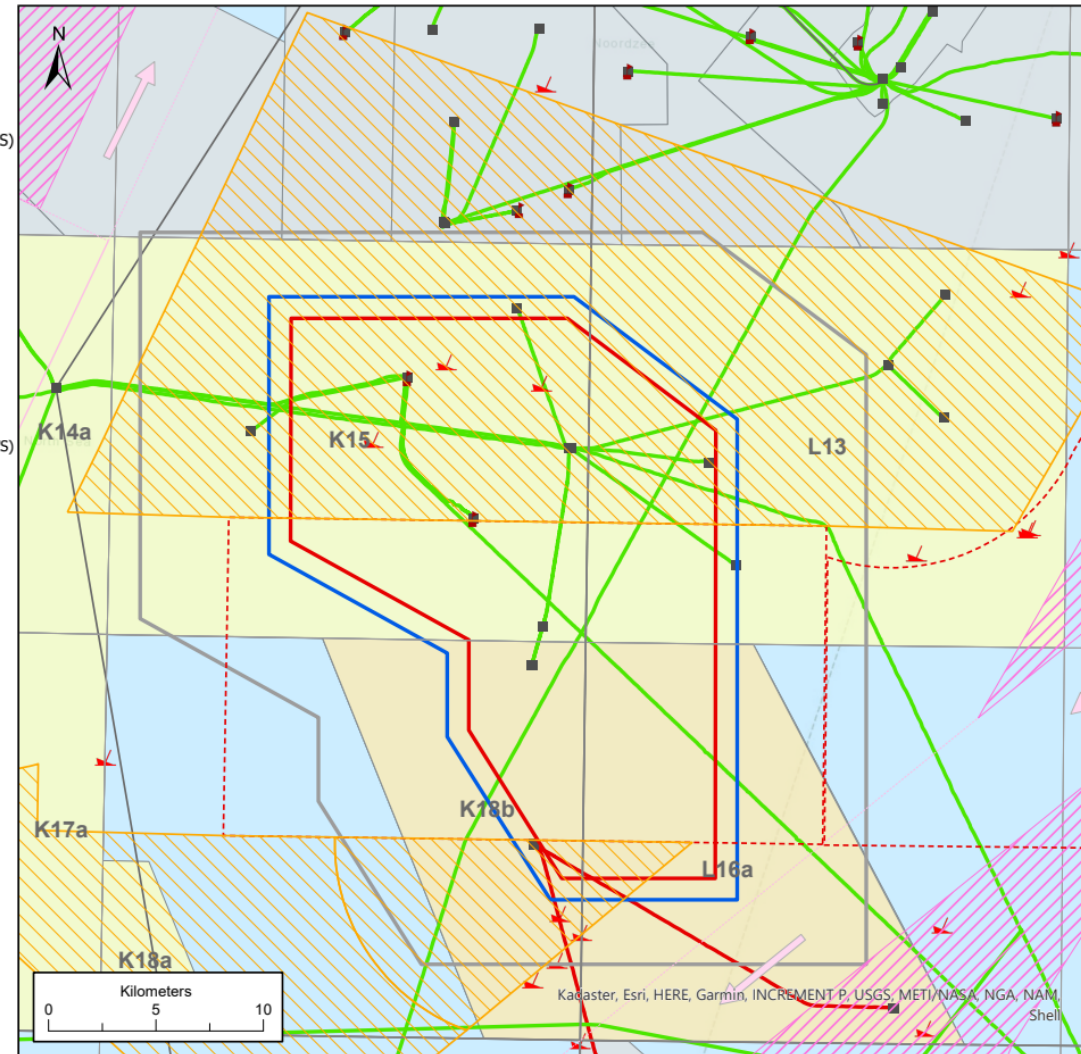
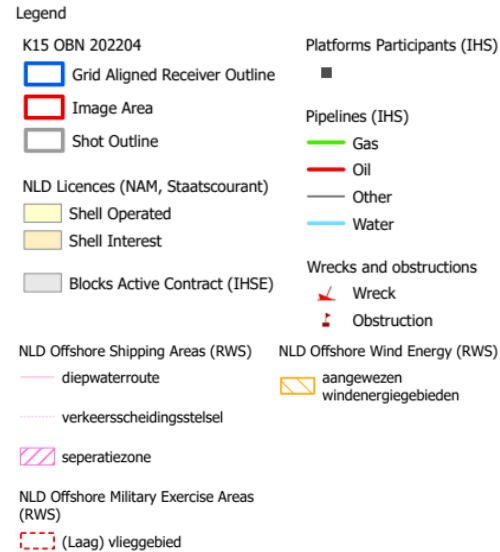


- Enhanced low frequency
- Reduced high frequency



Seismic acquisition – operational challenges

- Met ocean conditions [autumn/winter]
- Shallow water depth (25 - 30 m)
- Platforms (8)
- Subsea infrastructure
- Pipelines
- Well heads
- 3rd party infrastructure
- Wrecks
- Buoys
- Fishing Activity
- Shipping Activity (shooting in shipping lane)
- SIMOPS (x16) including (x3) diving ops
- Platform service vessels & activities
- Marine life
- Helicopter Crew change
- Military Training Area

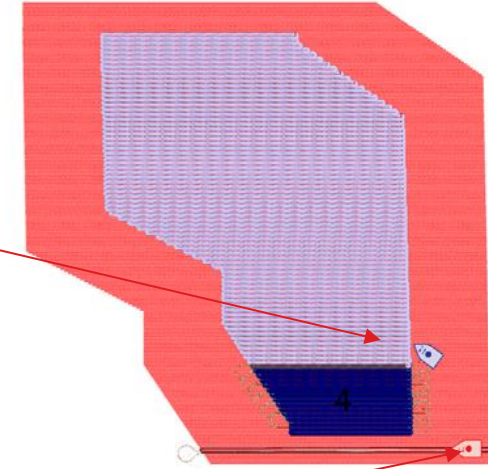


Seismic acquisition – Fleet

Ocean Dee – Support Vessel



Vespucci – Node Deployer



Tasman – Source Vessel



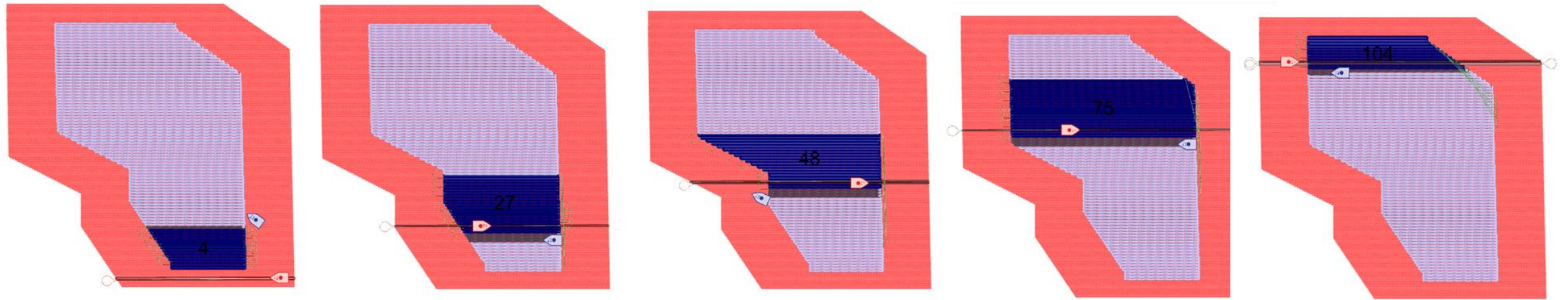
LindeG – Support Vessel



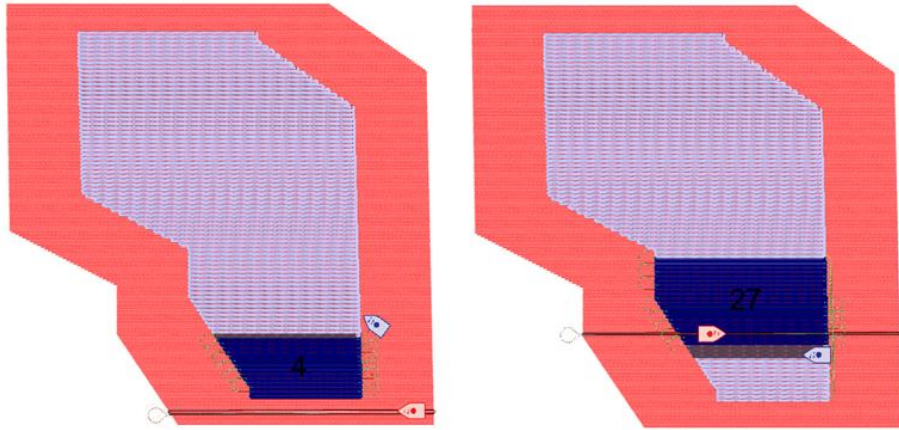
USV (Uncrewed surface vessel)



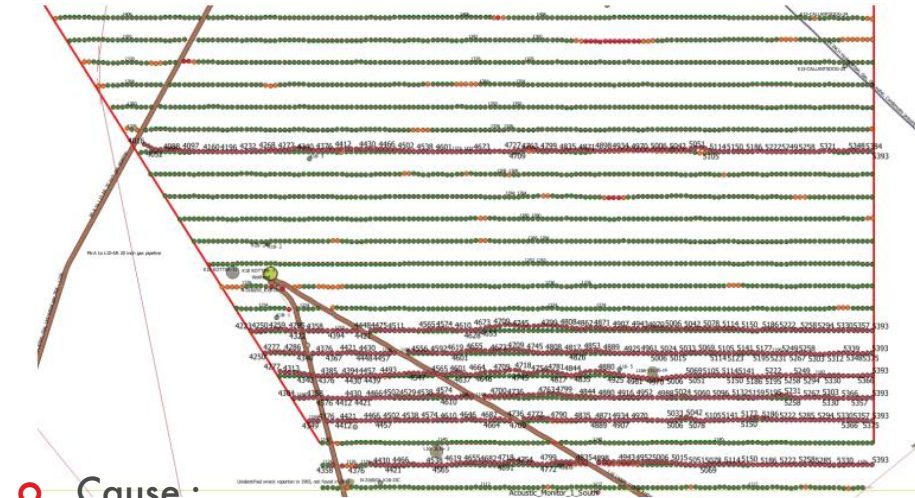
Seismic acquisition – operation & challenges



Seismic acquisition – operations & challenges



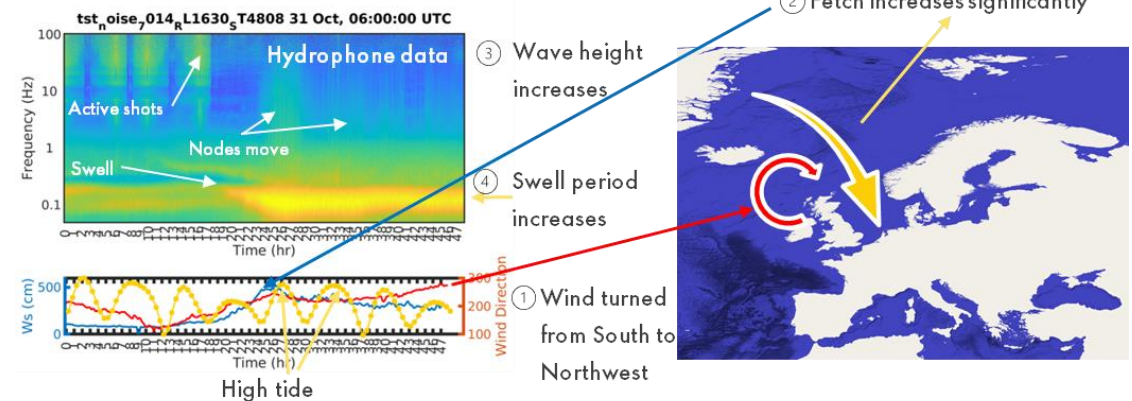
Node Move



What happened?

- After a period of bad weather (strong Northwestern wind and high waves), entire node spread had moved.
- Some nodes had moved up to 100 m from deployed location.
- Node move was experienced 3 times during the survey

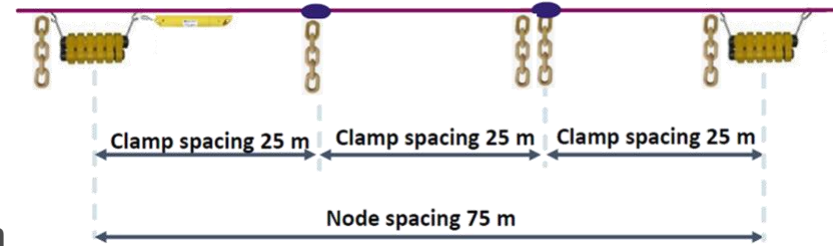
- Node rope?
- Met-ocean conditions?



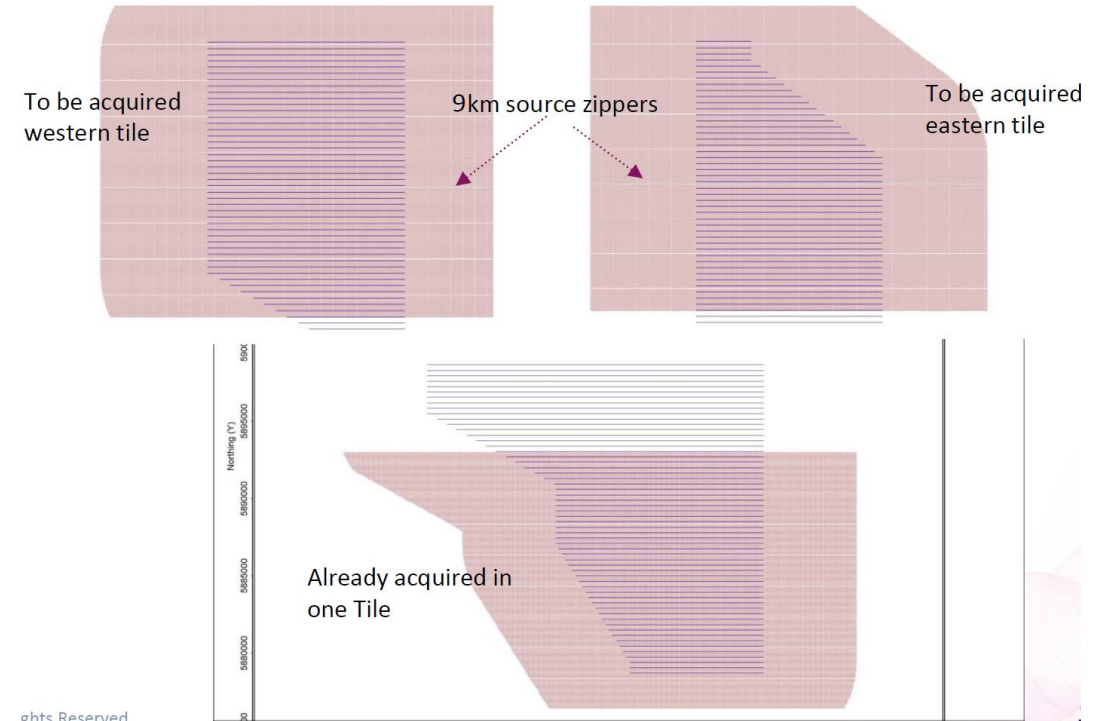
Seismic acquisition – operation & challenges

- Node Move Impact:
 - Redeploy – Reshoot
 - Change deployment scheme → more chain
 - Changed survey design
- Survey duration
 - Planned – 60 days
 - Actual – 193 Days
- Other Operational Challenges
 - Interaction with fishing vessels
 - Naval vessels
 - SIMOPS
- Strong HSSE focus maintained
- Geophysical objective and data as per contractual spec. was acquired.

Changed NOAR Deployment Schematic



Chain Handling at back deck

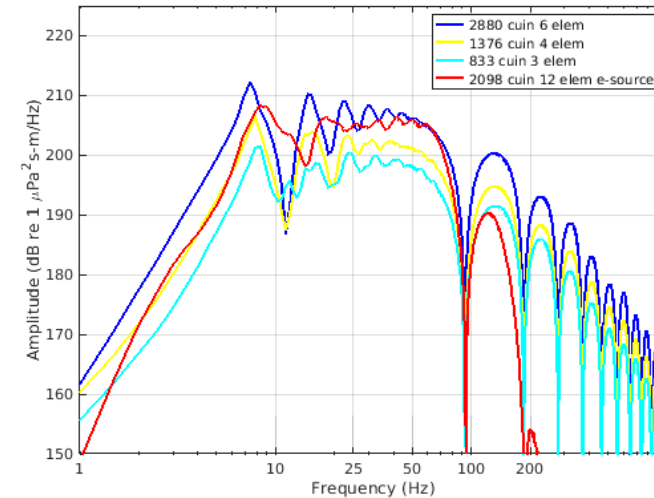
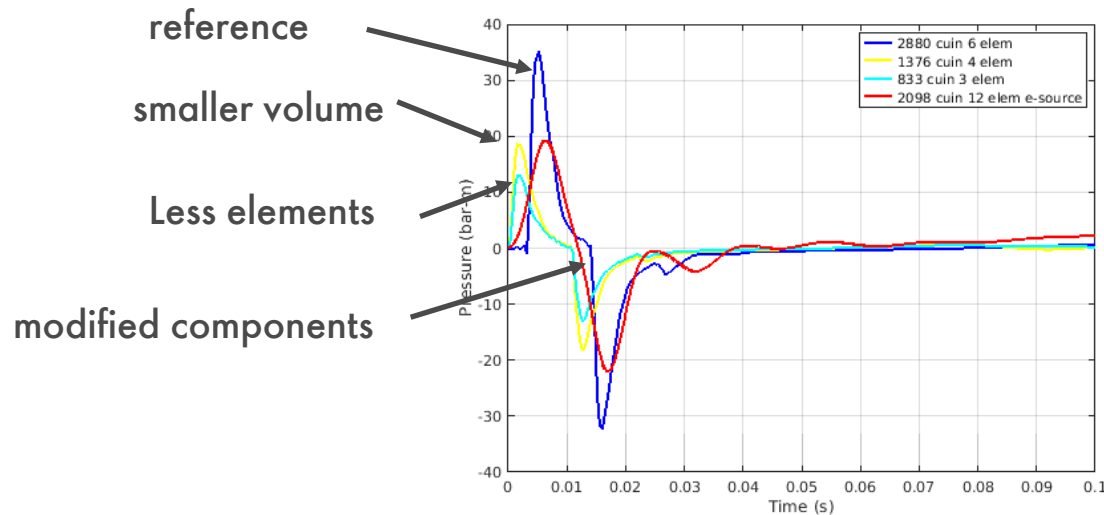
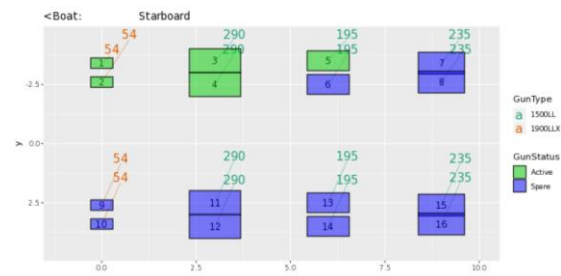
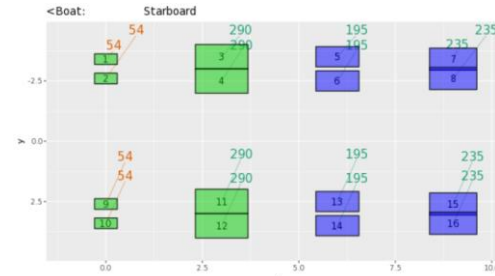
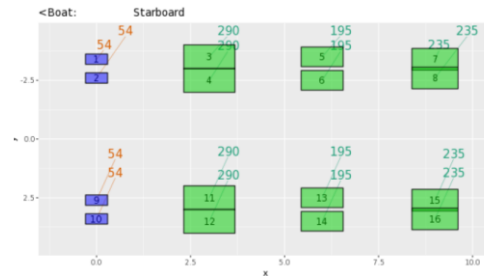


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Seismic acquisition – source testing

How to reduce underwater sound from airgun array?

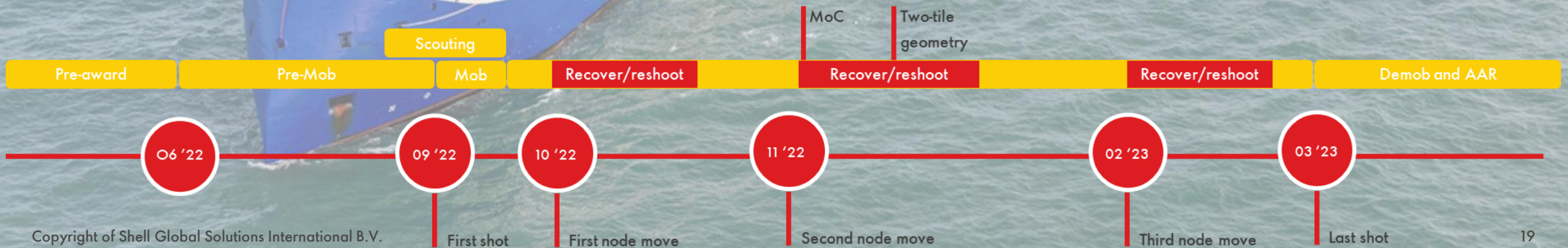
- Less elements
- Smaller array volume
- Modified components



Seismic acquisition – summary and timeline



- Key Survey Statistics
 - 553627 exposure hours
 - Goal zero
 - No LTI's
 - 16 SIMOPS → No Standby
 - 18372 node locations
 - 300+ close passes
 - 200 tonnes of chain deployed
 - 715627 shots (395428 planned)
 - 600+ km of node rope configured



Part 1. Seismic Acquisition – Summary

- The OBN acquisition successfully delivered broadband, WAZ, high fold and long offset data
- Focus on maintaining data integrity and highest HSSE standards in the face of operational challenges (principally due to the requirement of shooting seismic outside the summer season)
- Key for success was the efficient collaboration between Wintershall, EBN, NAM and Shell

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