

A METHOD OF CONTEMPORANEOUSLY CONSTRUCTING MORE THAN ONE SEMI-SUBMERSIBLE RIG USING TRANSVERSE SKIDDING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of constructing two (or more) semi-submersible rigs simultaneously in a shipyard and completely assembling the rigs sequentially at the shipyard. Two upper hulls of separate rigs are constructed side by side on land next to a dry dock, where the lower hulls are constructed. The first upper hull is then skidded longitudinally to a position above the first lower hull. The lower hull is floated by flooding the dry dock, and position of the lower hull is adjusted using the ballast tanks of the lower hull. Once the upper hull and the lower hull are aligned, they are permanently welded together, completing the first rig assembly in the dry dock. Concurrently, the second upper hull is then skidded transversely to the load-out position and subsequently jacked up to the required height. It is resting on the skidding truss after the truss is pulled back from the first rig's mating location. The load-out and mating operation is then repeated to assemble the second semi-submersible rig in the dry dock.

(see Figure 1)



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