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Text of the abstract

A semi-submersible vessel having a transit state and an operative state, the vessel comprising: a first hull having a first topside; a second hull having a second topside, the second hull operable to orientate between a first orientation and a second orientation; a platform adapted to connect the first and second hulls; and at least one lifting device, wherein the first and second hulls are adapted to be ballasted into a water body in the operative state. In first embodiment, the first and second hulls are asymmetrical hulls, and the height of the vessel at the first hull is different relative to the height of the vessel at the second hull. In second embodiment, the second hull is operable to orientate between a first orientation and a second orientation. In third embodiment, the platform is a non-buoyant. The present invention also relates to a method of lifting a load at an offshore site of a water body utilizing a semi-submersible vessel of the present invention.