

#### Dear Reader,

Smit Lamnalco is the market leader in providing first class, reliable and customised marine support to SPM terminal operations.

We deliver towage and related marine services to operations around the globe with scopes varying from assisting tankers on a monthly, weekly or even daily basis.

In addition, we offer turnkey services including complete maintenance of the Single Mooring Buoy(s), hose handling, pollution control and advanced SPM diving assistance. Therefore, I am pleased to present this SPM special. It provides an insight into the day-to-day operation of some of Smit Lamnalco's activities.

Thanks to the craftsmanship of our tug masters and their crews, the experience of our diving and maintenance teams and dedicated (onshore) support teams,

Smit Lamnalco is able to deliver a reliable, safe and efficient service to its client(s).

Smit Lamnalco will continue to invest in its people and assets in order to maintain its position as a leading provider of integrated marine services to offshore

Oil & Gas terminals.

Stanley Maas
CEO Smit Lamnalco







## OUR OPERATIONS: 14 GABON 26 IRAQ 46 RUSSIA

A Single Point Mooring (SPM) is a floating buoy anchored offshore handling liquid cargoes, mainly designed for the transfer of oil products. You will find SPM's all around the world, used in areas where shore loading or unloading liquid cargo facilities are not available. They are typically located at a distance of several kilometres from the facility and connected using sub-sea pipelines.

How does a Single Point Mooring (SPM) work?

An offshore anchored buoy can be divided into different sections, each with dedicated functionalities. The main parts of the SPM are the mooring and anchoring system, the buoy body, and a product transfer system.

The SPM buoy is anchored to the seabed using anchor chains (legs) which are

attached to an anchor point, either to a gravity-based structure or by means of piles driven into to the seabed.

The mooring arrangement is such that it permits the buoy to move freely within defined limits, considering wind, waves, current and vessel conditions, whilst allowing the buoy body to rotate.



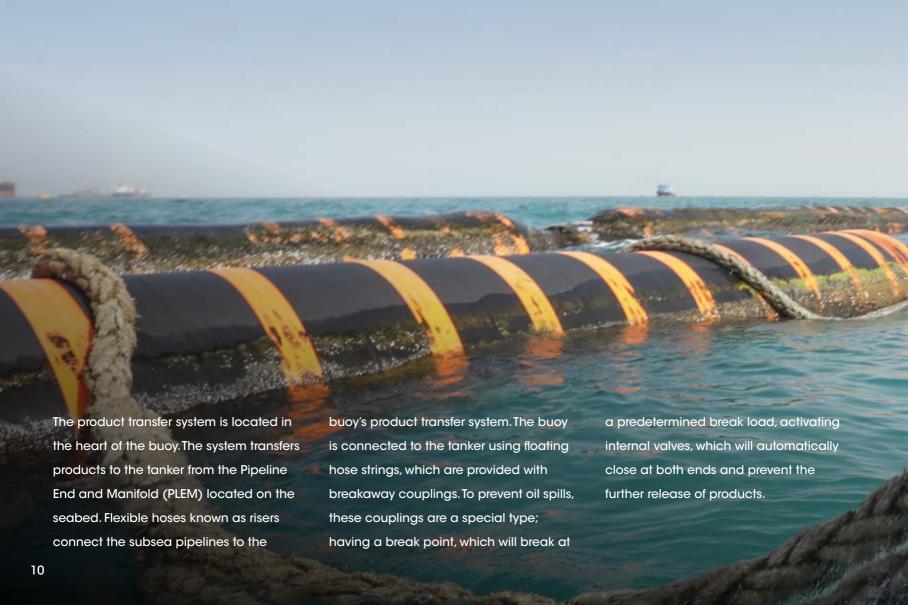


# Tanker connection by dedicated Smit Lamnalco crews

The buoy body is the part of the Single Point Mooring System, which is floating above the water. It has a rotating part, which will be connected to the tanker. The rotating part allows the tanker to remain stable at its desired position around the buoy. The tanker is usually moored to the buoy by means of a hawser arrangement, which consists of nylon or polyester ropes shackled to an integrated hook on the buoy deck.

The support tug will assist by passing the mooring hawser to the tanker for connection to the buoy.



















The propeller plane ATR 42 of Afrijet, but also registered as the Assala flight, wobbles and dips as it brings us on a 45 minute flight from Port Gentil to Gamba. This is the work area of Assala Energy since they acquired it from Shell. Here and there, it is still visible that Shell had been in charge for years. Our friendly base manager for Smit Lamnalco, Olivier Boussamba, is waiting for us. We load our luggage in his pick-up truck and head for the Smit Lamnalco Base Mayonami. The road is empty and rather flat, but Olivier drives carefully. His explanation is crystalclear. He drives vigilantly to ensure road safety and due to the pristine wildlife surrounding us. Elephants and other big

game animals live here and if you are lucky, you will see them, usually in the evening. The average temperature is above 30 degrees Celsius and humidity is high. After 70km, we arrive at a small but very effective Smit Lamnalco operational base. The Smit Lamnalco Mayonami Base, is located on the Nyanga River about 6 -7km inland, in the middle of West Africa's largest Marine Reserve. The base was established to support operation of the Gamba SPM terminal. Next to the base is a small settlement with some local residents. The occupation of the Base consists primarily of Gabonese with, a small number of employees from neighbouring countries.

#### Small but very effective



Next to safety, one of our most important concerns at Mayonami Base camp is protecting the environment. In the middle of the Marine Reserve where there are endangered dolphins, turtles and whales, we adhere to a strict refuse and pollutant

management regime. Regular drills with our local employees ensure that we work with awareness of our vulnerable surroundings. Double lookouts are deployed on the vessel bridge as the river is home to hippos and crocodiles.

#### Our man in the





of our successful operation in Gamba.

One of those talented Gabonese officers is Thiery Ntchango. He is fifty years of age and responsible for one of the two tugs called the SL Shoalrunner 1.

It was shortly after school that Thiery became a mechanic, repairing cars. But that wasn't really what he had in mind. Boats were far more interesting and with a little help from an uncle, he found a job on a wharf as a so-called handy man.

Then one day, Thiery was asked if he wanted to navigate on a boat. In order to get his certificate, he went to Libreville to study navigation and he worked on a

vessel for a local marine company, first as a deck hand and then after he became 'Patron de Remorqueurs' or in English an 'Officer of Towage'.

In 2010, Smit asked him to become captain on a tug. Now for over eight years, Thiery runs the show on the SL Shoalrunner 1 with loads of dedication.

#### Never d dull moment in Mayonami

#### A gentleman from



The SL Pitonga, a purpose-built beach landing craft completes the Smit Lamnalco fleet in Gamba. Regular trips are made to Port Gentil to provide fuel and fresh water for the compound as well as for the clients shore operation.

Trucks, cars and containers are also shipped by the SL Pitonga, thus maintaining a lifeline between Port Gentil and Gamba on a regular basis.

Jacques Sarr speaks Italian fluently.

Though he has a Senegalese-African background, he is gifted with a typical charming Italian spirit. And his captain's uniform is not just another uniform but "Una Uniforme da Capitane Italiano".

It does not only look impressive but it also suits him very well.

It all started in Genoa, where he went to the Nautical Academy. His first job was as a deck cadet and, after that, he passed his exams for third officer, second officer, chief officer and finally captain.

Today, he is Master of the SL Pitonga.

It takes him and his 9 crewmembers

24 hours to deliver his load from Port

Gentil to the Smit Lamnalco base located on the Nyanga River.





For making the right pictures of boats, it

comes down to timing and cooperation between the man on the wheel and the photographer.

No matter where and how, working at sea is not an easy job. It gets even more complicated when the boundary of the daily job is more extensive than a crew is used to doing during a regular operation.

So we were lucky enough to have Serge

Moussadji around when we paid a visit to
the SL Mayonami base in Gabon.

He is the engineer on the SL Cachimba, the fast Damen built Pilot Boat.

Because he is the only crew member other

### A multi-disciplined crewman



# Onshore Offshore Iraq



On Wednesday morning, 2nd May 2018, the time has come. At 11.00 am we will board a fast crew boat in Kuwait port, the SL Kubbar, which will take us in three hours to the Ocean 240, a living and working barge of 38 by 80 meters. It is the basis for all SPM operations carried out here by Smit Lamnalco on behalf of Petrofac to client Basrah Oil Company.

Next to the Ocean 240, Smit Lamnalco operates a total of 8 tugs, 2 multipurpose vessels, a pilot boat, a crew boat and a fully equipped dive support vessel. This marine spread is needed to handle all the mooring and un-mooring operations at the 5 ultra-modern SPM's in operation at the Basrah SPM Terminal. As soon as we have put our luggage in

the two cabins reserved for us, we must report to the meeting room for the Safety Procedure Instructions. Andrii Shevliakov is the SHE-Q officer and welcomes us on board the Ocean 240. Two hundred and forty is not only a name; it indicates the maximum capacity of people that can stay on the barge.

After his clear text and explanation, we



get to see a safety video. In order not to cause any sleepless nights, all the dangerous situations are communicated in a playful manner, but to the point.

Then we are taken to the mess room to have something to eat. The space reminds me of images I know from feature films. Think of the Shawshank Redemption or Escape from Alcatraz.

Tables and benches are riveted to the floor, you line up to get your food, and white bright neon light ensures you do not fall asleep while eating. But that's as far the comparison goes; because in terms of the kitchen and what is cooked here, it's excellent on the Ocean 240! You have the choice of no less than six different main meals that are based

partly on Asian and partly on Western cuisine. Also in terms of dessert, the range is so diverse and oh so delicious!



A few hours later, fully satiated, I go to bed and try to catch some sleep.

However, the air conditioning takes some getting used to. At gale force five, super cold air is blown in. The next morning,

I get up with a sore throat and a runny nose.

Because the cold only gains ground and

I threaten to lose my voice, which is not handy when you have to interview people, I go to see Dr. Garaygay, a
Filipino doctor. He receives me as if he is happy to finally welcome a patient again in his small hospital. After I have explained my complaints to him, I get cough syrup, lozenges and a gargle elixir.

But despite all the medication, it is mainly his smile and his kind words that alleviate my discomfort.

When we have finished talking about my health, I get to hear that he worked as a doctor for years both in Iraq and Afghanistan during the war and that the Ocean 240 is a relief for him. He has been

on board for five years and is responsible for taking care of, or stabilising, wounds.

What he calls a 'thing' is that we are in a

No Fly Zone and therefore can never call
on an emergency helicopter. The only
alternative is by fast boat to Kuwait.

I leave him with a feeling of peace in
the knowledge that if something does

happen to me, there is at least a knowledgeable physician present.

And also, not unimportantly, there have already been 2,013 days and still counting without an LTI (Lost Time Incident). Or in other words, everyone strictly adheres to the safety procedures on board.





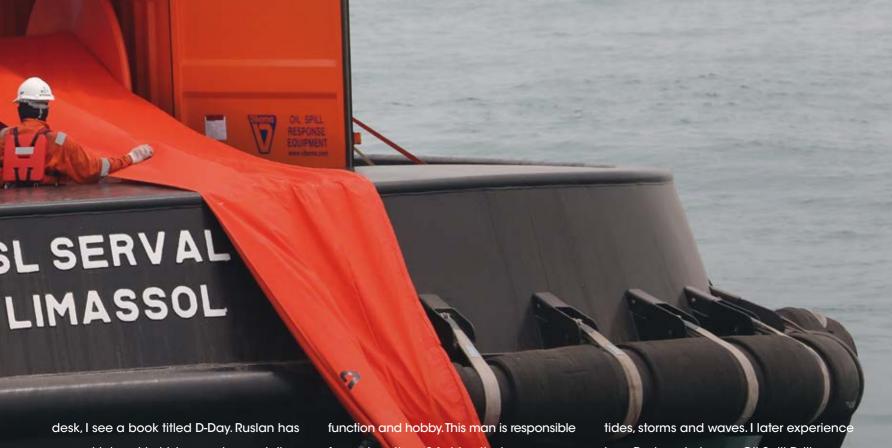
#### Thinking ahead



To less stand out as a 'visitor', I decided today to put on my coverall, hardhat and safety shoes. I can now operate as a real undercover reporter...I convince myself. But when I walk into the office-department that morning, I'm pretty

much the only one in work clothes.

Everyone in the office just walks around in jeans and T-shirt! Ruslan Mikhaylov, the Marine Operations Lead from Smit Lamnalco, approaches me. I grab some coffee and follow him to his office. On his



a great interest in history and especially in the phenomenon of 'battles'. Strategy, tactics, the use of specific weapons and timing ensure victory or defeat.

I notice the similarities regarding his

function and hobby. This man is responsible for no less than 14 ships that are individually controlled by him. Ruslan has to think ahead and make the right assessments, but equally, he has to deal with natural elements, such as currents,

tides, storms and waves. I later experience how Ruslan, during an Oil Spill Drill briefing, is firmly in control. He always has an answer to questions, nothing escapes his attention. Ruslan is in charge, that's for sure!





## Water, food, fuel, spare parts - you name it

Rafal Michal Siwczak shares his office with Ruslan. He is the Marine Superintendent or 'Second in Command'. Or as he says: Ruslan plays the role of father and I play the role of the mother. In this way, Rafal takes care of the supplies and not only draws up lists but he also ensures that it works out in practice. We are talking

about water, food, fuel, spare parts - you name it! In addition, he is also in charge of crew changes, certification for the vessels as well for all the crew, he is the



#### Sandstorm is coming



Then I visit the Radio Room, which is at the highest point of the barge. There I meet Reetesh Kumar, the 'Radio Operator'. His job can easily be compared to someone who works at air traffic control at a busy airport. It soon

turns out that he barely has time for a conversation, as he has to apologise continuously because there are calls coming in. Smit Lamnalco alone has 14 ships here, and then of course, there are the tankers and ships of the Iraqi navy

with which he is in constant touch. I listen to how he communicates with different captains in a professional jargon.

I do not understand a word of his English, so I fear the worst when I hear an officer on the intercom asking: "Do you copy?" But I later learn this is 'Seaman English'.
Reetesh explains he is a bit worried
about the weather. He receives
indications that a sandstorm is coming,
and as a precaution, he warns all ships.
A sandstorm makes working impossible

and we just cannot have that, as there are several inspections of SPM's on the programme.



When I walk around on the Ocean 240,
I notice how much water there is, and no,
I am not talking about the sea, I mean
drinking water. Everywhere boxes are
stored with bottles of water - on deck, in
the kitchen and I even have a large stock
in my cabin. The theme of water is
immediately mentioned when I am sitting
opposite Wilfred Albert Dantis. He is the
Camp Boss. Compare him with a Food &
Beverage Manager, a Duty Manager and
a Housekeeping Manager in a hotel.

Wilfred can turn his hand to anything. Together with a crew of 15, he ensures everything runs smoothly. And as far as drinking water is concerned; there are in total about 120 crew on the barge and another 80 on the boats and they drink an average of 2.5 litres of water per person per day, 500 litres per day is equivalent to 3,500 litres per week, no less than 7,000 bottles per week! And when the temperature rises to over 50 degrees, from mid-June to September, the average doubles to around 5 litres per day and we're not even including the amount of soft drinks that is consumed. In the past, Wilfred worked on large cruise liners with sometimes 3,000 spoiled passengers on board. So here on the Ocean 240, it is child's play for

him, in a manner of speaking. After a delicious Indian meal in the mess room, that can certainly compete with what they serve at The Bombay Brasserie, one of the better Indian restaurants in London, I head for my cabin to enjoy a well-deserved night's rest... Then the sandstorm announced by the radio operator has arrived...... All night long, meters-high waves crash against the Ocean 240. The view has also deteriorated; it is virtually impossible to venture outside. Let alone work under these conditions. After a bout self-analysis, I have to conclude that I am completely unfit to qualify for one of the functions here on the barge. My respect for the men here on board and on all vessels rises to unprecedented heights.



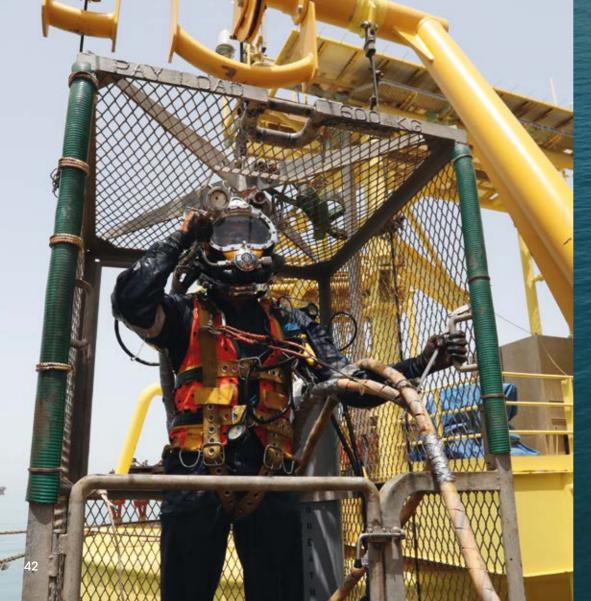


Next morning I meet up with Fanny Smuts and Colin Richards, both from South Africa. With eight colleagues, they are the diving team that performs maintenance and repairs on everything to do with SPM's. Smit Lamnalco has a Dive Support Vessel in the field for the work on the 5 SPM's.



# owntime option





On board the SL Labuan there is a decompression chamber, Kirby diving equipment and a ROV for inspections on pipelines and structures. In consultation with the client, routine checks are held at regular intervals, because the SPM's have a heavy burden to bear due to the extreme weather conditions and continuous use. VLCC's are moored to the SPM's day in and day out, some of them loading more than 2,000,000 barrels of oil per tanker, so downtime is not an option. They regularly dive to a depth of more than thirty meters. Fanny followed a course in the navy and Colin was once a diamond diver.



## Terima kasih

When I'm ready to board the SL Kiwi, a
22-meter long mooring tug built by
Damen Shipyards, Muhammed Ashar, the
Indonesian Captain, comes to meet me
personally to welcome me on board. Five
years ago, he started here as a captain



on a crew boat and then got the chance to take the helm of the Kiwi. He tells me how special the atmosphere is here and how everyone acts as a close-knit team. He greatly appreciates the organisation that sometimes has to carry out work under very difficult circumstances. Just before he is called back to the bridge, I get an invitation from him to stop by his cook, because there is a plate of Nasi Rames with chicken satay in a peanut sauce waiting for me! "Terima Kasih"

(Thank you!) I say enthusiastically in my inadequate Malay.

Every day, 14 marine crews are ready to assist the tankers during mooring and un-mooring operations, and numerous other activities. The Ocean 240 acts as a huge dispatch centre and arranges crews, food and fuel for all ships.

When I close the door of my cabin to go to sleep, I can still see a group of divers departing for a nocturnal activity. After all, this is a 24/7 operation.





# Pumping up the



## volume in Russia

## Girls run the town o







#### Elena Melenteva - dedicated HR manager

When Elena introduces herself, we wonder how long she had stayed in the UK? But she gives the answer herself, as she tells us that she is, in fact, an official English interpreter.

Focus On: Why are you now working for Smit Lamnalco as the HR manager instead of being busy with translating?
"Well I was looking for a job where I could do something extra with my English language. First, I worked for a small company here in Novorossiysk. It wasn't

very challenging. Every day was more or less the same. You came in, had a coffee and did your job and that was that!

But here at Smit Lamnalco, it really is something different. People are devoted to what they are doing and what I like about my work is the fact that it is not someone else's business. It is yours; you can make the difference!"

Focus On: What is your special talent?
Elena starts to laugh and looks a little
puzzled. Finally, she says: "My strongest
point is that I can be in charge of different

disciplines and work on several cases at the same time."

A typical example of a multi-tasker and in addition a well-respected colleague.

## Svetlana Samborskaya – devoted Deputy Chief Accountant

Svetlana has been with Smit Lamnalco for over 15 years. She started as an accountant and today she is a Deputy Chief Accountant.

Focus On: Why Smit Lamnalco?

I like to work with a company which has



connections with the sea. My dad is a
Chief Engineer. I graduated at the
Novorossiysk Maritime Academy.
Every day, before she goes to work, she
takes a swim in the Black Sea! I love my
work and Smit Lamnalco offers good job
perspectives and the atmosphere at our
office is very pleasant.

### Yuliya Rogova – professional Payroll Accountant

Yuliya has a talent for figures and that's precisely the reason why she is a Payroll

Accountant for Smit Lamnalco. So she is the only one who knows exactly what every single colleague earns a month, we teasingly suggest. She laughs and tells me that she is proud to work with real professionals.

## Alexander Yatsuk - Gentlemen Commercial Manager

Alexander is one of the three 'lucky guys'!
He is the Commercial Manager for the
region and is responsible for new clients,
maintaining the relations with existing
clients and new business. It was during his

10 years with Maersk where he built up his experience in different disciplines and operations. Alexander also went to sea as a deckhand, after he had finished his studies at the Novorossiysk Maritime Academy, but he preferred a job onshore. Yet he still does a lot of traveling. Besides Novorossiysk, his home base, you can find Alexander in Sakhalin, Georgia, Lithuania and Rotterdam, of course! The way he presents himself can be best described as a young and charming diplomat or as they say: every inch a gentleman.



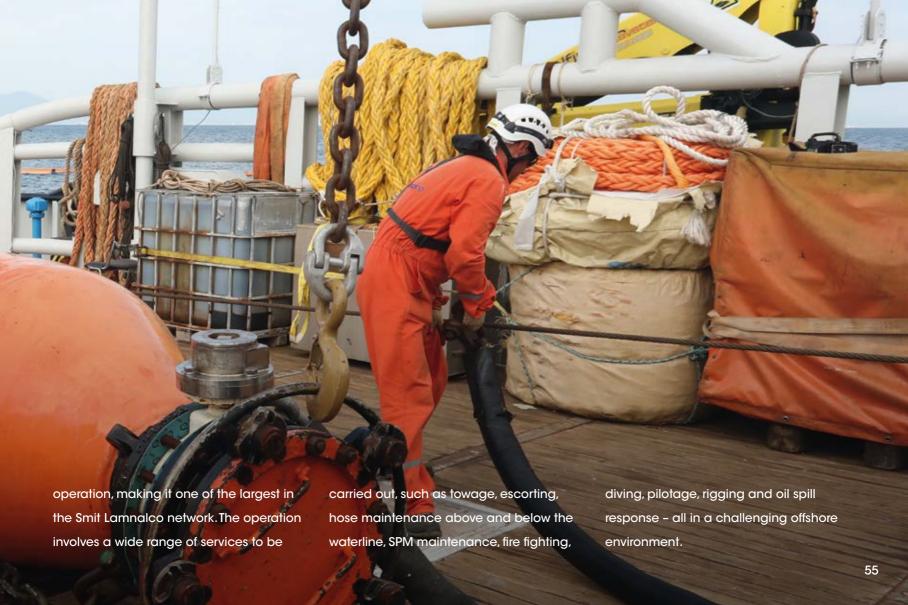
Summer at the Black Sea. The sun stands high in the sky and it is already quite hot. However as hot as it can be in the summer, as cold it can be in winter. There are many activities at the small shore base of Smit Lamnalco on the CPC (Caspian Pipeline Consortium) compound.

A 1,511km pipeline transports crude oil event from Russia and the fields of western from Cazakhstan to the Marine Terminal in 67m to Novorossiysk. The tank farm, with 10 tanks of 100,000mT each, ensures that loading tankers offshore is not interrupted.

From here, 16 vessels serve and maintain the 3 SPM's. When the project started in 2001, there were 2 buoys. In 2012, a third SPM system was installed at the site, which is 5 km offshore. Smit Lamnalco helped with the final installation and commissioning. This third SPM is part of an extensive expansion programme. It will eventually see an increase in throughput from around 30m tonnes a year to around 67m tonnes.











# Responsible in a reverse world

Tatyana Zinovyeva is the SHEQ Manager for Smit Lamnalco in Russia. She studied biology and chemistry, so she is aware of all the danger that comes with the oil industry. In close corporation with the



MOMM, the Marine Superintendent and the Buoy Maintenance Superintendent,
Tatyana is responsible for the safety standards and safe work environment of all employees. She is also responsible when new safety rules must be implemented. Here, it is a reverse world; in contrast to the town office, offshore she is the only female around. Although her job is very serious business, she has a great sense of humour!



Christopher Deacon from South Africa is the Buoy Maintenance Superintendent. He and his team are responsible for the flawless operation of the buoys, both above as well as underwater. A pre-berthing inspection is conducted before each berthing. It comprises amongst others, checking the pick-up ropes, to ensure they are not tangled, both from the hawsers as well as the floating hoses. The flanges are also tested for leakage. The hose string connection to

the buoy is checked. The dive team then jumps to the buoy and inspects the electricity and power source for the navigation lights. They control and test the alarm light for excess hawser tension.

All very essential as most berthing is at

## Check, check

night. The solar panels must be inspected.

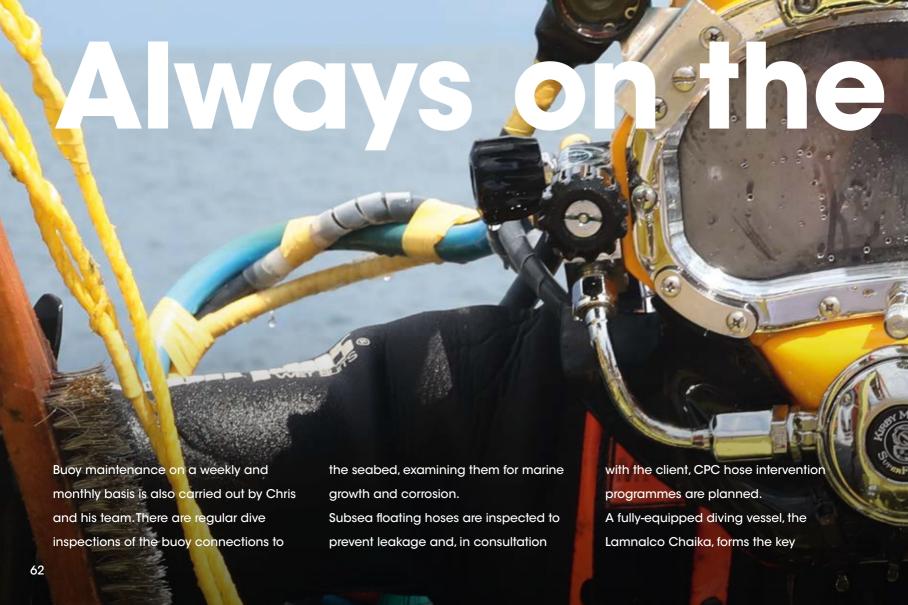
They should be dry, clean and functioning.

All the results are confirmed with the dispatcher onshore, he can see what the control team sees via the telemetry system onshore and if there is no discrepancy, the

dispatcher activates all the systems and the buoy is good to go and can receive a tanker for loading. The same procedures take place after the loading is completed and the tanker moves away from the buoy. This is the post-berthing inspection.



# double check





element of the CPC Russia operation.

It has a decompression chamber, double
Kirby diving equipment, a ROV, as well as
camera equipment and a diving cage.

On our question concerning when and where Chris spends his leave? He starts to laugh and says "on board". He is always on the job, as the flow of crude never

stops. And with a twinkle in his eyes, he turns round and continues his job on the deck of the Chaika.



#### **Smit Lamnalco Netherlands**

Waalhaven O.Z. 85 3087 BM Rotterdam The Netherlands T +31 88 076 4800 E info@smitlamnalco.com

### smitlamnalco.com