

## PRESS RELEASE

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### ACE Winches secures spooling contract with Oceaneering

Leading global deck machinery specialist, ACE Winches, has secured a spooling contract with Oceaneering for Shell's Prelude Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) project.

The contract will be the first time ACE Winches' newly developed 500te reel drive system is used. The tool is an upgrade of its existing 400te system that has been engineered and manufactured at ACE Winches facilities in Aberdeenshire. The product range has been developed for high tension spooling and the deployment and recovery of subsea products such as umbilicals, risers and flow lines, flexible pipelines, power cables, telecommunication cables, tubing, wire ropes and mooring lines. It can accommodate a gross weight of 500te.

Alfie Cheyne, CEO, ACE Winches commented: "We are thrilled to be utilising our new 500te reel drive system for this contract with Oceaneering. As our clients projects continue to venture to even greater depths, we understand the need for this equipment to operate in harsh conditions and as a result, have developed it to ensure we are accommodating the ever growing needs of the oil and gas industry."

The scope of work will see ACE Winches spool 4400m of umbilical, with a diameter of 229mm on to a 12.2m reel. The weight of the umbilical is the heaviest Oceaneering has ever spooled with a total weight of 426te.

ACE Winches modified its existing 400te reel drive system to meet the client's specific requirements with an added base frame and packers to allow the 12.2m reel to be spooled on the quayside.

Chris Waller, engineering manager, commented: "ACE Winches has invested heavily in the design and manufacture of reel drive systems and we are excited to be expanding our capabilities to allow for 14m maximum flange diameter and a 500te load."

ACE Winches also supplied a total of 10 qualified commissioning engineers and technicians to assemble the ACE 500te reel drive system quayside, before operations started, with a further six operating technicians providing a 24 hour service to complete the first phase of spooling.

The patent pending 500te system consists of two towers that disassemble into eight modules for easy transportation. The towers use a slave and master configuration, with two gear boxes in each drive hub.

**ENDS**

### NOTES TO EDITORS:

ACE Winches is a global leader in the design, manufacture and hire of winches, marine deck



machinery and the provision of associated hire personnel for the offshore oil and gas, marine and renewable energy industries.

ACE Winches is the expert partner to manage the total project solution from concept design through to manufacture, testing, installation, commissioning, operation, training and ongoing customer support.

Operating in over 50 countries ACE Winches specialise in reliable, safe solutions that deliver.