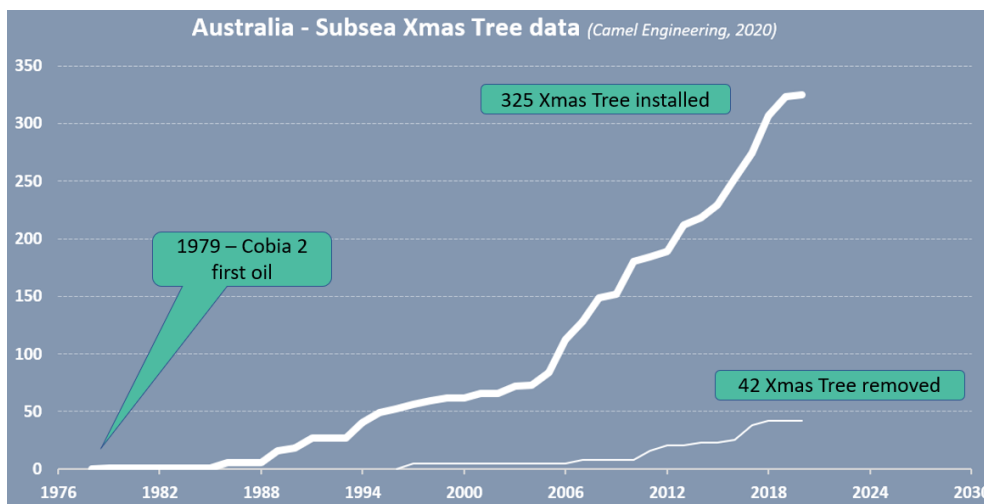# THE AUSTRALIAN SUBSEA MARKET

June 2020

This series of informative posters have been developed to share research material within the **Australian Subsea Industry**, promote an understanding of the 40-year track record for deployment of innovation in Australia and support future growth through the sharing of knowledge.

THE EARLY DAYS

The Australian Subsea industry sprang to life in July 1979 with first oil being produced from the Cobia-2 well as a 4.4Km subsea tie-back to the Mackerel platform, located in the Gippsland Basin and operated by the Esso-BHP Gippsland Basin Joint Venture (GBJV), [1].

As of early 2020 there have been a total of 308 Subsea XT installed in Australian waters. An estimated 42 subsea Xmas Tree have been removed from the seabed as part of full abandonment & decommissioning activities, reference below chart.

In comparison to Australia's 266 Subsea Xmas Tree operated by 13 companies, the UK* have 975 operated by 39 companies, with first production in 1975.

The Subsea Industry

The modern Australian subsea industry is typified by large greenfield gas projects such as Chevron Gorgon. Production from this field is achieved from 17 subsea Xmas Tree with first gas achieved in 2016 and Phase 2 currently in construction. Video graphic insights on the Gorgon project are available at Ref [2].
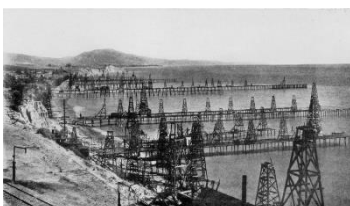
Chevron Wheatstone Platform

Alongside the mega projects are the smaller, older projects where sustaining production through innovation is key to the industries longevity. Small businesses are best placed to support these low cost, high performing models which dictate a high-level of expertise on a flexible basis.
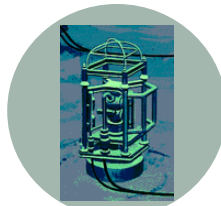

Australia - Subsea Xmas Tree data *(Camel Engineering, 2020)*

- 325 Xmas Tree installed
- 1979 – Cobia 2 first oil
- 42 Xmas Tree removed

1890

First offshore oil, at Summerland, California from Wooden jetties, erected in 1890.
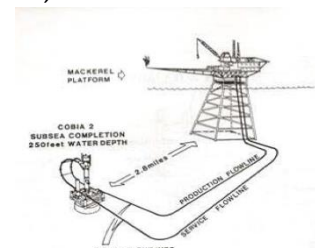

1961

The first subsea Xmas Tree installed by Shell in the Gulf of Mexico.

1979

First production from a subsea Xmas Tree in Australia, Cobia-2.

References:-
1. 1981 Petroleum Year Book
2. www.chevron.com/stories/underneath-the-great-gorgon

- - UK data relates to year 2018