

# GAPS USBL for Fugro Survey Middle East

Fugro Survey (Middle East) (FSME) has recently ordered IXSEA's pre-calibrated USBL system GAPS , because of its characteristics in extremely shallow waters. The first GAPS USBL was mobilised in the spring of 2008 for several construction jobs on behalf of the EPC contractor J. Ray McDermott Middle East in Qatar.

A significant number of mattresses and sleepers were laid successfully between Ras Laffan and various new platforms in North Field. The environment was noisy with a water depth often less than 20m. Following this project, FSME is now expanding its pool of USBL with a second GAPS unit for the Middle East.

"GAPS presents a far better robustness to multipath and noise thanks to the 3D configuration of its head, its wideband modulation and the implantation of a powerful algorithm," explained Jean-Marc Binois, IXSEA's Area Sales Manager based in Dubai.

Mike Dravitzki (FSME General Manager) commented: "We were pleased to confirm our order for a second GAPS system following the successful introduction of the first GAPS System into the Arabian Gulf region. This second GAPS unit will be used to accurately position the Shell Pearl GTL pipelines as they are laid by J. Ray McDermott in Qatar later this year."