## Presentation «Kielland» seminar 10.10.23

Did the horisontal brazing DE crack and part into two parts **prior** to brazing D6?

### Stavanger Aftenblad 28.10. 2019 (1)



Bjørn Lian, til venstre Nils Gunnar Gunderser og Jim Rune Petterssor besøkte nylig Norsk Oljemuseum magasin på Storhaug

#### Stavanger Aftenblad 28.10. 2019 (2)



### Quote from the above article:

- Bjørn Lian: Our work group concluded that a crack, as a result of bad welding which developed at the hydrophone in D6 brazing, was the cause of the accident. This was the official Norwegian conclusion. It is possible that there were other cracks developed, but based upon the data we had available at that time, I fully support our decission.
- Nils Gunnar Gundersen: «Kielland» was operated far ouside the design criteria over a long period of time. A different stress situation was created in the lower part of the brazings due to wrong anchoring- and ballasting procedures and which finally caused D6 brazing to fully crack and the D leg parted form the rest of the structure due to lack of structural integrity. An article in Stavanger Aftenblad in April 1981 indicated that this must have been the cause of the disaster.
- Jim Rune Petterson: There are clear indications that there were several cracks on «Kielland». The horizontal DE bracing cracked first and had parted before the accident.

### Part of the brazing structure



### D column after it parted from the remaining structure



FIG. 2.1.3: PLATTFORMLEGG 'D' MED GJENSTÅENDE STAGDELER

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### «Alexander Kielland» on the accident day 27 march 1980.





### SINTEF report – The fracture in DE brazing

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- The fracture in part 8 was most probably a clean **tension fracture**. It may have started in position 510 or 720 in the welding seam between internal stiffeners and the bracing itself (Jim Rune will explain)
- The fracture in part 7 is caused by **high tension stresses**, but also some **shear stresses and torsion stresses** which also caused part 4 to crack.
- The crack in part 4, which only covered half the circumference, is only considered as a secondary crack..

### Part 8 in DE brazing (1)



### Part 8 in DE brazing (2)



#### Part 7 on the DE brazing – stored on Oil Museum.



# Why is it reasonable to conclude that the DE bracing fractured into two parts prior to the fracture of the D6 brazing? (1)

- The DE brazing was found by divers vertically underneath the position «Kielland» normally had relativ to the Edda platform. This may mean that this brazing had fractured into two parts close to the E column **prior** to the moment the D6 brazing fractured into two parts and parted from the remaing structure. Several observers on the Edda platform has clearly said that the D column left the structure with a high speed («canon bullet»).
- Divers, who inspected the DE brazing just after the accident, reported that the «surface of the fracture was very clean and smooth, but was covered by rust which looked like having been there for quite some time.»

Why is it reasonable to conclude that the DE bracing fractured into two parts prior to the fracture of the D6 brazing? (2)

• A report from NSFI indicates clearly that the fracture near the E column (part 8) has been exposed to «large tension stresses.»

Large anchor tensions from anchors, in particular D1 and E2, have probably contributed significantly to these large tension stresses over a longer period of time during very bad weather conditions and, in particular during the pulling operation when the platform has been brought back alongside the Bravo installation.! (own statement!) Why is it reasonable to conclude that the DE bracing fractured into two parts prior to the fracture of the D6 brazing? (3)

- The photoes of the fracture close to the E column (part 8) indicates clearly that the bracing had been exposed to large tensile stresses and not bending moments (creating shear stresses) which would have been very likely if the DE bracing had been undamaged when the D column parted from the remaining structure. (Jim Rune to illustrate)
- The crane driver Leif Reve reported to the OIM, prior to the accident, that the D column had a visible deviation from being vertical. No action was taken.

**Need for a planned action** to evaluate whether or not the DE brazing fractured prior or after fracturing of the D6 brazing?

- The steering comittee in the Document project has been requested to provide kr 115.000 to cover a possible contract with Stavanger Engineering who has offered to calculate the **differences** in stress level in DE and D6 brazings with both 8 and 10 anchors in use.
- Stavanger Engineering is capable in carrying much more sophisticated calculations, if required.
- A feed back from the steering committe is expected soon.