Amidst the challenges imposed by the global COVID-19 pandemic and operational logistics, Harvey Gulf was facing a difficult dilemma in getting class surveys scheduled without having to pause operations. They turned to ABS’ industry-leading portfolio of remote survey services to minimize interruptions while remaining compliant.

Harvey Gulf needed to maintain their commitment to a client that chartered the Harvey Sub-Sea for an offshore operation. However, logistical challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the charter demands of the vessel made it more difficult to arrange for a surveyor to board a vessel and carry out inspections.

While arrangements were made to extend survey windows as much as possible, it soon became clear operations would be adversely impacted without a new approach.

Harvey Gulf determined the ABS Remote Survey program would solve the challenge. Because ABS is advancing a seamless and consistent class process by leveraging digital tools to enable remote surveys and more virtual operations, the ABS Remote Survey program augmented traditional survey through the transfer of digital documentation such as reports, photos and videos for non-attendance verification of the survey. Adopting this program improved scheduling efficiencies and reduced operational disruptions. ABS Remote Surveys allow operators to complete select surveys on time without physical surveyor attendance.
RESULTS

Through application of ABS Remote Survey, Harvey Gulf managed to meet both charterer’s and class requirements while minimizing interruptions to its operations.

“This solution meant we were able to go about our day-to-day operations, and not have to be interrupted by travelling shoreside,” said Harvey Gulf Executive Vice President Chad Verret. “We would’ve had to travel about 36 hours into the location, spend a full day seaside doing the operation, then transit back 36 hours. So when you look at it holistically, that’s 4 days of off chartered time that we avoided. But it goes bigger than that because the vessel is very specific to the job and the client couldn’t find a replacement vessel. So, it would have really impacted them.

“We were able to digitally take information as required, pass it back shoreside, have an open, honest conversation back and forth about the quality of what they saw and it just made things seamless and very efficient.”

Whatever the trajectory of the pandemic, ABS Remote Survey is a tool that’s here to stay for Harvey Gulf from now on.

“It’s Harvey Gulf’s intention to continue using the ABS Remote Survey platform going forward. We’ve found a lot of benefits from it,” continued Verret. “Throughout the few months just before the survey our guys can collect all the information, we can transmit as much uploaded data as possible and so we are working towards minimizing that full day at the dock doing a class survey and trying to condense it down to maybe three or four hours.

“We absolutely think it’s great technology, we support it and will continue using it. In our industry it’s about efficiency, and we look at this as one more efficient tool, and a more efficient way of doing a survey, without compromising safety.”