

## **Quality Variations Discovered in Oil and Gas Pipe Components made from Duplex Steel**

### **What happened?**

NOPSA has received information from the Petroleum Safety Authority of Norway (PSA) about quality variations in certain oil and gas pipe components made of duplex steel. The PSA reports that the deviation in quality does not show on the material certificates and could involve a higher risk of brittle fractures. The cause of the quality deviation is believed to be faulty heat treatment by the manufacturer.

The PSA indicates in its [safety alert](#)<sup>1</sup> to industry that pipe components with the quality variation have been delivered worldwide since the beginning of 2006.

The US Offshore Minerals Management (MMS) Regulatory Compliance division has also released [an alert](#)<sup>2</sup> on the quality variations discovered in certain oil and gas pipe components which are used by oil and gas operators for a wide range of applications including hydrocarbon production pipes and water transportation pipes.

### **Key Lessons:**

NOPSA does not have information that indicates whether or not these pipe fittings are being used by operators in Australia. It is recommended that operators review the information provided by the PSA and MMS and determine whether any further action is necessary.

### **Contact**

For further information email [alerts@nopsa.gov.au](mailto:alerts@nopsa.gov.au) and quote Alert 30.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ptil.no/news/quality-variations-in-pipe-components-of-duplex-steel-article5435-79.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.mms.gov/safetyalerts/8.htm>