

Simulation of Ras Laffan Port, State of Qatar



Situated in the North of the Qatari Peninsula, Ras Laffan Port is the world's largest for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exporting port. Built at a cost of one billion US dollars, the port was designed as an export facility for LNG, Condensate and Sulphur. These are the main exports from Qatar Liquefied Natural Gas Co. Ltd (Qatargas) and Ras Laffan Liquefied Natural Gas Co. Ltd. (RasGas), which are the two projects currently operating within Ras Laffan Industrial City (RLC). Both Qatargas and RasGas have ambitious expansion plans, which will result in the total LNG exports being increased from 12.6 million tonnes per annum to around 27 million tonnes per annum by 2008.



Without such a simulation study it would be almost impossible to predict the dynamic performance of the port and therefore coming up with an expansion plan would be thwart with risk and lack the buy-in from all parties.



In addition to the aforementioned project expansions, memoranda of understanding (MOU) have been signed with international energy corporations and states for the construction of future industries. These industries include condensate refining, gas to liquid (GTLs) and petrochemical projects. To understand how to meet the challenge of dealing with greater volumes and a greater range of products RLC turned to simulation modelling and put its requirements out to tender. Lanner Group was subsequently awarded the contract, which involved a detailed capacity utilisation study related to liquid berth utilisation, development and allocation at RLC. Lanner used a winning combination of its experience in the hydrocarbons industry, in conjunction with its world leading WITNESS simulation software, to perform the study. The scope and nature of which is on the following page.

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