

# *Real-time Management of Petroleum Exploration Process Data at Campos Basin*

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*April, 2004*



**PETROBRAS**

- Petrobras facts
- The evolution of PI at UN-BC
- Structure of PI System at UN-BC
- Successful applications

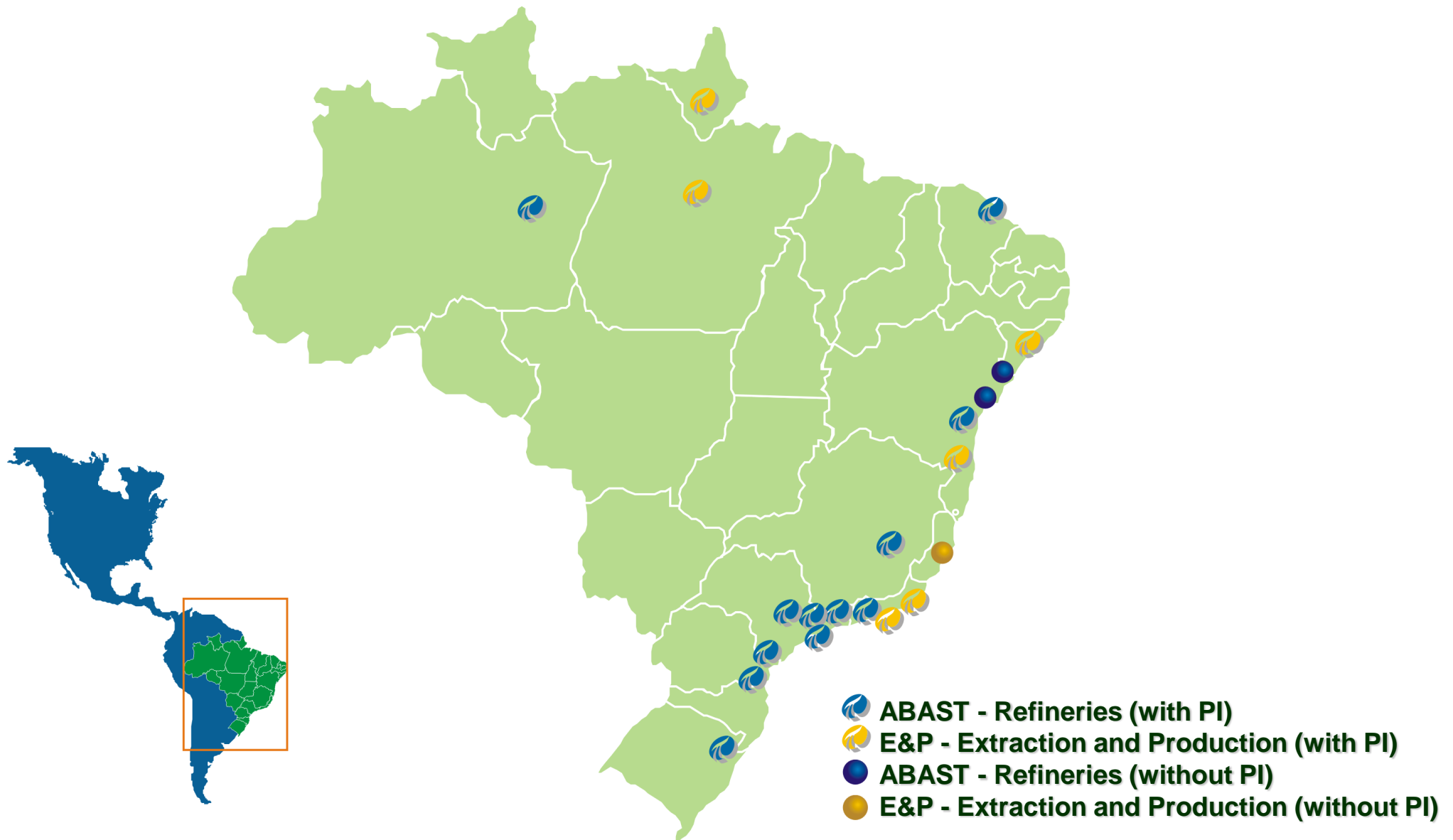
# Petrobras by numbers

- 13th largest oil company in the world
- Around 40000 employees
- Net revenues of \$32 billion (2003)
- Net profit of \$6 billion (2003)
- 12 refineries and 2 fertilizer plants distributed along all country
- 98 offshore oil platforms
- 1.7 million bpd oil production
- 1.7 million bpd refining capacity
- 53 million m<sup>3</sup> of natural gas/day

# Petrobras outstands

- Unparalleled offshore technology  
(Twice honored with the deep-water oil production prize by OTC)
- Largest number of ISO-9000/14000 certificates in Brazil
- Subsidiaries in Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Nigeria and USA

# Petrobras units in Brazil



- Petrobras facts

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## UN-BC by numbers

- Located in Macaé, northeast of the State of Rio de Janeiro
- Oil production: 80% of national production
- Gas production: 30% of national production
- 31 platforms (18 floating e 13 fixed), 2 rented
- 6 drilling platforms
- 28 production fields, with 1490 wells

## The evolution of PI at UN-BC

- PI was first acquired by Petrobras in 1995
- Although widely used since the beginning in the ABAST division (downstream), PI was only introduced in the E&P division in 2000, in two offshore units managed by UN-BC
- Today PI is present in the 32 offshore units managed by UN-BC, with 30000 tags and 400 users
- Plans for the future include integration with SAP/PM



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## PI System structure at UN-BC

- Server: PI 3.3 SR2 (will be upgraded to 3.4 soon!)
- 13 platforms running a custom interface with VXL (VXL-PI) on OVMS (PINet)
- 18 platforms running PI-DDE with Intouch and 1 platform running PI-Cimplicity on Windows (PI-API)
- Integration with SampleManager (LIMS)
- 250 PI Combos
- 5 PI Professional Packs
- 3 custom applications developed using PI-SDK

## Main difficulties

- Custom interface VXL-PI had to be developed in-house (no standard interface available), which took 4-5 months
- Due to the high complexity of the Intouch applications, it was necessary to develop the PI-Intouch interface for PLOD (testing phase took 3-4 months),
- A redundancy mechanism for PINet/VXL-PI had to be developed
- A redundancy mechanism for PI-DDE/Intouch is currently being developed

**Was it worth it?**

- Petrobras facts
- The evolution of PI at UN-BC
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## General benefits achieved by PI

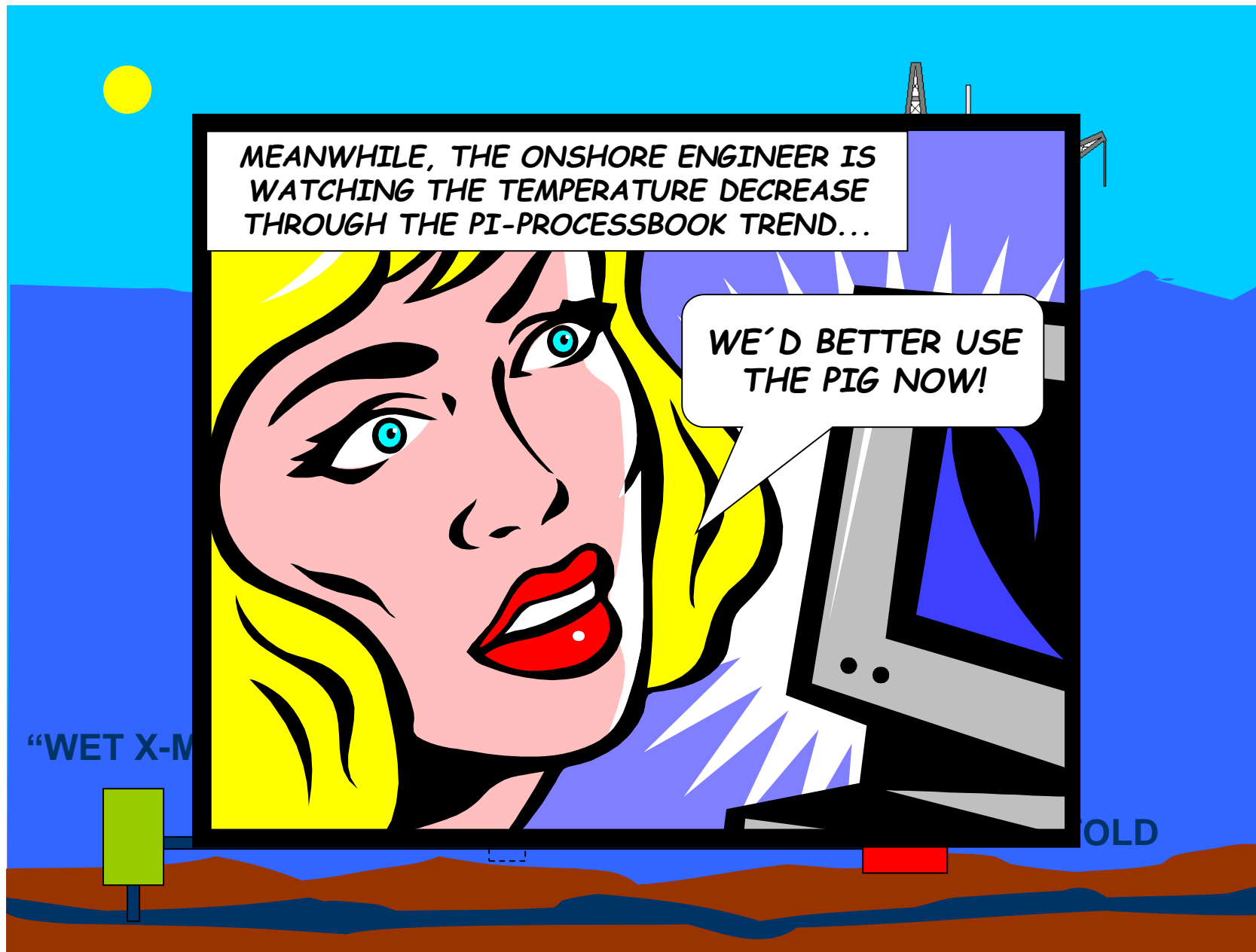
- Significant reduction on the need for engineers and technicians to go onboard the platforms to perform their work
- Preventive maintenance could be replaced by predictive maintenance
- Better quality of data
  - better input data for simulation tools  $\Rightarrow$  better simulation results
- Longer periods of historical data can be online at a given time
- Data is available in real-time

# Problem: wax deposition

*pig: a device inserted into a pipeline to perform any one of a number of functions: cleaning, displacement, batching, or internal inspection. It gets its name from the squealing noises the pipeline pigs made when first used.*

Source: T. D. Williamson glossary  
[www.tdwilliamson.com](http://www.tdwilliamson.com)

# Solution: predictive maintenance



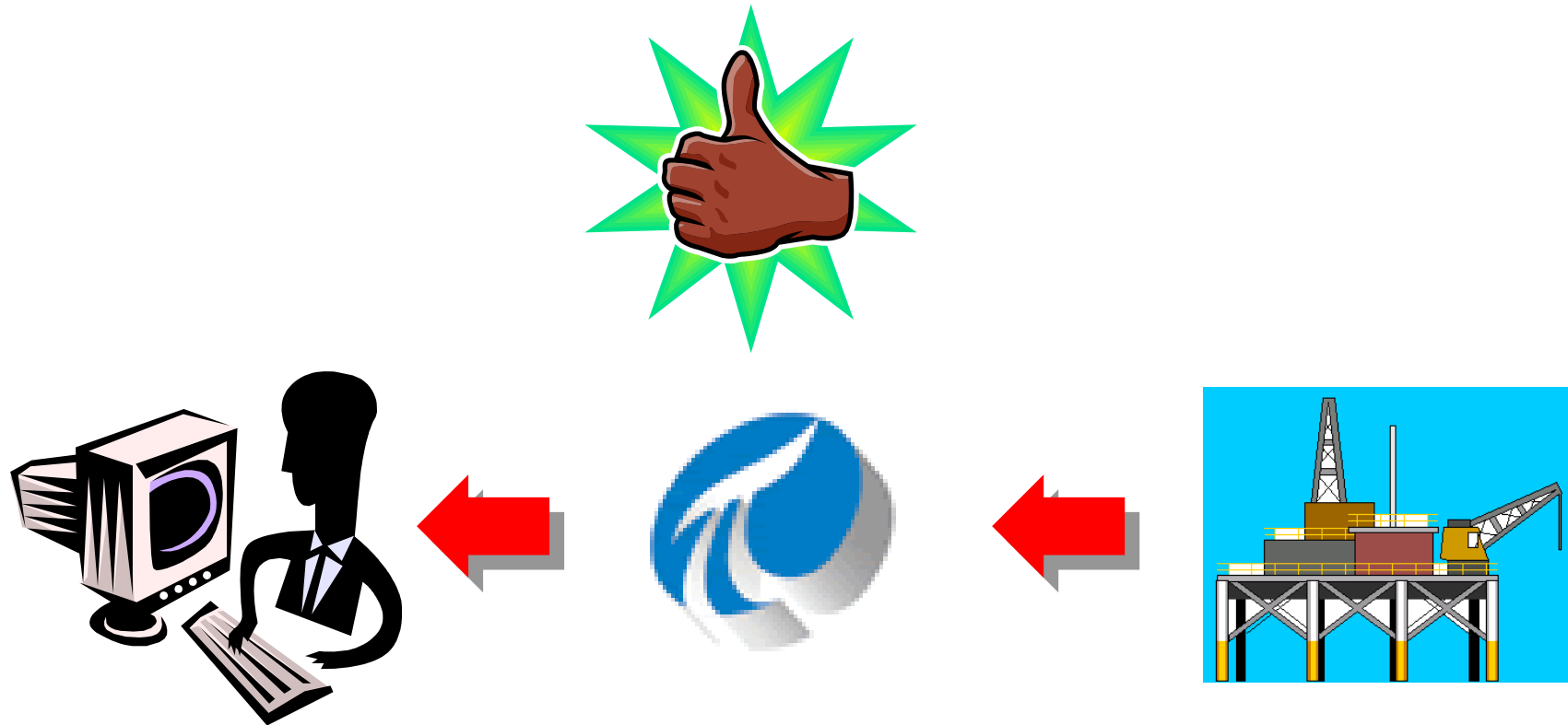
# Problem: delay in data analysis



**Onshore technician had to wait 1-4 days to access process data**



# Solution: deliver data in real-time!



Now, with PI, data is available in **real-time,**  
**anytime!**

# Problem: reports made by hand



**Offshore operator stayed up to 3 hours  
after shift time to elaborate report**

# Solution: use PI-Datalink!



Reports are generated **instantly** and are **more precise**  
Operator can drop work at the **right time**

## Problem: high cost of maintenance

- When a piece of equipment broke down on the platform:
  - a **technician** had to go onboard to **analyze** the problem
  - sometimes **another technician** needed to go onboard to **fix** the problem
- Production **decreases** while the equipment is not fixed



## Solution: analyze it onshore

- With PI, the onshore engineer can analyze the cause of the problem **prior to** sending a technician onboard
  - saves time
  - avoids unnecessary boardings
- Sometimes, problems can even be **predicted** and **avoided** before they actually occur!



## Case 1: machine dead after 4000h

- A machine with an expected life of **36000h** died after **4000h** of operation
- The manufacturer claimed that Petrobras should **pay** for the fix because the machine supposedly had not been used within recommended **specifications**
- Through PI-ProcessBook trends, onshore engineers **proved** that the manufacturer was **wrong**
- The manufacturer fixed the machine **at no cost** for Petrobras (\$ millions saved!!!)



## Case 2: Emergency Shutdown

- On a certain oil platform, Emergency Shutdowns (ESDs) occurred always on the **same day** of the week
- Through PI, onshore engineers discovered that this day matched the **team shift** day
- After that, they **changed** the team shift routine so the production coordinator shifts **one day after** the rest of his team to **pass the information** about the production to the next coordinator **prior to** leaving the platform
- **No ESDs** have occurred since then!!!

## Case 3: problem in pipeline

*The gas production is continuous, which means that if there is any problem with the transmission of the gas through the pipeline, the exceeding gas must be burned.*

*This represents a huge loss for the company, because not only the production decreases, but there are*

*also high fees charged by the government for environmental hazards and waste of natural resources*

*(560000 m<sup>3</sup>/day @ \$0.09/m<sup>3</sup>).*

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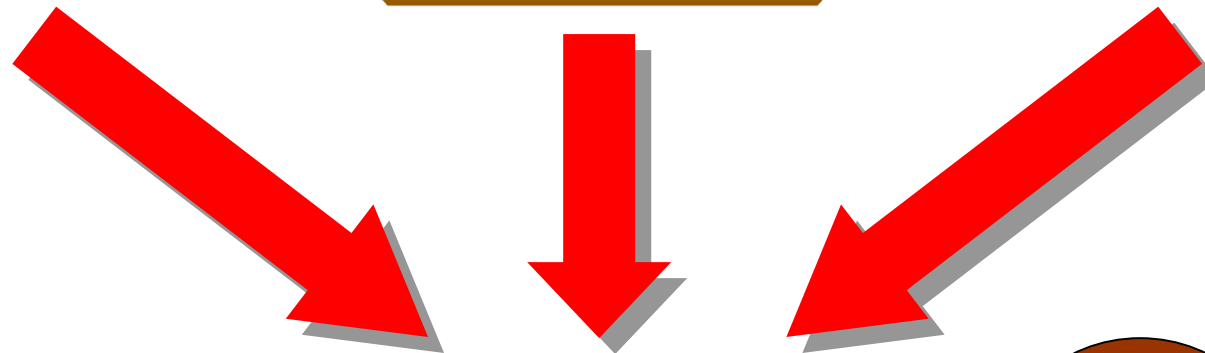


# Problem: data from many sources

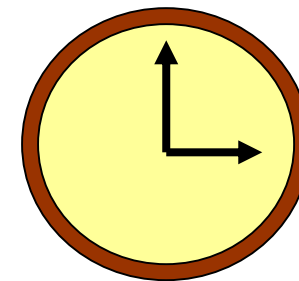
**Chemical  
Analysis**

**Corrosion Rate  
Metal loss /  
ER Probe**

**Process  
Data**



**Corrosion Rate  
data is currently  
brought from  
platforms each  
**3 months**  
by technicians**



**3 hours**  
**(after 14 years  
of experience!)**

# Solution: integrate data with PI

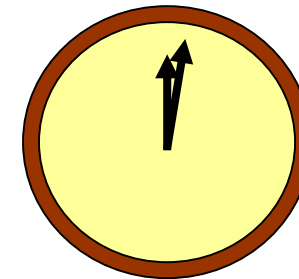
**Chemical  
Analysis**

**Corrosion Rate  
Metal loss /  
ER Probe**

**Process  
Data**



**Corrosion Rate  
data will soon  
be available in  
**real-time**  
through PI!**



**5 minutes**  
(no great expertise  
required)

## Returning to the previous question...

- Custom interface VXL-PI had to be developed in-house (no standard interface available), which took 4-5 months
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**Was it worth it?**

...the answer is quite obvious:

**Yes,  
definetely!**

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Thank you very much!



*Sergio Saad and Eduardo Ladeira aboard an offshore unit in Campos Basin (July 2003)*