

What do you think is the most important factor in choosing a round FPSO for your next field development

29% A. The oilpatch has always liked boats with a pointy end

11% B. Round is simple and cheap to build

35% C. No need for an expensive turret and swivel

25% D. Round FPSO technology has now matured to where it will win in a shoot out

Technology Readiness Level (TRL): Important Here?

	TRL Designation		Definition
Conception	TRL 0	Unproven Idea (paper concept, no analysis or testing)	At TRL 0, a technical need has been identified and a concept has been conceived. The description of the technical need is general in nature without specific performance or functional requirements. The concept has been refined to the point that the physical principles have been documented and simple sketches, if applicable, have been produced. No analysis or testing has been performed.
	TRL 1	Proven Concept (functionality demonstrated by analysis or testing)	At TRL 1, the concept has been refined to the point where the basic physical properties (dimensions, material types, rates, etc.) have been developed and documented and preliminary drawings, if applicable, have been produced. The primary technical requirements are documented. Analysis and/or testing have been performed demonstrating that the concept functions as conceived. The testing may be conducted on individual subcomponents and subsystems without integration into a broader system. The concept may not meet all of the technical requirements at this level, but demonstrates the basic functionality with promise to meet all of the requirements with additional development.
Proof-of-Concept	TRL 2	Validated System Concept (breadboard tested in "realistic" environment)	At TRL 2, the concept is developed into an ad-hoc system of discrete components (breadboard/mock-up) to establish that the components work together prior to prototype construction. The system validates that it can function in a "realistic" environment, with the key environmental parameters simulated. Appropriate material testing and reliability testing may be performed on key parts or components.
	TRL 3	Prototype Tested (prototype developed and tested)	At TRL 3, the technical specifications are developed further and a prototype has been developed. The technical specifications include details of the performance, functional, environmental, and interface requirements. The prototype is tested in a robust design development test program over a limited range of operating conditions to demonstrate its functionality. Reliability growth tests and accelerated life tests may also be performed. The relevant lab test environment may not be field realistic. This is an isolated test program for this technology, without its integration into a broader system.
Prototype	TRL 4	Environment Tested (prototype tested in field realistic environment)	At TRL 4, the technology meets all of the requirements of TRL 3 and below, except that the testing is conducted in a relevant environment (simulated or actual) over its full operating range.
	TRL 5	System Integration Tested (prototype integrated with intended system and functionally tested)	At TRL 5, the technology meets all of the requirements of TRL 4 and below and is integrated into its intended operating system and tested. The testing includes full interface and functional testing. The system integration test environment may not be field realistic. (This TRL may not be applicable for all technology.)
Field Qualified	TRL 6	Technology Deployed (prototype deployed in field test or actual operation)	At TRL 6, the technology has been developed into a field-ready prototype or production unit and has been integrated into its intended operating system and installed in the field. The technology has successfully operated for <10% of its expected life.
	TRL 7	Proven Technology (production unit success-fully operational for >10% of expected life)	At TRL 7, the technology is now in production and has been fully integrated into its intended operating system and installed in the field. The technology has successfully operated with acceptable performance and reliability for >10% of its specified life.

TRL = 0
Untried

TRL = 7
Well Tried

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The Post Mortem – Your Verdict

For my FPSO development, I choose:

- 43% A. Sevan**
- 7% B. Nagan Srinivasan**
- 9% C. SSP**
- 41% D. Ship Shaped FPSO**