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Concept Study of Small Natural Gas Fields Using Gas Hydrate Transportation and Storage System – From the 10th Annual Meeting of Japan Institute of Energy (Kitakyushu International Convention Center) Jul 31- Aug 2, 2001*.

Mr. Takahiro Kimura of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., (MHI) presented the concept and basic study of the Natural Gas Hydrate (NGH) Chain system, designed to transport hydrate instead of Liquid Natural Gas (LNG). The system was designed for use in small gas fields where the installation of LNG plants is not economical. **Figure 1** shows the basic concept of the NGH Chain, consisting of the Gas hydrate production plant, Transportation/Storage Facility on a Floating Production Storage & Off-loading (FPSO), a Transportation ship, a second Transportation/Storage Facility and finally a Gas Regeneration Plant on the user’s site. **Figure 2** shows the design concept of the FPSO. **Figure 3** shows the block flow of the hydrate production plant. MHI has started the research and development work on this project such as hydrate production and separation of water from hydrate slurry produced. In near future, MHI will construct the actual plant of NGH Chain system. Please click on the following address for a list of Methane Hydrate Conferences in the far east and other locations: <http://www.jie.or.jp/ngas/topics.htm>

Website address of conferences in Japan and “translations” can be made available upon request.

NOTE: Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding is one of the competitors of MHI for this technology.

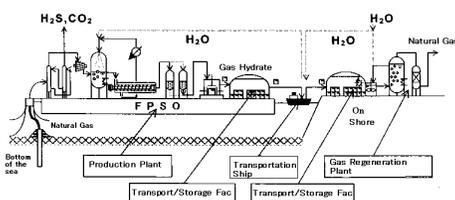
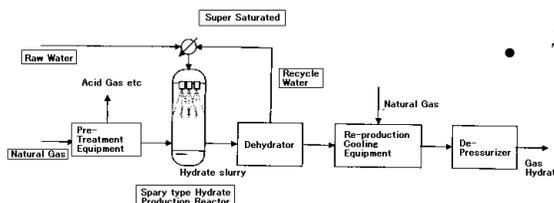


Figure 1: Concept Design of NGH Chain



Fig 2: Concept Design of a Gas Hydrate Production Plant



More On Hydrates Figure 3: Flow Diagram of a Gas Hydrate Production Plant
<http://search.msn.com/results.asp?RS=CHECKED&FORM=MSNH&v=1&q=hydrates>

- The web site of the Conference: <http://www.jie.or.jp/10taikai1.htm>
- The web site of the Society: <http://www.jie.or.jp>