

# Partner Experience: Equatorial Guinea

Paula Bremer

Marathon Equatorial Guinea Production Limited (MEGPL)

Natural Gas STAR Implementation Workshop



# Marathon

#### **Equatorial Guinea: Alba Field**



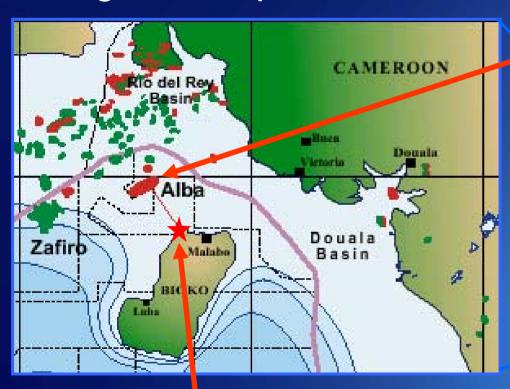


- Four offshore production platforms
- Onshore gas/condensate processing facilities
- Current production (gross)
  - -945 mmscf/d gas
  - -~60,000 bpd condensate
- Currently re-injecting 20 mmcf/d (normal operations)

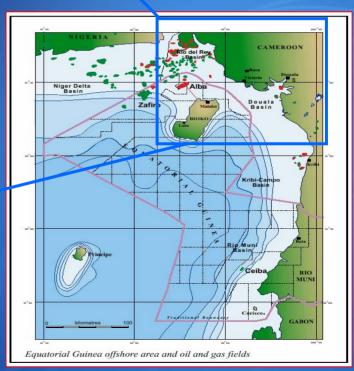
#### **Location of Alba Field**



Regional Map



Punta Europa Gas/ Condensate Processing Facilities 18 miles northwest of Bioko Island



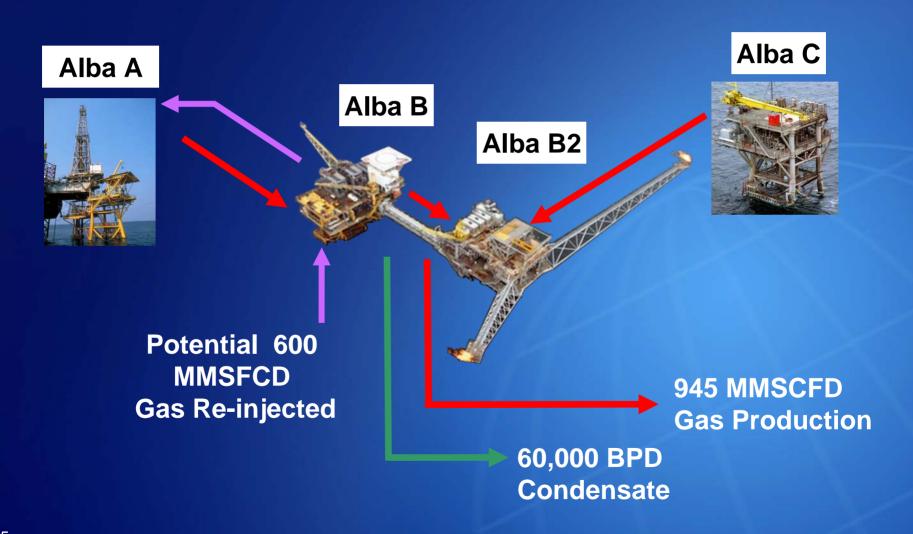
# Location of Punta Europa Facilities





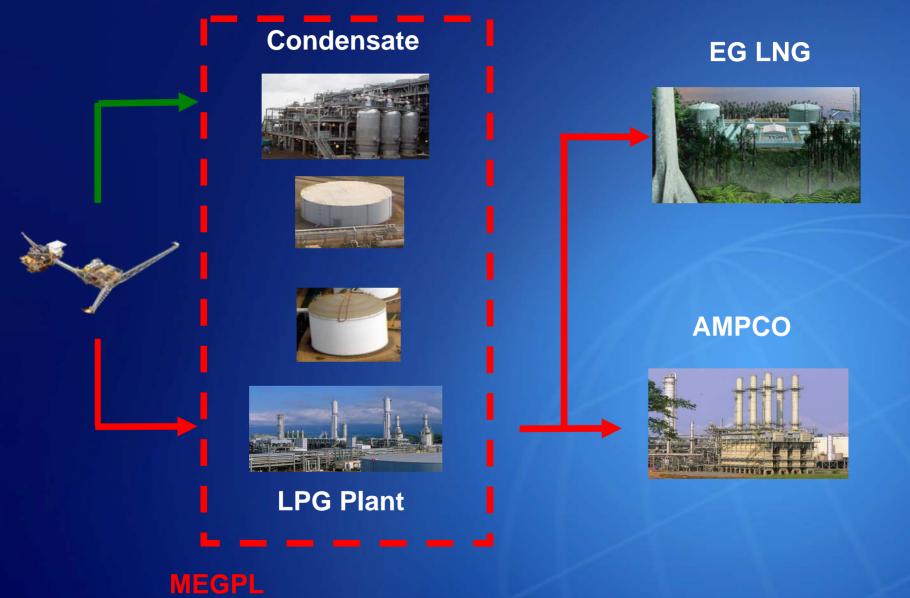
# **Alba Platform Operations**





# Punta Europa Processing Facilities





## Alba Field – History of Operations



April 1984

Discovery well 13B1-1X drilled

December 1991

First Production (A platform: Alba 2, Alba 3)

November 1996

LPG Plant construction complete (2,400 bpd)

September 2000

Phase 1 Development

Offshore re-injection of gas commences

February 2001

Methanol production begins

January 2002

Marathon acquires Alba assets

October 2004

Phase 2A Complete
Continuous flaring ceases

May 2007

LNG Plant begins production

#### Natural Gas STAR Partnership



- U.S. Natural Gas STAR Partner 1994
- International Gas STAR Partner 2006

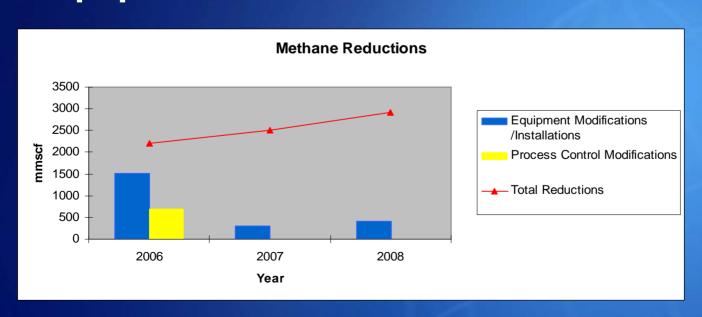


- MOC was a charter member of both the U.S. and International Natural Gas STAR programs.
- Awarded Production Partner of the Year –
   1997 and 2006
- Cumulative methane reductions of 51.6 Bcf between 1994 and 2007

#### **Methane Reduction Projects**



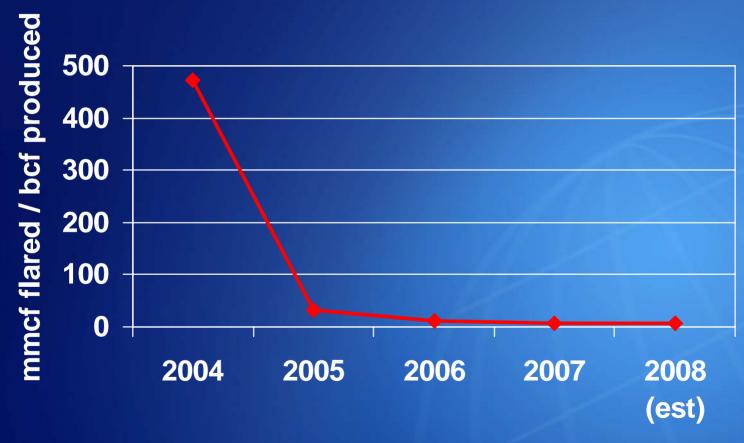
- Two categories of projects all relate to reductions in flaring of natural gas
  - Process Control Modifications
  - Equipment Modifications/Installation



# Flaring Reductions



#### Flare vs Gas Production Ratio



#### **Process Control Modifications**



- Reviewed emergency shutdown (ESD) settings too high/low
- Eliminated single-point failure controls (where possible) – reduces affect of "false" data in controls
- Reviewed interconnected controls allows for quicker/automatic load transitions between redundant equipment

## **Equipment Modification/Installation**



- Installed redundant equipment increases capacity to allow for maintenance without product loss
- Re-routed vapors away from the flare and back into the process where feasible
- Installed pump to improve water handling capabilities
- Overhead compressors re-routed scrubber liquid to a closed drain system (from pressure process vessel)

#### **Methane Reduction - Economics**



- Natural gas is low value commodity for MEGPL under it's present supply contracts
- Project economics are typically driven by lost production or value of liquid recoveries from the gas

#### **Lessons Learned:**



- Improve the quality of data used for emission calculations – lack of meters, documentation, etc. You need to know where your losses are!
- Capture "low hanging fruit" review ESD set points, control logic, etc
- Operations and maintenance need to be engaged – not just an environmental issue.
- Moving from construction to operation mentality takes time and effort.

#### **MEGPL – Government Interaction**



- Limited environmental regulations don't address air emissions/greenhouse gases
- Proactive prepare a "Flaring Philosophy" document each year for review with the Ministry of Mines, Industry and Energy (MMIE)

#### **MEGPL - Social Responsibility**







- Malaria Control Project public/private partnership to reduce malaria rate.
  - Eliminated 95% of disease transmitting mosquitoes and reduced infection rates by 45% reduction in malaria
- Education Scholarships Texas A&M and University of South Carolina
- Malabo Landfill Construction of landfill used for waste generated on island. Operation of landfill by Malabo City Hall
- Books for Bioko employee driven program to provide school supplies for local schools