



Skate 4 Walker is an innovative jackup which can be operated in conventional 4-legged mode or as an 8-legged, self-contained walking jackup platform, capable of safely operating in water depths up to 20 metres.

In its 8 leg configuration, this versatile jack-up can move and operate in rough seas, strong currents or on beaches and other intertidal locations. This considerably boosts the productivity of a variety of traditional jackup operations, including geotechnical site investigation, drilling, trenching, pipeline & cable laying, blasting and other underwater work, normally requiring specialist subsea machines.

It has a rapid deck elevating system to provide maximum stability for the 30m x 12m deck area. The vessel has been thoroughly tested by heavy seas, surf and high winds, when installing a new waste water outfall on the exposed North Atlantic coast of Northern Ireland.

Like traditional jackups Skate 4 Walker has 4 jacking legs which can be raised or lowered through fixed jacking points and has 4 extra legs side mounted on independent slide frames. These can be jacked horizontally back and forth along the side of the platform.

Once the barge has been towed to its location, all 8 legs are jacked down onto the seabed to lift the platform clear of the water. The 4 walking legs are moved in the required direction by individually picking each one up and jacking it alongside the barge in the required direction of travel. Each diagonal pair are moved and then pre-loaded to ensure continued stability. The main legs are retracted off the bottom and the entire platform jacked forward through the side frames. The main legs are jacked down again to re-take the weight for the walking cycle to be repeated.

Speeds of up to 20m/hr have been achieved and the vessel is able to make directional changes by reducing the amount of horizontal leg travel on one side in relation to the amount of travel on the other.

Skate 4 can also be used as a conventional jack-up platform but requires calm weather to float and move.

As with all Fugro Seacore's jack-ups, it is equipped with VHF radio, life saving & first aid equipment, with high speed outboard-driven launches for personnel transfer. It has a full International Loadline certificate enabling it to operate worldwide at a guaranteed safety standard.

