

# Historic Project to Increase European Energy Security Taps



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## Craig Silcock

Safety Health Environment Security and Quality Manager  
Nemo Link

### Nemo Link

- Massive, historic energy project to connect power grids in the UK and Belgium
- Estimated to save consumers over £1 billion in annual energy costs by 2020
- Partners include National Grid, Elia, SIEMENS and more

Nemo Link is a new international project that spans the territorial waters of three countries, crosses multiple safety enforcement jurisdictions, and involves contractors and subcontractors from around the globe. When complete, it will increase energy security in the UK and Belgium, support integration of renewable energy, and serve as an historic first step toward a totally integrated European energy market. The mammoth, multi-year project involves the construction of high voltage undersea electricity cables connecting substations of the UK’s National Grid — the power network for all of Great Britain — with the Belgian energy provider Elia, to allow power to flow in either direction between the two countries.

The person tasked with ensuring that EHS and compliance run smoothly for Nemo Link is Craig Silcock, Safety Health Environment Security and Quality Manager.

A veteran safety professional, Mr. Silcock knew he would need a system as flexible as it was powerful in order to manage the multiple risks incumbent in a project of this

size and scope. Mr. Silcock says his journey to find the right solution eventually led him to *VelocityEHS*.

“I knew this was going to involve countries with very different backgrounds for EHS,” explains Mr. Silcock, who is British. “In the UK, we usually have very well-established incident management systems, which can sometimes be big and slow. In Belgium, the use of such systems is less common. The challenge I had was to step away from a bulky system, and find something that would provide a simple, straightforward system for capturing safety data. It also had to be something my colleagues would accept and use.”

Mr. Silcock says he also needed a solution that would be functional across jurisdictions and locations.

“The core Nemo Link team is just 30 people,” he explains, “but this project extends through a large contractor base. We’re working with J-Power Systems, the Japanese cable manufacturer, and with SIEMENS in Germany. Then there are

subcontractors. The supply chain is quite big. There may be hundreds of people across multiple countries and organizations working on Nemo Link at any given time.”

Upon connecting with *VelocityEHS*, Mr. Silcock became certain he had found his solution.

“I was walked through the system in a two-hour call with the Toronto office, and it became clear *VelocityEHS* was going to give us everything we needed. The reporting functionality was outstanding, and it was all very intuitive. It would be easy for our contractors to enter data. That would be a big plus for our stakeholders in Germany and Japan.”

Mr. Silcock reports that after adoption the rollout of the *VelocityEHS* product went very smoothly.

“The support during rollout was great,” says Mr. Silcock. “There was a quick turnaround and follow-up whenever we had a question. As to the system itself, beyond being effective, *VelocityEHS* is so simple and



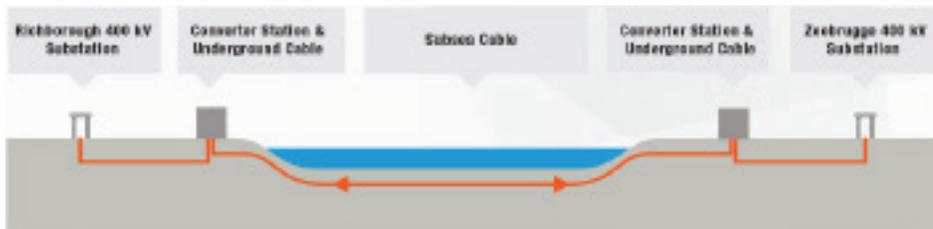
easy to use. That's what I needed. People have logged into the system and basically been self-taught. I didn't want to have to travel around to different countries to train people on the software, and with *VelocityEHS*, I haven't had to. Our Japanese team can set Japanese as the default language. That's a real plus point, too."

Most vitally, Mr. Silcock reports that the system has met the unique EHS challenges involved in the multinational venture.

"Nemo Link is quite a special project. It's onshore and offshore. It's in three countries' territorial waters at once. But *VelocityEHS* has proved flexible enough to handle all of this. At one point we even put in some obscure events into the software, just to test the system boundaries, and it handled it fine! I'm very impressed."

As the Nemo Link project continues to move closer to completion — it is scheduled to be fully operational by Q1 of 2019 — its EHS team expresses continued confidence that *VelocityEHS* will provide the efficiencies it needs to keep the project on budget and on time.

"There's definitely a time savings with *VelocityEHS*," says Mr. Silcock, "because it's the one place for people to put data that everyone can access. We're not sending info back and forth on spreadsheets, and we're not calling one another. And, I mean, how many phone calls do the automatic notifications save? It's tremendous. And when it comes to incident investigation, of course it's going to save us money. As we get data volume into it, and it tells us our risk areas, we're well positioned to avoid incidents. With *VelocityEHS*, we're going to stay on top of things."



## GLOBAL LEADERS FIND A PROVEN SOLUTION WITH *VelocityEHS*

Today's global EHS space is a fast-paced world where satisfying regulatory and environmental requirements can be just as onerous as meeting production and project goals. As regulatory bodies around the world transition toward aligned enforcement standards, players in the international space need a powerful partner to keep them on top of all evolving EHS requirements. *VelocityEHS* is the leader that international players turn to when they want to meet their environment, health, safety and sustainability goals efficiently and effectively, with a solution that is easy to implement, simple to use, and drives engagement across the entire organization. We understand the pressures our customers face when undertaking international projects. That's why so many trust us to bring solutions that let them painlessly and effectively meet their EHS goals.

**VelocityEHS** — Reach Your EHS Goals Faster.

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## Benefits of *VelocityEHS*

### Simplicity

What makes *VelocityEHS* different? We focus relentlessly on ensuring our software solutions are simple, easy-to-use, and able to solve complex business challenges quickly and capably.

### Speed

Not only does our software provide valuable time savings across your organization, our implementations take less time, cost less money, and are more successful than traditional software systems.

### Customer Service

Adoption of the *VelocityEHS* Platform is the beginning of a partnership, not the end of a transaction. Our customer advocates stand ready to serve our clients and help provide the simplest and most engaging user experience.

### Scalability

Our dynamic solution remains scalable and nimble at every turn, helping you to reach your environmental, health, and safety goals faster and with less struggle. We grow with you!

### Value

Our software pricing structure is straightforward, competitive, and encourages organization-wide adoption by eliminating per-user licensing entirely.

### Help for You to Do What You Do Better!

The *VelocityEHS* solution eliminates the time-consuming challenge of tackling EHS data manually, and allows you to respond to challenges confidently and effectively. This frees you up to get back to handling the other critical issues that drive business performance and impact your core goals.

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