

Deposition Testimony of:

Nigel Richardson

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Page 6:25 to 7:03

00006:25 Q. No. Do you understand that you're under
00007:01 oath just as though you were testifying in a
02 Court of Law?
03 A. Yes.

Page 7:10 to 9:09

00007:10 Q. Okay. If you don't understand a
11 question, please let me know, and I'll rephrase.
12 A. Yes.
13 Q. And if you answer, is it fair for me to
14 assume that you understood my question?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. Is there any reason why you wouldn't be
17 able to give complete and accurate answers to my
18 questions today?
19 A. No.
20 Q. Okay. What's your educational
21 background, Dr. Richardson?
22 A. I have a Ph.D. from Florida A&M, Florida
23 State University. I did Structural Engineering
24 during that Ph.D. My Minor was Composites, Major
25 being Organic-Based Composites. I have a
00008:01 Master's Degree from the same institution,
02 Structural Engineering again, and in this -- this
03 iteration probably more along the civil lateral
04 structure side.
05 And, of course, I have a Bachelor's
06 Degree from the same institution, and it's across
07 several disciplines, Civil Mechanical and
08 Structural Mechanics.
09 Q. When did you receive your Ph.D.?
10 A. I believe it's December 2000.
11 Q. 2000. And you mentioned your Ph.D. was
12 in organic-based composites. Is that --
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. -- correct?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. Did that include finite element analysis?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. And are organic-based composites metals?
19 A. No.
20 Q. Did your Ph.D. include modeling --
21 structural modeling of metals?
22 A. There was some studies done on metals,
23 that's correct.
24 Q. Was your primary focus on nonmetals in
25 your Ph.D.?
00009:01 A. Yes.
02 Q. Have you ever modeled a blowout preventer
03 using finite element analysis before,
04 Dr. Richardson?
05 A. No.

06 Q. So you wouldn't have previously modeled
07 blind shear rams using finite element analysis,
08 either. Is that correct?
09 A. Yes.

Page 9:11 to 9:13

00009:11 So BP first asked you to provide an
12 Expert opinion in this case. Is that correct?
13 A. Yes.

Page 10:16 to 10:22

00010:16 Q. (By Ms. King) What -- what subject ar --
17 matter area were you asked to examine?
18 A. The cutting capacity of the blind shear
19 ram for two conditions, a centered pipe and a
20 potentially buckled pipe, which would be an
21 off-centered pipe in the configuration of the
22 BSR.

Page 11:05 to 11:11

00011:05 Q. Okay. Did you reach any conclusions that
06 were not included in your Final Report, meaning
07 Appendix F to Dr. Nesic's Report?
08 A. No.
09 Q. How long did it take you to reach an
10 opinion in this case?
11 A. To my recollection, several months.

Page 12:10 to 13:04

00012:10 Q. How did your colleague assist you with
11 this Report, Appendix F to the Nesic Report?
12 A. If I could explain the process --
13 Q. M-h'm.
14 A. -- and then get into the Report.
15 Q. Sure.
16 A. There's a modeling stage, there's an
17 analytical stage --
18 Q. M-h'm.
19 A. -- and then, of course, there's the
20 Report writing and conclusion.
21 So the modeling stage, the analyst would
22 have helped -- helped with it.
23 Q. Okay.
24 A. And on the direction and -- and
25 leadership from me, based on experience, and we
00013:01 both ran analyses.
02 Q. M-h'm.
03 A. And the final drafting of the Report and
04 approval of the Report was done by myself.

Page 13:09 to 13:12

00013:09 Q. Okay. So you issued one Report in this
10 litigation, correct, as we've discussed, which is
11 Appendix F to Dr. Nesic's Report? Correct?
12 A. That's correct.

Page 14:03 to 14:07

00014:03 Q. Well, turning to Appendix F, which would
04 be your Report, can you look at that and
05 determine whether it's a true and correct copy of
06 your Report?
07 A. Sure.

Page 14:17 to 14:20

00014:17 Q. Does -- does your Report, Appendix F of
18 the Nesic Report, contain a complete statement of
19 all opinions that you will express in this case?
20 A. Yes.

Page 16:23 to 17:01

00016:23 Q. Does your Report, Appendix F to the Nesic
24 Report, contain all of the reasons supporting
25 your opinion in this case?
00017:01 A. Yes.

Page 17:10 to 17:12

00017:10 Does Appendix F contain a complete
11 statement of all of the bases for your opinions
12 in this case, Dr. Richardson?

Page 17:14 to 17:22

00017:14 A. The Report contains everything that we
15 looked at and all -- it summarizes all the
16 assumptions and analyses that were completed to
17 come to the conclusion.
18 Q. (By Ms. King) And you're aware that
19 Dr. Nesic relied on your work for -- for -- in
20 coming to his Expert opinion in this case,
21 Dr. Richardson?
22 A. Yes.

Page 18:22 to 19:22

00018:22 Q. Did BP attorneys provide you with any
23 documents that you relied upon in forming your

24 opinion in this matter, Dr. Richardson?
25 A. We got some information from the initial
00019:01 portion of the -- our project, but that -- that
02 data was not necessarily used to come to any
03 conclusions.
04 Q. Okay.
05 A. Our analyses were done based on the
06 information on the boundary conditions that we
07 assumed and -- and we were told to examine, and
08 our analyses and conclusions are based purely on
09 those.
10 Q. You said that you got some information
11 from the initial portion of your project, but
12 that data was not necessarily used to come to any
13 conclusions.
14 What information are you referring to?
15 A. Well, we discussed -- we were provided
16 the intent of the analyses, and we were given
17 some supplementary data regarding the -- the
18 blind shear ram, in particular a 3D CAD file that
19 defines the geometry that we were supposed to
20 model, and if my recollection serves me, we were
21 told where the pipe was restrained, which served
22 as the boundary conditions for our analyses.

Page 20:09 to 20:10

00020:09 Q. (By Ms. King) You mentioned that you were
10 provided with an intent of your analysis.

Page 20:12 to 20:19

00020:12 A. Let me rephrase "intent."
13 Basically, two conditions were examined;
14 a pipe that was aligned directly in the center of
15 the blind shear ram, and one that was
16 off-centered, or in a buckled state. So that --
17 that is the information we have. Plus the -- the
18 information regarding where the restraints were
19 in the upper annular and upper VBR.

Page 21:01 to 23:21

00021:01 Q. Did BP attorneys provide you with any
02 other documents that you relied upon in reaching
03 your conclusion?
04 A. In addition to the information that we
05 got from BP, namely, the CAD file and the -- the
06 boundary conditions, we did some literature
07 searches on our end to try to classify
08 information with regards to the stack and
09 potential pipe geometry for the cutting with the
10 blind shear ram, and I think there was additional
11 information with some Reports. I don't recall

12 exactly which Reports that we -- we saw.

13 Q. When you mentioned doing literature
14 searches, are you referring to publicly available
15 literature, or are you referring to information
16 that's been exchanged in this litigation?

17 A. Our expertise, as Consultants, are
18 primarily -- we're -- we're -- we're Experts at
19 the finite element approach, and it's -- it's
20 general when -- when we do these types of
21 analyses that we'll do a little literature
22 research to gain an understanding of the
23 particular components that we are going to
24 analyze.

25 Q. M-h'm.

00022:01 A. In question here, the blind -- the blind
02 shear ram, and -- and this is just a -- a
03 validation check, such that any information that
04 was provided by the client could be seconded,
05 prior to starting the analysis.

06 So we just did general literature search,
07 to make sure we understood what defined the
08 restraints and the general position of the blind
09 shear ram.

10 Q. Can you remember specifically any
11 documents that turned up in that literasure --
12 literature search that you relied upon in forming
13 your opinion?

14 A. Well, those documents were not used to
15 form --

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. -- our opinion. Those documents were
18 just used as validation to understand what we
19 were analyzing, namely, the blind shear ram,
20 and -- and -- and that information was taken from
21 Internet sources, but that -- again, that was
22 just for familiarity, not necessarily to
23 overstate or utilize anything outside of what we
24 were provided.

25 Q. Can you describe generally the types of
00023:01 Internet information that you were looking at to
02 gain familiarity with the blind shear ram?

03 A. The major would be how the blind shear
04 ram operates. That would be the -- the major
05 point we sought, trying to understand how the
06 cutting procedure was completed.

07 Q. And what sources were you looking at, to
08 try to understand that?

09 A. Videos online.

10 Q. Online videos?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And do you know who produced those
13 videos?

14 A. If I recall, it could have been Cameron.
15 Cameron might have shown one in a wellbore, if I
16 recall.

17 Q. Okay. Did you talk to Dr. Nesic without

18 attorneys present in the course of preparing your
19 Report, Dr. Richardson?
20 A. I've -- I've never met him or spoken to
21 him.

Page 24:07 to 24:16

00024:07 Q. What are your personal areas of
08 expertise, Dr. Richardson?
09 A. Finite element analysis is -- is the
10 prime expertise for myself.
11 I've been doing finite element simulation
12 for roughly 18 to 20 years. I -- I've used just
13 about every commercially available finite element
14 package, and I've done several simulations,
15 probably in excess of 200, and continue to do so
16 in my current role.

Page 25:09 to 25:19

00025:09 Q. Okay. Do you -- does your expertise in
10 finite element analysis have a focus in any
11 particular structure or item that you might focus
12 on modeling?
13 A. No. The -- the majority of work we've
14 done in the past have been metallic-based
15 structures, isotropic elastic, plastic-type
16 material models, so it's -- it's a wider -- a
17 wide array.
18 Q. Okay. So you're not an Expert in blind
19 shear rams; is that correct?

Page 25:21 to 25:22

00025:21 A. I'm not an Expert in the design of blind
22 shear rams, that -- that is correct.

Page 28:18 to 29:18

00028:18 Q. I'd like to turn now back to you your
19 Report, Appendix F of the Nesic Report, which
20 we've marked as Exhibit 11529.
21 In your Report, you describe that you
22 conducted a validation model in which you
23 calculated the maximum shear pressure observed in
24 your model of the BSR closing on a centered drill
25 pipe. Is that correct?
00029:01 A. That is correct.
02 Q. And so you compared this sheer pressure
03 from your model of the centered drill pipe to a
04 Cameron calculation for BSR shear pressure. Is
05 that correct?
06 A. Cameron provided shear number. I -- I'm

07 not sure how they -- they arrived at it; but,
08 yes, they provide -- there was a number provided
09 by Cameron.
10 Q. Cameron provided you with a shear number?
11 A. Not directly. It was cited in a -- a
12 Report. Sorry.
13 Q. Okay.
14 A. That number was derived from, I think, an
15 actual physical test, which is why we're -- we're
16 suggesting that it was a val -- validation of the
17 centered pipe cutting.
18 Q. Did you ever see the Report --

Page 29:20 to 31:14

00029:20 Q. (By Ms. King) -- in which this number
21 from Cameron for the BSR shear pressure was
22 located?
23 A. I may have seen the document. The
24 details, no. The -- the -- the number, I saw in
25 a table, yes. So it was a -- a section of -- of
00030:01 the Report.
02 Q. If we could turn to Page 5 of your
03 Report, Dr. Richardson.
04 A. Yes.
05 Q. In the small table labeled "Comparison of
06 Calculated Max BSR Pressure" --
07 A. M-h'm.
08 Q. -- you have there a "Calculated Shear
09 Pressure" from Cameron of 3,008 psi; is that
10 correct?
11 A. Yes.
12 Q. Is this the pressure that you were just
13 discussing, a pressure that was cited in a
14 Report --
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. -- that you relied upon to validate your
17 model for the centered drill pipe buckling test?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. And you have a Footnote here to Cameron
20 ED-702 and a Bates number, Page 5, Table 2.
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. Was this the source for this calculated
23 shear pressure --
24 A. I believe --
25 Q. -- that's --
00031:01 A. -- that it was --
02 Q. -- 3,008 psi.
03 A. -- it --
04 Q. Excuse me.
05 A. -- that -- that reference was cited in
06 another document. Yeah, that reference was cited
07 in a -- another document in -- I think it was a
08 DNV document.
09 Q. It was a DNV document?

10 A. Yes. I think it was a DNV document,
11 tabulated. And they referenced that -- that
12 number as being extracted from ED-702.
13 Q. So you, yourself, never looked at Cameron
14 ED-702, Dr. Richardson?

Page 31:16 to 31:24

00031:16 A. Not that I can recall of in -- in -- in
17 any detail. Actually, I'm not sure I've actually
18 seen it. I think I've seen the -- the DNV
19 Report.
20 Q. (By Ms. King) So this number that you
21 used to validate your model, then -- 3,008 psi --
22 came from the DNV Report, correct?
23 And you're not aware, in fact, whether it
24 was in Cameron ED-702; is that correct?

Page 32:01 to 32:06

00032:01 A. That's -- that is correct, I cannot
02 validate that it was in that -- that Report.
03 Q. (By Ms. King) Why, then, did you put
04 Cameron ED-702 as the Footnote to this table in
05 your Report, Dr. Richardson, if you had never
06 looked at this document?

Page 32:08 to 32:13

00032:08 A. Again, the -- the ED-702 Report that was
09 cited in the DNV Report, I could have seen the
10 document, I just don't recall the content of
11 the -- the document as is the ED-702.
12 Q. (By Ms. King) Well, let's take a look at
13 it, turning to Tab 6.

Page 33:02 to 33:03

00033:02 Q. (By Ms. King) So this document was
03 previously marked as Exhibit 3185.

Page 33:12 to 33:25

00033:12 Q. Take a moment to review this document,
13 Dr. Richardson, so you can tell me whether or not
14 you have reviewed this document before.
15 A. (Reviewing document.)
16 No, I don't think I've seen the entire --
17 the Report in its entirety. I -- I think I might
18 have saw -- seen a couple pages from the Report.
19 Q. And the page that you cited in your
20 Report was Page 5. Is that one of the pages that
21 you have seen before, Dr. Richardson?

22 A. Yes, it looks familiar. Yes, it does.
23 Q. And can you tell me where this number of
24 3,008 psi would be found in this document,
25 Dr. Richardson?

Page 34:04 to 34:10

00034:04 A. The exact number of 3,000 -- 3,008 does
05 not -- is not on this page.
06 Q. (By Ms. King) It's -- it's not on this
07 page, Page 5 of Exhibit 3185.
08 Do you know where in this EB-702 D Report
09 the number 3,008 psi could be found,
10 Dr. Richardson?

Page 34:12 to 34:15

00034:12 A. The exact number, no.
13 Q. (By Ms. King) You don't know where it
14 could be found; or you don't think it appears in
15 this document, Dr. Richardson?

Page 34:17 to 34:23

00034:17 A. I guess I'll have to look at the document
18 in -- in detail but I have not seen it, as we
19 look at it today.
20 Q. (By Ms. King) So just to confirm, you
21 haven't seen the number 3,008 psi for a max BSR
22 shear pressure in this document, Exhibit 3185.
23 Is that correct?

Page 34:25 to 36:25

00034:25 A. Based on the time that I've thumbed
00035:01 through it, yes, I have not seen it.
02 Q. (By Ms. King) How did you use the number
03 3,008 psi to validate your model with the drill
04 pipe centered?
05 A. The number as referenced in the DNV --
06 Q. M-h'm.
07 A. -- Report, if I recollect, suggested that
08 that reference was an actual physical test, a
09 cutting procedure that was done on a particular
10 pipe.
11 And we ran our initial simulation with
12 the pipe centered on the blind shear ram with all
13 the material modeling; boundary conditions; and
14 assumptions, reasonable assumptions, and ran the
15 simulation to cut the pipe, which took a
16 reasonable time.
17 And after cutting through the pipe, we
18 computed the max shear force on the -- the piston

19 itself -- well, the reaction force on the blades
20 and, likewise, the -- the riser shear pressure on
21 the piston.

22 Q. So because your model of the centered
23 drill pipe found a max shear pressure that was
24 close to the number 3,008 psi, which was from the
25 DNV Report, you concluded that your model was
00036:01 accurate?

02 MS. DEMPSEY: Object to form.

03 A. Accurate within the realms of what we
04 did. Finite element analyses, the -- the
05 approach as is, is used to -- to decipher
06 detailed information not easily sought, if you
07 look at the entire component. And, in this case,
08 it would be the entire blind shear ram and pipe.

09 And using our expertise in terms of mesh
10 size, material modeling, plastic deformation, et
11 cetera, and running the simulation, we came to
12 the conclusion, after a couple analyses --
13 because on the front side of a finite element
14 analysis, you make some assumptions.

15 So we ran a couple of analyses with the
16 pipe centered to try and understand the
17 sensitivity of the final conclusion. And the
18 final conclusion was the 3,000 -- just slightly
19 over 3,000 psi that's on the pipe.

20 Q. Let -- let me ask you this: What's the
21 purpose of a validation model, Dr. Richardson?

22 A. The vali -- the vali -- validating the
23 model is just to gain confirmation that the
24 assumptions that's made on -- made on the front
25 end of the analysis are adequate.

Page 37:05 to 37:23

00037:05 Q. How about in this specific incident --
06 instance, were you doing this validation model in
07 order to gain confidence in your model?

08 A. Well, the -- the validation that was
09 included is -- is -- was done primarily as a --
10 just a reference, an additional number that
11 compares with -- with ours. The simulations that
12 we've done in the past and -- and now, we feel --
13 feel pretty confident that -- that those results,
14 even if the model was not validated, within --
15 are correct within some accuracy.

16 And the reason is, is because we always
17 test the parameters that is assumed on the front
18 end of the simulation. So we always do multiple
19 analyses to make sure we converge on that
20 particular conclusion. The mere fact that the --
21 the number aligns somewhat validates the cutting
22 procedure for the centered pipe in terms of real
23 test.

Page 38:01 to 38:03

00038:01 Q. (By Ms. King) Do you know for a fact that
02 it was a laboratory test that resulted in this
03 number, 3,008 psi, from Cameron?

Page 38:08 to 38:12

00038:08 A. Only as cited in the DNV Report.
09 Q. (By Ms. King) And you returned to the
10 document that was cited in the DNV Report, but
11 you don't see this number, 3,008 psi, in that
12 document, do you, Dr. Richardson?

Page 38:15 to 40:15

00038:15 A. If we're referencing the document that we
16 just thumbed through, yes. I have not seen that
17 number.

18 Q. (By Ms. King) So you said that you're
19 confident in your model, even if it's not
20 validated. Is that correct?

21 A. That -- that confidence comes from a --
22 the level of detail analysis we've done in the
23 past. We -- we've got a strong background in
24 aerospace applications, and the fidelity of
25 aerospace applications are within fractions of an
00039:01 inch. And we work with the major gas turbine
02 industries and are pretty adept to provide
03 accurate information that's used, and those three
04 main companies, namely GE, Pratt & Whitney, and
05 Rolls Royce.

06 Q. If you have the opportunity to validate a
07 model, wouldn't you prefer to do so,
08 Dr. Richardson?

09 A. As far as FEA is concerned, the word
10 "validate" is -- is pretty wide in -- in terms
11 of your -- you arrive in -- at a conclusion in
12 the simulation by making certain checks.

13 FEA, as I suggested, involves the
14 discretization of a larger structure. But the
15 equilibrium forces that define that larger
16 structure are inherent to the smaller
17 subdivisions, and the resolution on this solution
18 in terms of the information you get after running
19 the simulation is mesh dependent.

20 So we always do mesh discretization
21 checks, and we also do parameters checks on the
22 boundary conditions assumed. So we feel pretty
23 confident that the results are correct within
24 some reason.

25 And, again, those are based on where the
00040:01 pipe would have been held for the simulation.

02 Q. How did you test the front end parameters
03 that you've used for this model, Dr. Richardson?

04 A. As tradition in -- in the FEA, if you're
 05 going to restrain any portion that's not a
 06 hundred percent fixed, you want to hold that area
 07 furthest away from the BSR.
 08 And what we did, we did two different
 09 lengths of pipes, and in addition to that,
 10 locally around the BSR where the cutting
 11 procedure takes place, we did two or -- two or
 12 three different mesh refinements. And if -- if
 13 you look at the -- if I can refer to the -- my
 14 Report. And which Appendix is it?
 15 No.

Page 40:24 to 42:09

00040:24 You'll realize that the original mesh
 25 refinement would be in the outer extremities and
 00041:01 is subsequently refined as you get closer to the
 02 BSR.
 03 So there were several runs made on the
 04 continuum refined to that level.
 05 Now, there -- there -- there's -- there's
 06 always a -- a tradeoff in terms of studying these
 07 parameters. So to -- to help validate any of the
 08 approaches, you have multiple scenarios going in
 09 a -- a design matrix where you look at the mesh
 10 refinement and the advancement of the BSR, and we
 11 did several runs before we came to the conclusion
 12 of the 3,000 psi.
 13 Q. So the primary refinement you did was on
 14 the particular mesh that you used for this
 15 analysis. Is that correct?
 16 A. That's correct.
 17 Q. Okay. You considered the March 20th,
 18 2011, Det Norske Veritas in developing your
 19 opinion. Is that correct?
 20 A. We considered the information from that
 21 Report as -- as a validation to our understanding
 22 of the -- the boundary conditions as prescribed.
 23 What was contained in -- in that particular
 24 Report did not necessarily affect our final
 25 conclusions, because our analyses were
 00042:01 independent of those analyses, and I'm not -- I'm
 02 not aware of the particular assumptions, or what
 03 have you, that are -- simulations that were
 04 conducted there to come to their conclusion.
 05 Q. But you used a number quoted in this
 06 Report to validate your model; isn't that
 07 correct, Dr. Richardson?
 08 A. Yes, the 3,000.
 09 Q. The 3,008 psi?

Page 42:13 to 42:22

00042:13 Q. (By Ms. King) This is the DNV Report from

14 March 2011 that you reviewed in developing your
 15 opinion; is that correct, Dr. Richardson?
 16 A. This Report was used to confirm certain
 17 information that's in our model on the front
 18 end --
 19 Q. Okay.
 20 A. -- prior to the analysis, yes.
 21 MS. KING: I'd like you to mark this
 22 as Deposition Exhibit 11530.

Page 42:24 to 43:01

00042:24 Q. (By Ms. King) So included in this Report
 25 is a finite element analysis of the blind shear
 00043:01 rams and drill pipe, correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 43:03 to 43:14

00043:03 A. There are certain pictures within the
 04 Report that would lead me to believe, yes, there
 05 was a finite element analysis conducted on the
 06 blind shear ram.
 07 Q. (By Ms. King) Did you -- did you review
 08 that portion of the Report, Dr. Richardson?
 09 A. Not -- not in any detail.
 10 Q. Let's turn to Page 155 of the Report.
 11 A. Page --
 12 Q. 1 -- 154 --
 13 A. 154.
 14 Q. -- actually of Exhibit 11530.

Page 43:16 to 44:11

00043:16 Q. (By Ms. King) Are you familiar with this
 17 portion of the DNV Report, Dr. Richardson?
 18 A. I recall seeing some of these pictures,
 19 yes. As to the details, I -- I can't recall, but
 20 I think I've seen this section before.
 21 Q. And just like the DNV Report, you used
 22 ABAQUS to conduct the shear modeling; is that
 23 correct, Dr. Richardson?
 24 A. For this particular go-around, yes.
 25 Q. What do you mean by "this particular
 00044:01 go-around"?
 02 A. Well, there are multiple finite element
 03 packages. On this particular case, we used
 04 ABAQUS, yes.
 05 Q. For all of your modeling of the blind
 06 shear ram, did you use ABAQUS for your shear
 07 modeling?
 08 A. Yes.
 09 Q. And just like the DNV Report, you used
 10 the Johnson-Cook model for ductile damage
 11 initiation; is that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 44:16 to 46:06

00044:16 A. I -- I don't recall if the DNV Report
17 used Johnson-Cook.
18 Q. I can point you to the top of Page 155.
19 A. 155. (Reviewing document.)
20 Yes.
21 Q. And just like the DNV Report, you used
22 the damage parameters for 4340 steel for the
23 drill pipe; is that correct, Dr. Richardson?
24 A. I'm not sure if we used the same damage
25 parameters. Our damage parameters -- and -- and
00045:01 I'm aware of the parameters that they used. Our
02 damage parameters were generated from literature
03 review, published sources, and those parameters
04 are based on a -- the Johnson-Cook damage model
05 is a pretty robust model for damage initiation
06 plastic flow, and there are several publications
07 within that realm.
08 So we probably had a prop -- a couple of
09 cited parameters and probably used the most
10 pertinent based on experience, because we've used
11 the model, the Johnson Cook model in the past.
12 Q. What literature did you review to find
13 those damage parameters?
14 A. Published papers in -- in material and
15 books.
16 Q. Which papers were those, Dr. Richardson?
17 A. I don't recall exactly which ones.
18 Q. Did you cite any of them in your Report,
19 Dr. Richardson?
20 A. Not directly.
21 Q. Did you cite them indirectly,
22 Dr. Richardson?
23 A. If I recall, we might have suggested they
24 published -- published data that we used that
25 data from --
00046:01 Q. But in --
02 A. -- published sources.
03 Q. But in your Report, you did not provide
04 any citation to the literature sources for the
05 damage parameters that you used in your modeling;
06 is that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 46:08 to 47:14

00046:08 A. I don't think so. I'll -- I'll have to
09 review the content again, but I don't think so.
10 Q. (By Ms. King) The DNV Reports FEA model
11 of the BSR rams with off-centered drill pipe
12 concluded that the BSR blocks were two inches
13 from fully closing; is that correct,
14 Dr. Richardson?
15 A. I -- I -- I think the -- the number

16 sounds familiar. I -- I don't recall the -- the
17 exact number, but I'm sure it's probably within
18 their document.

19 Q. If you would turn to Page 165, does
20 this -- sorry.

21 Do these diagrams -- does Figure 148 on
22 Page 165 of Exhibit 11530 refresh your
23 recollection that the --

24 A. Yes, I've -- I've -- I've seen this
25 before.

00047:01 Q. -- that there was a two-inch --

02 A. Yes.

03 Q. -- standoff --

04 A. Yes.

05 Q. -- in the Det Norske Veritas FEA

06 modeling --

07 A. Yes.

08 Q. -- of the blind shear ram?

09 A. (Nodding.)

10 Q. And your final conclusion was that the
11 BSR blocks were 1.9 inches from fully closing,
12 around an off-center drill pipe; is that correct,
13 Dr. Richardson?

14 A. That's correct.

Page 49:10 to 49:13

00049:10 Did you review the April 30th, 2011

11 Addendum to the Det Norske Veritas Report?

12 A. I don't think I've seen the -- that
13 document.

Page 50:01 to 50:19

00050:01 Q. (By Ms. King) So looking at this
02 document, you have not reviewed it,
03 Dr. Richardson?

04 A. Not in detail.

05 Q. Have you ever seen it before?

06 A. I don't think I have, but let me look
07 through real quick.

08 Q. Okay.

09 A. (Reviewing document.)

10 If I recollect, I might have seen some of
11 the pictures.

12 Q. You might have seen some of the pictures?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Which of the pictures have you seen
15 before, Dr. Richardson?

16 A. I think -- what's the page -- Page 20,
17 Revised Figure 145, maybe 134.

18 Q. And did you see figures outside of this
19 Report?

Page 50:21 to 51:20

00050:21 A. I may have seen these pictures on -- on a
 22 page of the Report. And -- and when you say
 23 "outside the Report," what do you mean?
 24 Q. (By Ms. King) I mean did you see the
 25 entire Addendum, or did you see these figures
 00051:01 separately?
 02 A. No. I -- I think I -- I -- I might have
 03 seen the Addendum as a package and just looked
 04 through and saw these pictures.
 05 Q. Okay. If we could look at Section 2.3 of
 06 this Addendum, starting on Page 11. It's
 07 entitled "An Update of the Off-Center Drill Pipe
 08 Shearing Finite Element Analysis...Model."
 09 Did you review this portion of the
 10 Addendum, Dr. Richardson?
 11 A. (Reviewing document.) I don't recall. I
 12 don't think so.
 13 Q. You don't think so?
 14 A. Huh-uh.
 15 Q. And you did not cite this Addendum among
 16 your reference materials, did you, Dr. Rifard --
 17 Dr. Richardson?
 18 A. I -- I -- could I look at my Report --
 19 Q. Sure.
 20 A. -- to double-check.

Page 51:25 to 52:14

00051:25 A. (Reviewing document.) No, I don't think
 00052:01 so.
 02 Q. (By Ms. King) Turning to Page 12 --
 03 A. 12?
 04 Q. -- of the Addendum, Exhibit 11531.
 05 A. Okay. Same Report?
 06 Q. Correct.
 07 If -- if -- if you could just review this
 08 page.
 09 A. M-h'm.
 10 Q. Are you familiar with the fact that the
 11 CAD files originally provided by Cameron for the
 12 lower BSR block for the original DNV Report were
 13 incorrect and were later replaced by Cameron with
 14 newer CAD files for the lower BSR block?

Page 52:17 to 52:22

00052:17 A. I don't think so, no.
 18 Q. (By Ms. King) Do you know whether the CAD
 19 files for the lower BSR block that you used in
 20 your analysis were the updated or original
 21 Cameron CAD files, Dr. Richardson?
 22 A. I -- I can't confirm which one it is.

Page 53:02 to 54:13

00053:02 Q. (By Ms. King) So you don't know whether
03 you used the accurate CAD file for the lower BSR
04 block or the inaccurate CAD file for the lower
05 BSR block. Isn't that correct, Dr. Richardson?
06 MS. DEMPSEY: Object to form.
07 A. Well, you use the word "accurate" in
08 terms of what I analyzed, and the intent of the
09 CAD, I'm not sure what the updates that were made
10 to the CAD that I have, but those updates might
11 not have any bearing on what we've done. So
12 there's no way for me to say at this point in
13 time whether or not that update would render the
14 CAD file that we used as an incorrect or
15 inaccurate CAD representation of the BSR.
16 Q. (By Ms. King) And the difference between
17 the two CAD files as reported in the Addendum to
18 the DNV Report was that the cavity opening was
19 measured as 15.38 inches in the updated lower BSR
20 block compared to 16.875 inches for the
21 originally provided lower BSR block CAD geometry.
22 Do you see that there in Figure B on Page 12 of
23 the Addendum?
24 A. I see the picture.
25 Just so I can rehash what you're saying,
00054:01 you're saying the updated geometry is reflective
02 in the -- the 16.875 width or that's -- that's
03 the original?
04 Q. The original was 16.8.
05 A. And the red would be the --
06 Q. The --
07 A. -- updated?
08 Q. -- updated was 15.38 inches.
09 A. Okay. Yes, I see it.
10 Q. Don't you think it would be important for
11 you to use accurate CAD files for the BSR
12 geometry in doing your finite element analysis of
13 the BSR blocks closing, Dr. Richardson?

Page 54:15 to 55:03

00054:15 A. If this is the only change update that
16 has been made to the BSR, and as I stand here
17 today, I -- I don't see how that particular -- on
18 this particular side of the ram block would
19 affect the conclusions as reported based on our
20 original CAD.
21 Q. (By Ms. King) In the Addendum, the DN --
22 the DNV Report concludes that the updated lower
23 BSR block geometry reduced the clearance between
24 the top blade of the upper BSR block and the
25 opposite relief cavity on the lower BSR block and
00055:01 that caused a change in the block displacement.

02 Are you aware of that, Dr. Richardson?
03 A. No.

Page 60:16 to 62:19

00060:16 Q. (By Ms. King) So your conclusion was that
17 the blind shear rams were 1.9 inches apart after
18 they attempted to close on the drill pipe, the
19 blocks were 1.9 inches apart, correct?

20 A. For the off-center drill pipe, that's
21 correct.

22 Q. For the off-center drill pipe. Did you
23 identify any uncertainty bounds on that estimate,
24 Dr. Richardson?

25 A. Yes, to some degree. That final
00061:01 conclusion is based on several positions of the
02 pipe, itself, as it relates to the blind shear
03 ram, and that particular orientation, as
04 reported, as off-centered, that was the one that
05 pro -- produced the 1.9 inches.

06 The other conditions that we looked at
07 where the pipe was within the blind shear ram, it
08 actually cut, and cut within a shear pressure
09 that was indicative of the allowable of the
10 piston. So we concluded that as long as the pipe
11 was within the -- the V of the blind shear rams,
12 successful cutting would have occurred.

13 Q. Are you aware of whether or not the drill
14 pipe was, in fact, completely cut by the BSR in
15 the DEEPWATER HORIZON incident, Dr. Richardson?

16 A. I think we have seen some pictures where
17 a particular BSR and pipe was not fully cut, yes.

18 Q. And you're aware that the blind shear ram
19 did not fully close in the DEEPWATER HORIZON
20 incident, when -- when it was attempted to be
21 closed; is that correct?

22 A. Yeah, I think I've -- I've heard that,
23 yes.

24 Q. So the uncertainty bound that you
25 mentioned was the position of the drill pipe
00062:01 inside of the rams, is that the only -- did you
02 mention that you were uncertain of the exact
03 position of the drill pipe, Dr. Richardson? Is
04 that the uncertainty you're referring to there?

05 A. No.

06 Q. Okay.

07 A. Again, the -- the -- the goal of the
08 project was to look at cutting the drill pipe in
09 one location, cutting the drill pipe in the
10 potentially buckled configuration, and we looked
11 at several different orientations of the pipe
12 within the wellbore diameter as the position that
13 a pipe relates to where the -- the V is.

14 Q. M-h'm.

15 A. And as long as the pipe was within the V

16 shape, it was completely sheared. As long as
 17 there was some portion of the pipe outside the
 18 notch in the V, it was not completely close --
 19 cut.

Page 62:23 to 64:07

00062:23 Q. (By Ms. King) If we would look at Page 3
 24 of Appendix F, Exhibit 11529.

25 A. Yes.

00063:01 Q. I'm -- I'm looking at the two pictures,
 02 Case 1 and Case 2. You just testified that if
 03 the drill pipe was within the V, it would have
 04 been completely sheared. Is that correct?

05 A. For -- for the conditions that we ran, we
 06 ran three different positions.

07 Q. M-h'm.

08 A. The centerline and progressively moving
 09 it out to the extreme, and, yes, the -- the pipe
 10 did cut.

11 Q. Is Case 2 the most extreme case that
 12 you've ran, Dr. Richardson?

13 A. To my recollection, yes. We might have
 14 run an additional case outside, but I think it
 15 didn't affect the results that much.

16 Q. Does Case 2 represent your best estimate
 17 as to the actual position of the drill pipe
 18 during the DEEPWATER HORIZON incident?

19 A. Based on the information that we were
 20 provided and the boundary conditions of the model
 21 and -- parameters studied, yes, that is probably
 22 the extreme condition for the cutting.

23 Q. My question was: Does Case 2 represent
 24 your best estimate of the actual position of the
 25 drill pipe during the DEEPWATER HORIZON incident,
 00064:01 Dr. Richardson?

02 A. Based on the information that we have
 03 with respect to the length of the pipe within the
 04 blowout preventer, where it's restrained, the
 05 potential for it to buckle and the wellbore
 06 dimensions, yes. It is probably the extreme case
 07 for the conditions we considered.

Page 64:09 to 64:19

00064:09 A. Now, does it represent the position of it
 10 in the -- the -- repeat again, the DEEPWATER --
 11 the DEEPWATER incident?

12 Q. (Nodding.)

13 A. That's probably the closest reference
 14 we'll have based on the information that we've
 15 considered in the model.

16 Q. But you're not sure of the precise
 17 position of the drill pipe as it was between the
 18 BSR blocks or blades in the DEEPWATER HORIZON

19 incident. Is that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 64:22 to 66:13

00064:22 A. It will be difficult for me to know the
23 precise location, but, as mentioned, the
24 sensitivity analysis that's conducted suggests
25 it's the most likely location based on the

00065:01 information we've compared for the off-center
02 cutting.

03 Q. (By Ms. King) But the position of the
04 drill pipe did have an impact on the final
05 distance between the BSR blocks after they
06 attempted to close on the drill pipe. Isn't that
07 correct, Dr. Richardson?

08 A. There are two governing conclusions. One
09 is the pipe is fully sheared, as long as the pipe
10 is in the BS -- the -- the B -- the BSR blades;
11 and the other is as long as the pipe is outside,
12 there's a portion that is not going to be cut.
13 And the values that were reported would be the
14 most likely distance to the ram block after the
15 cutting procedure on the blades -- I mean, on --
16 on the pipe.

17 Q. As you varied the position of the drill
18 pipe from the center of the V out to the far edge
19 of the V, that impacted the distance between the
20 blocks after they attempted to fully close. Is
21 that correct, Dr. Richardson?

22 A. I would say, again, there are two
23 overriding conditions. If the pipe is within
24 the -- the shearing enterprise of the BSR, the
25 BSR has enough pressure based on the computed
00066:01 values to completely shear the pipe in that
02 region.

03 Q. I --

04 A. So the final -- but as long as the pipe
05 is outside that portion, we have predicted that
06 the 1.9 would be the distance between the ram
07 blocks.

08 Q. So is it your testimony, Dr. Richardson,
09 that you only sought two answers in your
10 modeling: Either the distance was zero because
11 it completely closed at the end, or it was 1.9
12 inches apart. Is that what you found in your
13 modeling?

Page 66:15 to 69:12

00066:15 A. Any differences surrounding the 1.9 were
16 not sensitive enough to change that overriding
17 fact.

18 In other words, we didn't see a 1.2 or a
19 1.3, no. The numbers were within reason of the
20 1.9, and that's what --

21 Q. (By Ms. King) And what was the range that
22 you saw?
23 A. If my memory -- if -- if -- if I
24 recollect, maybe plus or minus .05, maybe .07, I
25 think.

00067:01 Q. Plus or minus .07, so that would be from
02 1.2 to 2.6 inches?
03 A. Not .7, .07.
04 Q. .07. And so plus or minus .07 from 1.9?
05 A. Yes.
06 Q. And that's with changing only the
07 position of the drill pipe to get those
08 variations; is that correct?
09 A. That's from just moving the drill pipe
10 along the -- the apex of the -- the V blades,
11 yes.
12 Q. Okay.
13 A. As long as the pipe is within the V, it
14 shears, and it shears at approximately the same
15 pressure.
16 Q. Okay. So you testified that you
17 determined the BSR blade dimensions from a CAD
18 file, correct, Dr. Richardson?
19 A. Provided CAD file, yes.
20 Q. A provided CAD file.
21 And are you aware of any identifying
22 information on that CAD file, Dr. Richardson?
23 A. I don't recall the name of the CAD file
24 right now.
25 Q. Do you recall if it had any kind of a
00068:01 Bates stamp on it, Dr. Richardson?
02 A. No. As to a Bates stamp, I am not sure
03 what a "Bates stamp" is, either. No, I -- I
04 don't recall. No.
05 Q. Okay. How did you determine the initial
06 velocity of the BSR blades?
07 A. Again, in -- in -- in a literature search
08 to ascertain the -- the cutting process and the
09 duration of the cutting process. We -- we
10 studied the impact of the velocity of the cutting
11 blades.
12 Q. M-h'm.
13 A. The actual physical time is about 25, 30
14 seconds if -- if -- if I recall, and the majority
15 of that is from full deployment all the way over
16 to where the -- the blades would engage the pipe.
17 So the -- we moved our blades pretty close to the
18 pipe to avoid that computational space where
19 there's really nothing happening, and then we
20 started the cutting procedure.
21 And we studied several different
22 velocities, as -- as -- as small as, I think, 1
23 meter per second, which -- in the computational
24 world, because the elements are so small, that
25 that -- that's a very, very long run. We're
00069:01 talking on the order of weeks. And I think we

02 went as far as a hundred meters per second.

03 Q. And the literature that you reviewed to
04 determine the duration of the cutting process,
05 was that cited in your Report, Dr. Richardson?

06 A. In particular, that might have been a
07 video. That might have been a video condition.

08 And -- and I think we might have had
09 discussion with -- amongst ourselves, as a Team,
10 and I think somebody mentioned that, yes,
11 that's -- that's probably how long the duration
12 is for the cutting procedure.

Page 69:16 to 70:19

00069:16 Q. And so you relied on this video and the
17 statement of one of your Engineers to determine
18 the duration of the BSR cutting process; is
19 that -- do I understand you correctly,
20 Dr. Richardson?

21 A. Well, in terms of physically ascertaining
22 whether the pipe is cut or whether the pipe is
23 not cut, the actual physical time for the BSR to
24 engage the pipe became -- became slightly
25 irrelevant in getting to that conclusion.

00070:01 Q. But my question was: In determining the
02 duration of the cutting process, you used a
03 video, as well as a discussion with a fellow
04 Engineer. Were those the sources for your
05 understanding of the duration of the BSR cutting
06 process? Is that correct?

07 A. If -- if my recollection serves me, my
08 knowledge of the entire BSR cutting process were
09 based on those two facts. And, again, that
10 remained irrelevant as to the -- the cutting
11 procedure with respect to the bla -- the -- the
12 blades and the pipe. That was just a video, just
13 so we can have a physical sense of the real-world
14 time.

15 Q. And the -- so you testified about
16 watching that video and determining the duration
17 in order to come to your determination of the
18 initial velocity of the BSR blades; is that
19 correct?

Page 70:21 to 70:23

00070:21 A. That video was not the -- the only
22 assessment that was used to come to the
23 velocity --

Page 70:25 to 71:17

00070:25 A. -- of the -- the cutting.

00071:01 Again, based on that rough video, the

02 speed of the -- the rams relative to the cutting
03 procedure, I was pretty -- pretty slow. And the
04 velocity that we used in our model was sensitized
05 to that actual duration to make sure that we
06 weren't imparting any additional forces into the
07 model by using a high initial velocity for the
08 cutting procedure in our simulation.

09 Q. What was the initial velocity that you
10 used?

11 A. 20 -- 20 millisecond, I think -- 20
12 millisecond.

13 Q. 20 meters per second?

14 A. 20 meters per second, yes. Sorry. Yes.

15 Q. And do you believe that the actual
16 initial velocity of the BSR blades was 20 meters
17 per second, Dr. Richardson?

Page 71:19 to 72:09

00071:19 A. No. But there's a lot of parameters that
20 will affect that cutting velocity in a real-world
21 stance.

22 Like I mentioned, the -- the velocity of
23 the blades as it pertains to cutting the pipe,
24 that was a parameter that we studied to ensure
25 that speeding up the computational time to arrive
00072:01 at a -- a myriad of analyses wasn't
02 computationally expensive. But we did run a much
03 slower advancement of the blades, and we found
04 the results were within reason as reported for
05 the 20 millisecond.

06 Q. And so what was the range of variation
07 from the more accurate to real-world properties
08 velocity versus the 20 meters per second velocity
09 that you ended up using for your model?

Page 72:11 to 76:02

00072:11 A. Again, the -- these analyses take very
12 long. And if my memory serves me right on the
13 validation model, which was a centered drill
14 pipe, we ran a -- a wide array of velocities,
15 probably from one meter per second to as far as a
16 hundred meters per second.

17 Q. (By Ms. King) Okay.

18 A. Clearly, at the extremities of a hundred
19 meter per second, that is more like a full-on
20 impact on the pipe, and we found that velocity to
21 impart additional kinetic energy into the
22 solution. So we never ran, to come conclusions,
23 at that high speed.

24 Q. Okay. How did you determine that the BSR
25 blades had a constant Z axis velocity?

00073:01 A. It's not a constant velocity that was
02 applied from deployment to engage the blade.

03 That is a starting velocity with the -- the V
04 blades as close as possible to the numerical
05 model, in this case, the pipe, where we seeking
06 to find failure. So it's not necessary a
07 constant velocity -- velocity that would have
08 created additional kinetic energy away from the
09 wellbore.

10 Q. So when you write at the bottom of Page 3
11 to the top of Page 4: "...I applied constant
12 axial velocity (on Z axis) to move the BSR ram
13 blades in the advance direction," is that a part
14 of your Report that you wish to change?

15 A. No. Again, let -- let me explain. That
16 is a constant initial velocity. When the blades
17 interact with the pipe, the stiffness of the
18 pipe, the local deformation of the pipe could
19 slow that value down.

20 As the outer parameter -- the outer
21 perimeter is cut and the -- the pipe is engaged
22 and gets thinner and thinner through the wall,
23 that velocity could go slightly higher.

24 But that is the initial velocity with the
25 blades in the proximity of the domain.

00074:01 Q. You conducted a "Static Stress Analysis"
02 depicted on Page 12 of your Report, correct?

03 A. Yes.

04 Q. What was the purpose of this static
05 stress analysis?

06 A. The static stress analysis was completed
07 first to understand the integrity of the blades
08 while cutting in the centered position and while
09 cutting in the off-centered position, and that
10 was just to confirm that if the -- the pipe is
11 subtended in the shoulders or collars of the ram
12 block, if the blades are deform -- allowed to
13 deform, how does that number be affected in terms
14 of the thickness of the pipe?

15 And the deformation that we saw, or the
16 stresses that we saw, was local on the blade,
17 closest to the pipe.

18 If you look at the stress blocks where
19 it's directly in the center, there's some local
20 yielding, but the integrity of the blade remains
21 the same.

22 Q. And you conducted this static stress
23 analysis to determine the deformation of the BSR
24 blades for both the centered and the off-centered
25 drill pipe position; is that correct?

00075:01 A. That is correct.

02 Q. Was your conclusion the same for the
03 off-centered drill pipe, that there was local
04 yielding of the BSR blade?

05 A. There was local yielding in both, but the
06 presumed yield plastic area was minimal in the
07 centered pipe as compared to the off-centered
08 pipe.

09 Q. In the off-centered pipe, the yield area
10 was not minimal?

11 A. No, no. I'm saying it was minimal in the
12 centered pipe, and in the off-centered, there was
13 more damage on the BSR blades.

14 Q. In this static stress analysis, how did
15 you determine what material to -- what material
16 properties to use for the BSR blades?

17 A. I believe we -- we selected a steel
18 material that was in -- indicative -- a little
19 tougher than the blade itself, because the intent
20 would be to cut the blade. And I think we used
21 a -- a standard metal. We might have gotten that
22 information from literature search.

23 Q. So you conducted the static stress
24 analysis assuming a material for the BSR blades
25 that was not necessarily the material that the
00076:01 BSR blades were made out of; is that correct,
02 Dr. Richardson?

Page 76:04 to 77:03

00076:04 A. Well, there are two basic metals that's
05 used in heavy-type structures. And they can
06 either be ferrous based or -- or what you'd call
07 aluminum deriv -- I mean iron derivatives, and
08 they could either be stainless or they could be
09 on the realm of -- of cast iron.

10 The stiffness of those materials are
11 inherently extremely approximate, so the
12 stiffness between those two materials doesn't
13 change. And the static analysis is just an
14 indication of a stiffness that's consistent
15 across all of those metals, about 29 -- 29e to
16 the sixth psi.

17 And there's a slight variation. Cast
18 iron, you're down in the lower values of 28.3,
19 and you can do some hardening properties, that
20 will take you to 29.8.

21 But in terms of percent error with
22 regards to that stiffness, less than a percent,
23 minimal.

24 Q. (By Ms. King) But the material properties
25 that you assumed for this static stress analysis
00077:01 were not necessarily the precise material
02 properties of the actual BSR blades; isn't that
03 correct Dr. Richardson?

Page 77:06 to 79:17

00077:06 A. For the static stress analysis, it is
07 possible that the material designation that is --
08 as it pertains to the BSR blades are not exactly
09 the material designation that we might have
10 quoted in the particular Report.

11 However, I must point out that the static
12 analysis is based purely on the stiffness of the
13 material or the stiffness of the continuum. And,
14 again, for cast iron based or stainless steel or
15 ferrous-based material, that stiffness varies
16 from about 28e to the sixth to 29.7e to the
17 sixth, so the percent difference is very minimal.

18 Q. (By Ms. King) Did you request information
19 about the material properties of the BSR blades
20 from Cameron, Dr. Richardson?

21 A. I don't recall that.

22 Q. You did not request that information, or
23 you don't recall whether you did or not?

24 A. I don't think we did, no.

25 Q. So it is your opinion that the BSR blades
00078:01 likely did deform some amount when closing around
02 the off-centered drill pipe. Is that correct,
03 Dr. Richardson?

04 A. Yes. It is possible, but, again, the
05 actual amount of that deformation, we can't
06 physically quantify because, in the off-centered
07 position, the simulation, as run, only indicates
08 the condition after the BSR blades would have
09 traveled through the section of the pipe as cut.

10 So to know exactly -- and, again, this is
11 all based on the capacity of the piston.

12 So knowing exactly how much of the
13 off-centered pipe was physically -- or the blades
14 were physically deformed at that point, it's not
15 a hundred percent. We're not a hundred percent
16 certain.

17 But there is some local damage, more than
18 was noted, in the centered drill pipe.

19 Q. But in your FEA modeling to determine the
20 distance between the BSR blocks after they
21 attempted to close around the off-centered drill
22 pipe, you assumed that the BSR blades were
23 completely rigid. Is that correct,
24 Dr. Richardson?

25 A. That's correct. That's correct.

00079:01 Q. So, in other words, you assumed that the
02 BSR blades would not deform at all when closing
03 on the drill pipe in your FEA modeling?

04 A. During that explicit analysis, yes.

05 Q. But you knew that the BSR blades likely
06 did deform when they started closing around the
07 drill pipe, as depicted in your static stress
08 analysis. Isn't that correct, Dr. Richardson?

09 A. Because both materials are inherently
10 ferrous based, there would be some damage on the
11 blades, yeah.

12 Q. Does your assumption that the BSR blades
13 did not deform -- despite knowing that they did,
14 in fact, deform -- add uncertainty to your
15 calculation that the BSR blocks were 1.9 inches
16 apart after attempting to close on the

17 off-centered drill pipe?

Page 79:19 to 84:22

00079:19 A. I don't think so.
20 Q. (By Ms. King) Why not?
21 A. There are two conditions that's
22 occurring: The cutting event is an explicit
23 event; the static analysis is an implicit event.
24 Okay?
25 Q. Okay.

00080:01 A. And because the cutting event is a
02 dynamic analysis, while cutting, any local
03 deformation that occurs on the blade, the
04 stiffness would redistribute. Okay?
05 And the static analysis, we ran the
06 static analyses just to assess the condition of
07 the blades for the off-centered and the centered
08 drill pipe.
09 The cutting process, when the blades
10 shear the pipes, both materials -- sorry, the --
11 the blade, the integrity of the blades should
12 still be in reasonable contact with respect to
13 the damaged pipe.
14 As to the total damage that's on the
15 blades in the cut position, we have not assessed
16 that, so I will not be able to answer that
17 question.
18 Q. How did you determine the friction
19 coefficient between the blade surfaces and the
20 drill pipe?
21 A. A bit of that is past experience and
22 knowledge from running the Johnson-Cook
23 plasticity model previously and the interaction
24 between steel-to-steel-materials in a dynamic
25 sense. At a low rate of -- a low rate of

00081:01 loading, it typically varies around .3 to .1, so
02 we went with .05.
03 Q. You said it varies from .3 to .1?
04 A. .03.
05 Q. Oh, .03?
06 A. M-h'm.
07 Q. Could the friction coefficient have been
08 .03 or .1?
09 A. The friction coefficient that is --
10 let -- let me explain the friction coefficient.
11 This is a dynamic event; and during the dynamic
12 event, the friction coefficient will vary to the
13 extreme that when the pipe is first engaged,
14 there will be a high-friction coefficient. Okay?
15 And when I say "high," I reference that
16 as being relative, so the high end of that
17 steel-to-steel interaction.
18 As the pipe begins to get sheared by the
19 blades, that friction coefficient is lowered

20 because now the plac -- the plac -- the -- the
21 pipe is experiencing plastic flow. Okay?
22 So this is a dynamic number; but, again,
23 it's tuned based on experience and what has been
24 used in the past for the Johnson-Cook model at
25 this particular material.

00082:01 Q. Did you try running your model with the
02 lower or higher friction coefficient to determine
03 the sensitivity of the model to changes in that
04 value?
05 A. I think we ran one case with a higher
06 friction value for the centered pipe. As to what
07 was checked, I think we only determined or
08 compared the max reaction force on the blades.
09 And that -- that was the overriding parameter in
10 determining the -- the net pressure or the net
11 shearing pressure for the event.
12 Yes, I think we did one -- we ran one
13 value above the .05. I don't recall what the
14 number was right now.

15 Q. If you had used a different friction
16 coefficient, would that have impacted the final
17 distance between the BSR blocks after they
18 attempted to close around the off-centered drill
19 pipe in your model?
20 A. No.
21 Q. Why not?
22 A. It might have affected the time it takes
23 for the blades to shear through the pipe, but the
24 final resting position on the off-centered cut
25 represents the -- the material that's left

00083:01 outside on the shoulders of the ram blocks.
02 So as long as the V blades or the BSR
03 blades would have sheared through the pipe, the
04 final distance -- or the standoff, as it were --
05 represents the stiffness of the -- the pipe
06 material that's within the ram blocks. So the
07 friction coefficient would only affect the time
08 it takes to cut through it.

09 Q. How did you determine the material
10 properties of the drill pipe?
11 A. When you say "the material properties of
12 the drill pipe," the drill pipe has a basic
13 material property that's -- it's stiffness and
14 it's Poisson's ratio. As far as that material is
15 concerned, there are other parameters that could
16 be used but -- but for the intent of the
17 analysis, that is the predominant portion for the
18 elastic definition of the pipe.
19 Now, when the pipe is damaged during the
20 cutting process, the pipe undergoes plastic flow
21 or plastic strain. And that plastic strain is --
22 is characterized by the Johnson-Cook model. And
23 that Johnson-Cook model, the parameters for that
24 Johnson-Cook model -- namely, the strain, the
25 strain rate, all that information -- are readily

00084:01 available on published sources for this type of
02 steel. So that's exactly what we used in our
03 model.
04 Q. Okay. You listed in your list of
05 references the specification for drill-through
06 equipment, API Specification 16A. How did you
07 use this reference in your model?
08 A. If I recall, just primarily to get the
09 geometric thicknesses, and what have you, for the
10 pipe.
11 Q. And how did you determine the stiffness
12 of the drill pipe material?
13 A. The -- the API spec on that particular
14 pipe, there's a certain grade, if I recall, for
15 that particular pipe; and that particular pipe
16 has a synonymous steel that's associated with it.
17 And, again, the variation in that
18 stiffness are what's commonly referred to as
19 Young's modulus. The variation in that number is
20 limited for ferrous-based materials.
21 Q. Would the stiffness of the drill pipe
22 change in a higher temperature?

Page 84:25 to 86:12

00084:25 A. Yes, it would.
00085:01 Q. (By Ms. King) Would the drill pipe -- are
02 you aware of the temperature of the oil in the
03 BOP when the BSR was actually closing on the
04 drill pipe during the DEEPWATER HORIZON incident,
05 Dr. Richardson?
06 A. No.
07 Q. Would the steel become less stiff at a
08 higher temperature, Dr. Richardson?
09 A. Yes.
10 Q. Was the stiffness number that you used
11 for the steel in your model taken from a room
12 temperature measurement?
13 A. It would have been, that's correct.
14 Q. Would temperature impact the Poisson's
15 ratio of the steel?
16 A. Slightly.
17 Q. And how would it impact the Poisson's
18 ratio at a higher temperature?
19 A. It depends on the -- the state of stress
20 and the rigor of loading. But the Poisson ratio
21 inherent for hexagonally packed materials, the
22 variation is going to be limited until the grain
23 boundaries start slipping in the plastic flow,
24 and the Johnson-Cook model as used is highly
25 tested for this type application.
00086:01 Again, let me point out, as far as the
02 stiffness is concerned, the overriding conclusion
03 in the assessment with regards to shearing the
04 drill pipe relative to its position within the

05 BSR, the stiffness would not affect that final
06 conclusion. It will just cut -- or the duration
07 and time taken to cut it, it will go faster
08 because of the lower stiffness on the pipe.
09 Q. But your model assumed that the steel had
10 the stiffness of room temperature steel. Is that
11 correct?
12 A. Yes.

Page 86:22 to 88:16

00086:22 Q. (By Ms. King) Dr. Richardson, in your
23 general practice of doing FEA modeling, do you
24 try to compare your model results to real-world
25 results whenever possible?
00087:01 A. If the customer has that data, yes, we'll
02 make that comparison, yes.
03 Q. Were you provided with real-world data
04 here from laser scans of the BOP parts or the BSR
05 parts?
06 A. I don't recall if they were provided, or
07 we took it from Internet sources. Most likely,
08 we were provided the laser scans, I think, so
09 maybe a picture in one of the Reports. I think I
10 recall it in the DNV Report.
11 Q. You were provided with a picture from the
12 laser scan via the DNV Report; is that correct?
13 A. We extracted the picture from the DNV
14 Report, yes.
15 Q. Were you provided with the laser scans
16 outside of the DNV Report?
17 A. The actual CAD definition, no, no.
18 Q. And do you -- did you do a la -- you said
19 a did a literature search for laser scan
20 information?
21 A. When I use the term "literature search,"
22 it could be either on the Internet or through the
23 documents that we were given.
24 I -- I recall the laser scans, the pink
25 ones, I think, was -- was in the DNV. There was
00088:01 some pink and -- and metallic-looking ones, I
02 think I remember seeing in the DNV Report.
03 Q. So you reviewed the pictures of the laser
04 scans in the DNV Report. Did you review any
05 other laser scans?
06 A. Not to my knowledge.
07 Q. You did not review the high CAD laser
08 scans that were conducted in 2012?
09 A. I don't recall seeing CAD.
10 Q. Did you compare your FEA model to the
11 laser scan pictures in the DNV Report?
12 A. As best as possible, comparing a 3D
13 geometry to a 2D picture, yes.
14 Q. Wouldn't it have been helpful to have the
15 3D laser scan CAD files to compare your 3D FEA

16 model to, Dr. Richardson?

Page 88:18 to 88:25

00088:18 A. If -- if available, we could have made
19 that comparison. I'm -- I'm -- I'm not sure if
20 necessarily that -- that would have changed
21 anything. Maybe the intent was in the -- the 2D
22 profile.
23 Q. (By Ms. King) But BP didn't offer to
24 provide those 3D laser scan files to you, did
25 they?

Page 89:22 to 90:08

00089:22 Q. (By Ms. King) Let's look, instead, at the
23 Addendum, I'm sorry, which was marked as
24 Exhibit 11531 on Page 21. Do you see "Revised
25 Figure 147" where the caption reads: "Alignment
00090:01 of Scan Models - 2.8 Inch Standoff between
02 Blocks"?
03 A. Yes.
04 Q. Does the fact that in the laser scan 3D
05 model, the standoff between the blocks was 2.8
06 inches give rise to any uncertainty in your mind
07 about your conclusion that the blocks were 1.9
08 inches apart?

Page 90:10 to 95:07

00090:10 A. This -- this is a -- a 2D picture, and I
11 can't ascertain where the pipe is, and how the
12 pipe is oriented with respect to those blades.
13 And it looks like a portion of the blocks are
14 missing, so I wouldn't be able to communicate
15 whether or not the blocks are actually engaging
16 the pipe, so it's difficult for me to come to any
17 con -- conclusion there.
18 Q. (By Ms. King) If you had the 3D laser
19 scan, would that make it easier for you to come
20 to a conclusion about how far apart the blocks
21 actually were after they attempted to close
22 around the drill pipe?
23 A. The 3D laser scans would remain as -- as
24 a point of reference, but what are the 3D laser
25 scans of? Un -- unless I know what the 3D laser
00091:01 scans represent, it will be difficult for me to
02 just compare 1.9 and 2.8 and make some
03 conclusions.
04 Q. You mentioned, Dr. Richardson, going back
05 a little bit here, that you assumed a faster
06 initial velocity than the actual BSR blade
07 velocity because the slower velocity was too
08 computationally expensive. What did you mean by

09 "computationally expensive"?

10 A. Computer runtime, as it pa -- it --
11 pertains to actual real life duration. The
12 slower the blades would be advancing, the more
13 computations the computer will have to do as it
14 proceeded, so --

15 Q. Are you saying that at the slower
16 velocity, the computer would have to do so many
17 computations that you didn't have enough time to
18 complete those computations --

19 A. No, absolutely not.

20 Q. -- to do your Report?

21 A. No, absolutely not, because we did
22 consider really slow velocity. But, again, to
23 reiterate, we -- we did several different
24 analyses, and in order to do a full parametric
25 evaluation in the computer environment, you have
00092:01 to make some assumptions based on the boundary
02 conditions that you are placing.

03 The 20 meters per second would have been
04 selected relative to the kinetic energy and the
05 internal energy in the model, plus looking at a
06 variety of speeds of about 1 meters per second,
07 up to around a hundred meters per second. That's
08 how we ended up selecting the 20, because it was
09 the most cost-effective to get the answer based
10 on the number of analyses we ran.

11 Q. You mentioned that you did a literature
12 search for the cutting duration of the BSR
13 blades, and you didn't cite any of the literature
14 that you found in that search in your Report; is
15 that correct, Dr. Richardson?

16 A. Not explicitly, but, again, that
17 particular speed, or the actual duration of
18 cutting the pipe, has very little influence on
19 the final conclusion. That was done when we
20 first got the -- the job, and we were trying to
21 assess what is the BSR, what does the BSR do, how
22 does it engage the pipe, et cetera, et cetera.

23 So that information was discovered
24 without initial intent.

25 Q. And, similarly, you mentioned doing a
00093:01 literature search for the speed of the BSR
02 blades, and you did not cite any of the
03 literature that you reviewed to determine that
04 speed in your Report; is that correct,
05 Dr. Richardson?

06 A. When we refer to the speed of the BSR
07 blades, the speed of the BSR blades is -- is
08 inherent to the time it takes from deployment to
09 get engaged to the pipe. And that was just a
10 general feel-good to know whether or not, in the
11 initial sense, the speeds that we consider in the
12 para -- parametric study envelope something that
13 was realistic.

14 So, no, we didn't cite it, because we

15 considered a wide range of speeds. And, again,
16 the duration for cutting the pipe, it varies,
17 right.

18 Q. In the literature search, I believe you
19 testified that you found the -- the velocity, the
20 initial velocity of the BSR blades was one meter
21 per second; is that correct?

22 A. I don't recall what is the exact speed of
23 the model.

24 What I did -- do recall is, that after
25 looking at a couple of videos, we tried to
00094:01 simulate how long it takes for the BSR blades to
02 travel to where the pipe was located. And,
03 again, that's -- that's a velocity assuming that
04 the actuator or the piston is advancing at -- at
05 some constant rate.

06 Once the cutting begins, we don't know
07 what it is. But we -- we went between one
08 millisecond -- one meter per second and I think a
09 hundred meters per second, and we felt that
10 enveloped the travel distance on the BSR blade
11 with respect to the time we saw it take to cut,
12 or start the -- initiate the cutting on the pipe.

13 Q. And you decided to use an initial
14 velocity of 20 meters per second for the blades,
15 and you did not cite any source for that initial
16 velocity in your Report; is that correct,
17 Dr. Richardson?

18 A. That 20 meters per second was selected
19 purely based on the parametric evaluation between
20 all speeds, and that 20 meters were selected
21 because we had to do several analyses. And
22 within the realms of explicit analyses, as long
23 as your internal energy with respect to the
24 continuum and the kinetic energy is within reason
25 in a ratio, you can get away with running that
00095:01 speed to reflect the physical condition, and
02 that's why we selected the 20 meters per second.

03 Q. And you reviewed a number of videos to
04 determine this envelope of one meter per second
05 to 100 meters per second initial velocity, but
06 you did not cite any of those videos in your
07 Report; is that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 95:10 to 96:03

00095:10 A. No, I don't think we cited any of those
11 videos in the document.

12 Q. (By Ms. King) You mentioned that you did
13 a literature search for damage parameters for
14 your model, and you didn't cite any of the
15 literature that you reviewed to determine those
16 damage parameters in your Report, did you,
17 Dr. Richardson?

18 A. We probably just referenced the material

19 and cited just the generally published sources.
20 Again, the Johnson-Cook model is a well-tested
21 model, and for this basis of steel, the
22 parameters are pretty much uniform, depending on
23 the shear damage model that is used.

24 Q. Okay. So you looked at generally
25 published sources to determine the damage
00096:01 parameters, but you did not cite those generally
02 published sources in your Report; is that
03 correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 96:05 to 96:25

00096:05 A. The explicit papers, no.
06 Q. (By Ms. King) You conducted a literature
07 search for the material properties of the
08 stainless steel that you assumed were the
09 material for the BSR blades in your static stress
10 analysis, correct?

11 A. I wouldn't say "literature search." I
12 mean, my previous experience with steel and be
13 knowledgeable of the variety of AASE and API-type
14 standard base cast iron and steel materials, it
15 was a reasonable assumption on the front end to
16 have the stiffness at 29e to the sixth, and
17 that's what we proceeded with.

18 (Discussion off the record.)

19 Q. (By Ms. King) So when you testified
20 previously that you used a standard metal for the
21 BSR blades and you might have gotten that
22 information from a literature search, are you now
23 saying that you did not get the material
24 properties from a literature search for your
25 static stress analysis of the BSR blades?

Page 97:02 to 98:18

00097:02 A. The exact number that's used in the
03 analysis, again, whenever we do assessments,
04 because we don't proclaim to be Experts at the
05 particular component that we are examining but
06 more Experts at the approach, we have to
07 understand how sensitive the assumptions that we
08 make affect the results.

09 So at some point in time, I would imagine
10 that we looked at some variations in that metal,
11 but, again, the 29e to six is typically, within
12 my experience and the Team's experience, the
13 starting stiffness at room temperature for steel.

14 Q. (By Ms. King) And you didn't cite, in
15 your Report, any of the sources that you looked
16 at to determine the stiffness of that steel that
17 you used for the BSR blades in your static stress
18 analysis, correct?

19 A. I don't think -- let me see something.

20 (Reviewing documents.)

21 Outside of understanding that the pipe
22 was derived from some API spec and using
23 experience for the stiffness of the steel, no,
24 it's not explicitly stated in the list of
25 references.

00098:01 But, again, the material in question, the
02 stiffnesses don't vary by much. Even up to 400
03 degrees F, steel or iron-based material still
04 re -- retain a stiffness of 92 percent. So even
05 if their -- their particular environment was as
06 such, we would still be within quite a bit of
07 reason.

08 The overall goal for the analysis was
09 whether the pipe cut when it was in -- at the
10 center and what was the state of the standoff of
11 the ram blocks when the pipe was off-centered.
12 Those parameters inherently will not affect the
13 overall conclusion of the analysis.

14 Q. So to be clear, your reference list
15 includes some specifications about the drill pipe
16 material, but it does not include any sources for
17 the material properties of the BSR blades; is
18 that correct?

Page 98:20 to 98:20

00098:20 A. Explicitly, no.

Page 104:07 to 104:13

00104:07 And on Page 5 of your Report, if I could
08 point you to the last sentence on the page, it
09 states: "The off-centered drill pipe was
10 intended to simulate pipe displaced to the side
11 of the wellbore under the influence of an
12 external buckling force."

13 A. Yes.

Page 108:19 to 108:21

00108:19 Q. You were not familiar with BOPs and blind
20 shear rams before this engagement, correct?

21 A. That's correct.

Page 110:08 to 110:13

00110:08 Q. (By Mr. Hartley) Okay. Now, as a part of
09 your finite element analysis, I think you came to
10 the -- to the conclusion that 1.9 inch -- inches
11 that the gap left after the blind shear rams
12 closed?

13 A. Between the ram blocks, yes.

Page 110:19 to 111:19

00110:19 Q. Okay. Now, I understand, and correct me
 20 if I'm wrong, as part of your analysis, that you
 21 studied a centered drill pipe?
 22 A. M-h'm.
 23 Q. And as a result of your simulations, had
 24 the drill pipe been centered, then the BSR would
 25 have completely sheared it, given the forces
 00111:01 applied --
 02 A. That's correct.
 03 Q. -- on the Macondo Well?
 04 A. (Nodding.)
 05 Q. Is that fair?
 06 A. M-h'm, yes, that's right.
 07 Q. And your simulations for off-centered
 08 drill pipe were that it did not completely shear
 09 because a portion of it was outside of the V?
 10 A. That's right.
 11 Q. Okay. How far outside the V was it?
 12 A. In the original configuration?
 13 Q. Yes.
 14 A. I don't remember the exact, but roughly
 15 half the diameter on the initial -- initial cut.
 16 Q. Can you give me a -- a size? Is it an
 17 inch outside the V?
 18 A. No. It's -- it was more than an inch. I
 19 think it was more than an inch.

Page 112:17 to 113:11

00112:17 Q. Okay. Turn briefly to Page 3 of your
 18 Report.
 19 A. Yes.
 20 Q. At the top of that page, above the
 21 diagrams --
 22 A. M-h'm.
 23 Q. -- you talk about the boundary conditions
 24 for your simulations for this 3D finite element
 25 analysis.
 00113:01 A. M-h'm.
 02 Q. You see that?
 03 A. Page 3, yes.
 04 Q. Okay. And for your simulations, you --
 05 you have the drill pipe fixed with the upper
 06 annular preventer and radially restrained with
 07 the VBR?
 08 A. That's correct.
 09 Q. Those are the parameters you inputted
 10 into your FEA?
 11 A. That's correct.

Page 116:04 to 116:10

00116:04 Q. (By Ms. Dempsey) Whether you used the CAD
05 file originally provided by Cameron with the
06 cavity opening of 16.875 inches for the lower BSR
07 block, or the updated CAD file with the cavity
08 opening of 15.38 inches, would it impact your
09 conclusion about the standoff between the BSR
10 blocks that you set forth in your Expert Report?

Page 116:12 to 116:18

00116:12 A. Those updated dimensions just pertain to
13 the cavity where the -- the pipe would go. The
14 shoulder dimensions and the standoff width, as it
15 relates to the horizontal sealing plane, they're
16 still the same, based on what I see in the
17 geometry.
18 So I presume, no.

Page 118:07 to 119:04

00118:07 Let's look at your -- your Report, which
08 is Appendix F to Exhibit 11529. If you could
09 turn to Page 5 of your Report.
10 A. Yes.
11 Q. There's a graphic on the page entitled
12 "Comparison of Calculated Max BSR Pressure,"
13 correct?
14 A. Above the table, yes.
15 Q. M-h'm. And within the table there, it
16 says "Calculation Method" and then one of those
17 methods is "Cameron," correct?
18 A. Correct.
19 Q. Okay. And you were asked questions by
20 Counsel for the United States about the
21 calculated shear pressure of 3,008 psi.
22 Do you recall those questions?
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. Okay. What is the source of the
25 Calculated Shear Pressure of -- of 3,008 psi that
00119:01 you have on Page 5 of your Report?
02 A. Originally cited in a -- the DNV document
03 as computed by the procedure in this 8702. It's
04 a calculated shear pressure.

Page 119:16 to 119:18

00119:16 Q. Did your Team verify that the calculated
17 maximum shear pressure using the Cameron shearing
18 formula was 3,008 psi?

Page 119:20 to 119:21

00119:20 A. I believe, at some point in time, we did,

21 which is why we used it as the validation model.

Page 121:19 to 122:08

00121:19 Q. Good. If we could return to the Addendum
20 to the Final Report, the April 30th, 2011, in
21 Tab 4.
22 A. 531.
23 Q. 11531.
24 A. Okay. Which page?
25 Q. And if we could turn back to Page 12.
00122:01 A. Page 12. Yes.
02 Q. Ms. Dempsey asked whether -- she asked
03 that you did not have any reason to believe you
04 had not used the updated BSR file, and you said
05 "No."
06 Do you have any reason to believe that
07 you did use the updated BSR file referred to on
08 this page?

Page 122:10 to 122:17

00122:10 A. Outside of the -- the date when it was
11 updated, no.
12 Q. (By Ms. King) Do you know the date of the
13 CAD file that you used?
14 A. No.
15 Q. Do you have any other identifying
16 information for the CAD file that you used?
17 A. Not to my recollection.

Page 123:06 to 123:14

00123:06 Q. (By Ms. King) All right. In response to
07 questioning by Ms. Dempsey, you testified that
08 your Team verified the max shear pressure formula
09 that you reflected in your Report as 3,008 psi
10 from the Cameron calculation. Is that correct,
11 Dr. Richardson?
12 A. Yes, I think, at some point in time, we
13 verified the number of 3,008, which is why we
14 proceeded to use it as a validated form.

Page 123:19 to 124:13

00123:19 Q. Can you walk me through, using the
20 Cameron Engineering Bulletin 702 D, how you
21 replicated that figure of 3,008 psi? This is in
22 Tab 7, Exhibit 3185.
23 A. Tab 7. Again, as I've mentioned, I -- I
24 don't fully recollect the verification by the
25 Engineer, but I presume that the shear
00124:01 calculations were based on an empirical formula

02 from Cameron.

03 When we looked at the DNV Report, the DNV
04 Report cited about four different high shear
05 pressure values, and those shear pressure values
06 were simply computed by dividing the shear force
07 on the piston area for the particular BSR, and
08 the cited number for Cameron referenced that it
09 was computed based on one of the empirical
10 formulas that they generated from tests.

11 Q. Which formula on Page 4 was used by your
12 Team to validate the Cameron maximum shear
13 pressure?

Page 124:15 to 125:17

00124:15 A. Page 4 or Page 5. I presume probably the
16 one on Page 5 -- or, it -- it could have been
17 Page 4.

18 Q. (By Ms. King) Page 5 is simply an example
19 applying both equations, isn't it --

20 A. Yes, yes --

21 Q. -- Dr. Richardson?

22 A. -- yes, yes, yes.

23 Q. And Page 4 provides the two possible --

24 A. The two --

25 Q. -- equations?

00125:01 A. -- two possible equations, that's right.

02 Q. And so which of the two possible
03 equations on Page 4 were used by your Team to
04 validate the 3,008 psi from the Cameron
05 calculation?

06 A. Again, I don't recollect directly, but I
07 presume it's, based on the nature of the
08 equation, probable Equation 1, maybe, probably
09 Equation 1.

10 Q. How certain are you that it was
11 Equation 1, Dr. Richardson?

12 A. The certainty would be based on -- I call
13 into the equation the reference of the wellbore
14 pressure, as in Equation 2, so I -- I -- I would
15 suspect that we would have leave that out, since
16 we don't have the direct wellbore pressure for
17 the calculation.

Page 125:19 to 125:21

00125:19 Q. (By Ms. King) And the top equation is to
20 be used when there are no wellbore pressure
21 effects, correct?

Page 125:24 to 127:08

00125:24 A. From simple reading, it appears that way.

25 Q. (By Ms. King) How did you determine that

00126:01 there were no wellbore pressure effects existing
02 at the time of the shear?
03 A. That parameter didn't come into the scope
04 of the assessment, primarily because that
05 information was unknown to us at the point in
06 time we did the simulation.
07 Q. Did --
08 A. Presumably, there -- there was some
09 wellbore pressure.
10 Q. Did you request information about the
11 wellbore pressure for your use in validating the
12 Cameron calculation?
13 A. No.
14 Q. What was the source that your Team member
15 used for the minimum yield strength of the drill
16 pipe, as required by Equation 1, as an input
17 here?
18 A. Most likely, the API designation for the
19 particular drill pipe.
20 Q. But you're not sure where your Team
21 member --
22 A. No. I'm -- I'm absolute --
23 Q. -- found that information?
24 A. I'm absolutely certain that's probably
25 where he got that reference from.
00127:01 Q. And so did your Team member document his
02 or her validation of this Cameron calculation
03 using Equation 1 on Page 4?
04 A. We did not provide it in the Report, if
05 that's what you're asking.
06 Q. Did you provide any documentation of your
07 validation of that calculation that could have
08 been produced to us outside of your Report?

Page 127:17 to 128:08

00127:17 Q. (By Ms. King) My question would be: You
18 testified that you conducted an analysis to
19 validate the Cameron maximum shear pressure. Did
20 you provide -- did you produce any documentation?
21 A. Wait, wait. Hold up. We didn't do an
22 analysis to verify the 3,008. That's discretely
23 there. I think what we did was computed that
24 shear, shear value --
25 Q. M-h'm.
00128:01 A. -- from inferred shear force. Now, did
02 we provide that document in the Final Report?
03 No. It's just cited as referenced in the DNV
04 Report.
05 Q. And did you provide that document? Was
06 that produced to us outside of your Report, as
07 documentation, a "Considered" material supporting
08 your Report?

Page 128:11 to 128:20

00128:11 A. To my -- to my knowledge, no.
12 Q. (By Ms. King) Are you aware if anyone
13 wrote down the calculation that they did?
14 A. Yes, I think we did the calc pre the
15 validation.
16 Q. So documentation should exist somewhere
17 that one of your Team Members calculated the --
18 the shear pressure according to this Cameron
19 equation?
20 A. I would presume so, yeah.

Page 129:01 to 131:02

00129:01 Q. (By Ms. King) Turning to Page 10 of the
02 Cameron Engineering Bulletin --
03 A. Yes.
04 Q. -- I'm going to read from the fourth
05 paragraph, the third sentence: "EB 702 D has
06 been updated to incorporate a shear pressure
07 predicting formula that generates a shear
08 pressure value. This value is derived from the
09 maximum recorded shear force that Cameron has
10 experienced in a test environment for a given
11 drilling tubular size and material designation."
12 Did I read that correctly,
13 Dr. Richardson?
14 A. Yes.
15 Q. Were you aware that the Cameron formula
16 was based on the maximum recorded shear force
17 that Cameron had experienced in a test
18 environment?
19 A. I believe so. It's an empirical formula.
20 Q. It's an empirical formula. And above
21 this Cameron states that there is a significant
22 variance in shear pressure, indeed, they give an
23 example of a variance of up to 57 percent.
24 Were you aware that there was a
25 significant variance in shear pressure required
00130:01 to shear pipes in a blind shear ram,
02 Dr. Richardson?
03 A. Agai -- again, this is a dynamic event,
04 and it depends what's inferred as shearing the
05 pipe. Okay?
06 Q. M-h'm.
07 A. When the pipe -- when the blades engage
08 the pipe, the pipe has -- the -- the blades first
09 has to start cutting through the outer wall
10 thickness, and then it has to cut through the
11 first portion of the diameter of the pipe, until
12 it gets to the back end of the pipe, for this
13 particular geometry.
14 Okay? And during that dynamic event, the
15 shear force that's experienced by the blades do

16 vary.
 17 So our computations was based on doing
 18 that transient shear force load. We took the max
 19 load in our FEA analysis.
 20 Yes, there's variation as the blades move
 21 from one side through the thickness of the pipe,
 22 that's correct.
 23 Q. But that's not what Cameron is talking
 24 about here, when it's talking about the maximum
 25 shear force that Cameron has experienced in a
 00131:01 test environment for a given drilling tubular, is
 02 it?

Page 131:04 to 133:07

00131:04 A. I'm -- I -- I -- I won't be -- I'm not
 05 sure exactly what is the basis for Cameron's
 06 comments.
 07 Q. (By Ms. King) Okay. I'm going to read
 08 from the first paragraph, starting in the second
 09 sentence: "Drill pipe specifications allow for
 10 large potential variances in mechanical and
 11 dimensional properties. Consequently, there is a
 12 large variance in the shear force" required --
 13 "requirement for given drill pipe specification.
 14 Variances in the material strength, ductility,
 15 and thickness have a significant impact on the
 16 required shear force. This bulletin has been
 17 updated to address this issue.
 18 "Example: the required shearing pressure
 19 for 5 inch 19.5 ppf S135 grade pipe has been
 20 recorded to be as low as 2250 PSI and as high as
 21 3540 PSI using the same BOP and operator
 22 configuration."
 23 Did I read that correctly,
 24 Dr. Richardson?
 25 A. Yep.
 00132:01 Q. So Cameron, here, is not talking about a
 02 variation in shear force over the course of
 03 shearing one pipe?
 04 A. M-h'm.
 05 Q. Isn't that right?
 06 A. That's correct.
 07 Q. Cameron is talking about you take a drill
 08 pipe meeting the API specifications, you put it
 09 inside of a blind shear ram, close the rams, it's
 10 going to require a maximum shear -- the maximum
 11 shearing pressure required to cut that pipe is
 12 going to vary. Isn't that correct?
 13 A. The maximum shear pressure required to
 14 cut the pipe will vary primarily because, in the
 15 manufacture of the pipe, there's quite vari --
 16 there could be variation in the thicknesses for
 17 that specific pipe. That is correct.
 18 Q. Okay.

19 A. So the dimensions, as provided for a
 20 standard pipe, would be nominal dimensions, but
 21 there, of course, there are plus or minus
 22 variations in the thicknesses. You're correct.
 23 Q. And because of these variations in the
 24 thickness or the pre -- the properties of the
 25 drill pipe, Cameron has recorded variable shear
 00133:01 force requirements to shear a drill pipe meeting
 02 the same specification. Isn't that correct?
 03 A. Based on what's referenced, correct.
 04 Q. And so this Engineering Bulletin is
 05 designed to calculate the maximum shear force
 06 that Cameron has ever seen in a test environment.
 07 Isn't that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 133:09 to 133:13

00133:09 A. I guess to the extent in time when this
 10 Report was written, yes.
 11 Q. (By Ms. King) That's what this
 12 Engineering -- Engineering Bulletin says it does,
 13 isn't it?

Page 133:23 to 134:12

00133:23 Q. "EB 702 D has been updated to incorporate
 24 a shear pressure predicting formula that
 25 generates a shear pressure value."
 00134:01 A. M-h'm.
 02 Q. "This value is derived from the maximum
 03 recorded shear force that Cameron has experienced
 04 in a test environment for a given drilling
 05 tubular size and material designation."
 06 Did I read that correctly,
 07 Dr. Richardson?
 08 A. Yes.
 09 Q. So this formula is designed to predict
 10 the maximum recorded shear force that Cameron has
 11 ever experienced in a test environment. Isn't
 12 that correct?

Page 134:15 to 134:22

00134:15 A. It could be inferred, yes.
 16 Q. (By Ms. King) And so you validated your
 17 model to this equation, which is not designed to
 18 calculate an average required shear force for an
 19 average drill pipe, but you validated your model,
 20 instead, to this equation, which is designed to
 21 calculate the maximum ever recorded shear force.
 22 Isn't that correct, Dr. Richardson?

Page 134:25 to 136:09

00134:25 A. That is not correct. Our model simply
00135:01 computes the total shear force that's on the BSR
02 blades during the cutting process. And the
03 resulting shear stress is inferred from the
04 cross-sectional area of the piston that's
05 charging that shear stress.
06 Now, what Cameron has done, and providing
07 within this document, and they provide a range to
08 cut a pipe that has variability and stiffness.
09 And for any material, there's always going to be
10 a three sigma scatter on the potential strength
11 of the material, stiffness of the material, the
12 thicknesses of the API spec. API might -- they
13 might classify a particular pipe as a certain
14 spec, but there's plus or minuses involved.
15 Okay?
16 Now, what Cameron has provided is the
17 range for the max shearing pressure for a
18 selected number of pipes. I won't know how much
19 pipes they have -- they've actually cut, but this
20 is the information they have to this point in
21 time.
22 Our numbers in the FEA model are based on
23 cutting through a nominal specification at the
24 API.
25 Now, in terms of validating that, our
00136:01 number, we directly point to a cited reference,
02 but that number to cut the pipe is clearly within
03 the range as specified by Cameron as the max
04 pressure to cut the pipe.
05 Q. (By Ms. King) Your number was, in fact,
06 above the Cameron-calculated maximum shear
07 pressure, was it not, Dr. Richardson?
08 A. And if -- if -- let -- let me
09 double-check.

Page 136:11 to 137:09

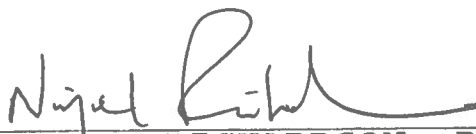
00136:11 It's 3105, and Cameron said 3540.
12 Q. Cameron said 3,008, according to your
13 calculation, correct?
14 A. That 3,008 is based on one unique value.
15 Q. Right. On Page 10 of 10, they're just
16 giving an example for a different spec of pipe.
17 A. M-h'm.
18 Q. That's not what they're giving as, you
19 know, their -- that's not what they're giving as
20 a number that would apply to your drill pipe.
21 Isn't that --
22 A. M-h'm.
23 Q. -- correct, Dr. Richardson? This example
24 is for a different kind of drill pipe. I'm
25 talking about you using the formula on Page 4 --
00137:01 A. M-h'm.

02 Q. -- applying the specifications for the
03 DEEPWATER HORIZON drill pipe --
04 A. M-h'm.
05 Q. -- and reaching the answer of 3,008 psi.
06 Cameron has said that this equation is
07 designed to calculate the maximum shear pressure,
08 based on their test -- tests that they have run.
09 Isn't that correct?

Page 137:11 to 137:18

00137:11 A. Based on what's referenced in the
12 document, yes.
13 Q. (By Ms. King) And the number that you
14 found for shear pressure was, in fact, above what
15 Cameron has described as the maximum shear
16 pressure observed in a test environment. Isn't
17 that correct?
18 A. 3 percent higher, correct.

1
2 I, NIGEL RICHARDSON, PH.D., have read the
3 foregoing deposition and hereby affix my
4 signature that same is true and correct, except
5 as noted on the attached Amendment Sheet.

6
7 

8
9
10 NIGEL RICHARDSON, PH.D.

11
12 THE STATE OF TEXAS)
13 COUNTY OF HARRIS)

14 Before me, _____, on
15 this day personally appeared NIGEL RICHARDSON,
16 PH.D., known to me (or proved to me under oath or
17 through _____) to be the
18 person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing
19 instrument and acknowledged to me that they
20 executed the same for the purposes and
21 consideration therein expressed.

22 Given under my hand and seal of office this
23 _____ day of _____, 2013.

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