

## **Stability of Underwater Pipelines and of the Surrounding Sea Bed**

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### **Abstract**

The present paper examines the aspects of the pipeline' s and surrounding bottom' s stability not only in the light of theory and of the latest studies on the bottom movements, but also in relation to design, construction and maintenance problems that may derive to the sealines from the marine environmental characteristics. It also stresses the need for a better characterization of the marine parameters, through well-aimed surveys or through an attentive evaluation of the available statistical data, and enforces the opportunity of a multi-disciplinary approach to the sealine design.

The paper intends to give to the marine engineers some hints for a safer sealine design, in order to decrease the risks to the line itself and to the surrounding environment, by covering an essential section of the sealine technology i.e. the "Stability".

We take the occasion just to mention the more ambitious and complete program of establishing design, construction and monitoring guidelines, at present under development through the combined efforts of TECHWARE' s "Sea Outfall Specialist Group" and of other international partners and for which it is expected to receive contributions from all interested organizations.