

AFRICA OIL+GAS REPORT · OFFSHORE

Azule Energy Awards Saipem \$1 Billion T&I Contract for Angola's Greater PAJ Project

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Azule Energy has awarded Italian contractor Saipem a contract valued at approximately \$1 billion for transportation and installation (T&I) services related to the Greater PAJ Project offshore Angola. The award marks a significant commitment to advancing one of Angola's major offshore development programs and signals continued operator confidence in large-scale capital expenditure in the country's upstream sector.

The Greater PAJ Project represents a substantial offshore development effort by Azule Energy, the joint venture between bp and Eni that operates as Angola's largest oil producer. T&I scopes of this scale typically encompass the marine transport and seabed installation of subsea infrastructure such as pipelines, risers, umbilicals, and associated hardware — though the article does not specify the precise scope breakdown. Saipem, with its established heavy-lift and pipelay vessel fleet, was selected to execute this work.

The contract value places this among the larger single offshore service awards seen in Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years, reflecting both the technical complexity of the Greater PAJ development and Angola's continued role as a premier deepwater destination on the continent. Angola has sustained operator and contractor activity even as other regional markets have experienced slower final investment decision timelines, and awards of this size reinforce the country's position as a high-priority market for international service companies.

For Norwegian oil and gas service companies monitoring Sub-Saharan Africa, this award is a concrete signal that the Angolan offshore project pipeline is converting

from planning into active execution. Major T&I contracts of this nature trigger parallel procurement activity across multiple service categories — from subsea engineering and inspection, repair and maintenance (IRM) services, to drilling support, logistics, and specialist well services. Companies that have not already established relationships with Azule Energy or its primary contractors should treat this award as a market timing indicator.

The scale of the Saipem engagement also suggests that subcontracting and specialist vendor opportunities will emerge as project execution progresses. Norwegian subsea technology providers, ROV operators, and pipeline integrity specialists in particular should monitor procurement activity flowing from this contract. Angola's regulatory and local content framework, administered through Sonangol and sector regulator ANPG, means that companies with existing in-country presence or established local partnerships will be better positioned to capture secondary contract flow from a project of this magnitude.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies should treat this \$1 billion T&I award as a market entry or expansion trigger for Angola, where Azule Energy is now moving a major project into active execution. Subcontracting opportunities in subsea engineering, IRM, ROV services, and specialist well services are likely to follow. Companies with existing Angolan presence or Saipem relationships are best positioned to engage immediately; others should begin mapping local partnership options now.



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- **Subsea/FPSO:** Norwegian subsea technology and umbilical system suppliers should engage Saipem's procurement team early, as large T&I contracts of this scope typically

generate significant subcontract flow for specialist subsea components and installation support.

- **Drilling:** As Greater PAJ moves into installation phase, associated drilling campaigns and well intervention scopes are likely to be tendered — Norwegian drilling contractors and well services companies should monitor Azule Energy's upcoming procurement schedule.
- **Service:** ROV operators and IRM specialists should position now, as subsea infrastructure installation at this scale requires concurrent inspection and intervention support throughout the execution phase.
- **Pipeline:** Norwegian pipeline integrity and coating technology providers may find vendor qualification opportunities through Saipem's supply chain for the Greater PAJ T&I scope.
- **LNG:** While this award is focused on oil infrastructure, Azule Energy's broader Angola portfolio warrants monitoring for any associated gas handling or export infrastructure requirements that could emerge as the project develops.

[Original source: Africa Oil+Gas Report →](#)

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