We start by carrying out a life extension study to identify the current status of the installation, the effectiveness of the integrity management systems, the potential issues in maintaining integrity and reliability over the intended operating life and the required expenditure going forward. We then help to plan and implement the engineering, systematic and procedural changes required to optimise future integrity and expenditure. The life extension study provides:

- An overview of deterioration modes and status
- An independent detailed assessment of installation life and the opportunities for improvement
- Detailed equipment life cycle actions, timings and costs (tailored to business strategy and needs)
- The basis for ongoing installation life planning

Our process studies equipment condition, systems, practices, competencies and skills. We can study all of the assets on an installation or particular types of assets causing particular concern e.g. electrical systems, structures, pipework etc.

The approach:

- Reviews key problem areas
- Determines equipment lives based upon deterioration mechanisms
- Provides a profile of overall future costs
- Considers how remedial actions can most effectively be carried out

We support the implementation of improvements to equipment, systems and people in a number of ways:

- Programme management - controlling progress, quality and cost of action completion
- Specialist technical engineering
- Obsolescence management
- Training and competency development
- Improving existing systems and procedures or tailoring ABB available procedures
Our studies are tailored to meet your business’s needs. They require initial discussions with production and engineering personnel, followed by a further period of data collection, analysis and evaluation depending on scope. The overall program for these studies is typically 6 months.

The asset life assessment follows ABB’s pRIME philosophy. pRIME (process Reliability and Integrity Management Excellence) is about the asset and integrity management improvement journey. It identifies the symptoms, diagnosing the issues, and implementing improvement/treatment.

The pRIME approach is a consultancy programme supported by tried, tested, consistent and coherent methodologies and capability. Following pRIME means a beneficial, cost effective sustainable solution. All processes are risk based, ensuring that effort is concentrated on areas that will give the highest return. This approach is supported by a coherent set of IT tools (pRIME Toolkit), which provide a consistent and efficient approach.

Benefits
- Stakeholder and JV partner confidence in continued safe and reliable operation
- Investment recommendations - future CAPEX and OPEX requirements
- ABB not only help implement the action plans but also impart knowledge through knowledge transfer agreements and may deliver software for ongoing use by the client
- The value of production protected against equipment failures can be many £m

Why ABB?
- Track record of delivering asset life extension studies for exploration and production companies in highly regulated sectors
- Pragmatic solutions - developed to work in a production environment
- We consider how remedial actions can most effectively be implemented
- Each equipment type is studied by an appropriate specialist, supported by other functional specialists and bespoke software
- ABB have conducted over 100 multi-functional studies in many parts of the world and in different industries