Solitaire is one of the largest pipelay vessels in the world and has set new standards in pipelay capability. The shape and length of the vessel provides outstanding workability and she has a pipe carrying capacity of around 22,000 tonnes (48.4 million lb), making her largely independent of offshore pipe supply in hostile areas.

Her precise manoeuvring and full dynamic positioning capability allows her to work in congested areas, while a high cruising speed and lay rate makes her competitive worldwide.

Solitaire has been designed to lay large pipes with a diameter of up to 1.5m (60 in), at speeds of around 4-8 km (2.5-5.0 mi) a day. The vessel can lay large diameter lines at unprecedented water depths, but is also able to lay smaller diameter pipelines economically. In 2007, she set the world record for ultra-deepwater pipeline installation, laying pipe to a depth of 2,775 m (9,100 ft).