

The BarrelBridge Due Diligence Framework

How We Vet Every Oil & Gas Deal

A structured six-domain assessment process built from direct casework in physical oil and gas brokerage — designed to protect legitimate buyers and sellers from fraud, wasted time, and non-performing counterparties.

40+

Fraud vectors
documented

6

Assessment
domains

4

Live cases
assessed

48h

Assessment
turnaround

Why Due Diligence Matters in Oil & Gas

⚠ THE PROBLEM

The physical oil market is flooded with fraud

Advance fee schemes, fabricated allocations, ghost companies, and inflated credentials are endemic in oil and gas brokerage. Most buyers and sellers lack the tools to tell real from fake before significant time and money is lost.

✓ THE BARRELBRIDGE APPROACH

Every deal assessed before introductions are made

BarrelBridge runs a structured six-domain assessment on every submission — buyer and seller — before any introduction is made. Our clients never meet a counterparty we haven't already vetted.



Our commitment to clients

"We charge no upfront fees. We run every assessment in-house. And we put our findings in writing — every time. If a deal doesn't pass our framework, it doesn't get introduced."

The Six Domains

Every submission is assessed across six domains. Each is scored 1–10 and weighted into a composite BarrelBridge DD Score.

1

Entity Legitimacy

Corporate registration, active status, incorporation date vs. claimed tenure, cross-jurisdictional consistency.

2

Principal Verification

Passport verification, LinkedIn corroboration, academic credentials, beneficial ownership, undisclosed directors.

3

Document Authenticity

FCO/SCO formatting, LOI and NCNDA language, bank instrument compliance, document chain consistency.

4

Financial Credibility

Tax filings, revenue vs. deal size, proof of product, proof of funds, bank standing verification.

5

Operational Coherence

Business activities vs. stated operations, physical office verification, supply chain documentation, subsidiary review.

6

Fraud Vector Analysis

Advance fee indicators, document laundering, credential inflation, jurisdiction shopping, intermediary chain analysis.

Domains 1 & 2 — The Foundation

1 Entity Legitimacy

WHAT WE VERIFY

- Corporate registration — active or lapsed?
- Incorporation date vs. claimed operating history
- Registered agent and address on file
- Subsidiaries and branch offices — do they exist?
- Cross-border registration consistency

⚠ FROM THE CASEBOOK

Entity with Florida fees lapsed since Dec 2023, Hong Kong registration expired Jul 2025, RAKEZ entity only 18 months old — all presented as an established international holding group.

2 Principal Verification

WHAT WE VERIFY

- Passport — valid, matching name, verifiable country
- LinkedIn and professional history
- Academic credentials — institution legitimacy
- Beneficial ownership — does signatory control entity?
- Undisclosed directors in filing documents

⚠ FROM THE CASEBOOK

PhD credential listed "York University, United States of America." York University is in Canada. Diploma mill formatting confirmed. Director of record was a different individual — not the presenting principal.

Domains 3 & 4 — The Paper Trail

3 Document Authenticity

WHAT WE VERIFY

- FCO/SCO formatting and terminology
- LOI and NCNDA language — standard clauses
- Bank instrument SWIFT compliance
- Product specification consistency
- Document chain coherence — same parties throughout

⚠ FROM THE CASEBOOK

"Dip and sign" clauses requiring buyer presence before inspection. Advance fee procedures embedded in SCO. FOB terms contradicting stated CIF pricing in the same document.

4 Financial Credibility

WHAT WE VERIFY

- Tax filings — revenue proportionate to deal size
- Proof of product — tank receipts, injection reports
- Proof of funds — MT799/MT760 readiness
- Prior transaction references — contactable parties
- Bank standing — real, SWIFT-registered institution

⚠ FROM THE CASEBOOK

Turkish tax records showing ~\$50K USD annual revenue while claiming a billion-dollar petroleum allocation. "Soft probe" bank procedures not recognized by any compliant financial institution.

Domains 5 & 6 — Operations & Fraud

5 Operational Coherence

WHAT WE VERIFY

- Business activities on file vs. stated operations
- Physical offices — verifiable vs. mail-drop
- Staff capacity proportionate to deal size
- Supply chain documentation — terminals, vessels
- Subsidiary business lines — petroleum-consistent?

△ FROM THE CASEBOOK

Subsidiaries in airport meet-and-assist, education, and tourism. "Branch offices" in multiple continents with no verifiable staff or address. No petroleum supply chain documentation on file.

6 Fraud Vector Analysis

COMMON ARCHETYPES WE FLAG

- **Advance Fee Petroleum Fraud** — fees before product ships
- **Document Laundering** — real docs, fake allocations
- **Credential Inflation** — fabricated degrees and titles
- **Jurisdiction Shopping** — loose regulatory environments
- **Intermediary Chains** — multiple fee-adding layers

△ FROM THE CASEBOOK

Single case with 17 simultaneous fraud vectors across all six domains. Score: 1.8/10. Rejected immediately. All vectors documented in writing and delivered to client.

The Scoring System

Each domain is scored 1–10 and weighted into a composite BarrelBridge DD Score.

DOMAIN WEIGHTS

Entity Legitimacy	20%
Principal Verification	20%
Document Authenticity	20%
Financial Credibility	15%
Operational Coherence	15%
Fraud Vector Analysis	10%

SCORE OUTCOMES

9.0 – 10.0	✓ Proceed to LOI Strong submission. Introduction approved.
7.5 – 8.9	⚡ Conditional Acceptable with clarifications requested.
6.0 – 7.4	⏸ On Hold Significant gaps. Pending document remediation.
Below 6.0	✗ Rejected Does not meet BarrelBridge standards.

LIVE CASE SCORES

NexGulf Energy: **9.2/10** ✓

Vtorovo LLC: **9.7/10** ✓

Euro Nordic Diamond: **3.1/10** ✗

SierraTurks Intl: **1.8/10** ✗

What a Passing Submission Looks Like

A deal that passes BarrelBridge due diligence typically includes all of the following:

✓ Active corporate registration with verifiable filing history

✓ Passport-verified principal with traceable industry background

✓ FCO/SCO in standard industry language — no advance fee clauses

✓ Tax records or financials proportionate to the deal size

✓ Verifiable proof of product — tank receipts, injection reports, Q88

✓ Bank-confirmed POF or credible financial references

✓ Business activities consistent with petroleum operations

✓ Contactable prior transaction references

✓ Transparent intermediary disclosure where applicable

✓ Willingness to engage directly with BarrelBridge verification questions

B

Ready to Submit a Legitimate Deal?

BarrelBridge assesses every submission using this framework — at no upfront cost to you. If your deal passes, we make the introduction. If it doesn't, we tell you exactly why in writing.

Submit Your Deal

petrobarrelbridge.com/submit-deal

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48–72 hour assessment turnaround