

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRILLING CONTRACTORS



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IADC Future Technology Subcommittee Meeting
IADC Advanced Rig Technology Committee
2:30 pm, Thursday, 14 January 2010
IADC – Houston, TX

Attendance:

Don Shafer, Athens Group
Brad Rosenhagen, AWC Inc.
Charles Griffith, Caterpillar, Inc.
Ryan Roudebush, Caterpillar, Inc.
Leesa Teel, IADC
Ted Redmond, McCoy Corporation
Frank Springett, National Oilwell Varco
Hugo Valdez, Pride International
Dustin Torkay, Seawell Americas
Wayne Cantrell, Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc.
Rolf Gullaksen, TTS Sense

Minutes:

1. Paper 128953 to be presented at SPE/IADC conference

The paper, presenting the past and current work of the ART-FT subcommittee, has been submitted to SPE/IADC. Frank Springett is finalizing the PowerPoint presentation. It will follow the outline of the paper: (1) a historical look at the success of the Top Drive, the mixed prospects for Managed Pressure Drilling, and the commercial failure of the Safety Brick; (2) a summary of ART-FT's work in support of SPE's DSATS committee; (3) presentation of the results of the survey. After discussion, the committee decided it would be worthwhile to present proposed future work for the committee, namely the Advanced Rig Technology conference on August 18, and proposed subsequent workshops wherein technology needs identified in the survey were addressed by presenters who could supply or develop technology to meet those needs (see item 3 below).

2. Proposal for Technology Commercialization Workshop

Keith proposed a topic and meeting format for a future workshop that could advance the mission of the ART-FT. The workshop would present and critique various mechanisms which have been used to advance technology. Examples are:

1. The JIP (notably Deepstar and Dual Density drilling)
2. The Technology Venture (notably Shell and its expandables, MPD, and swellable packer spin-off companies)
3. The "Varco" approach ("sell the prototype")
4. The University method (such as Stefan Miska's program at the University of Tulsa)

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5. In-house development (Statoil-Hydro (multilaterals, pipe racking automation), Schlumberger or a drilling contractor like Transocean or Maersk)

Presenters would be invited for the topics above. These key people are known personally by either David Reid or Keith. There is enough meat to support a 2-day workshop, although it could be streamlined to fit into an extended round table session at a conference.

After discussion and workshop format guidance from Leesa Teel, the committee decided to develop the topic during a 3 to 3-1/2 hour round table to be held at the August 18 Rig Technology Conference. Keith is to contact David Reid to identify and contact key presenters to see if they would be available and interested.

Dustin and Rolf noted that another topic of interest would be the identification of barriers to technology adoption, such as culture and technology resistance. Keith noted that this topic has been discussed in conferences and workshops before, but Dustin noted that the new generation of engineers may not be aware of these discussions. Don Shafer also noted an industry reluctance for equipment suppliers and their customers to cooperate on technology standards that would facilitate the use of plug-and-play, multi-vendor equipment as was done in the semi-conductor industry.

It was agreed that a discussion of these topics would also make a good contribution to either the upcoming conference or a future conference. It could either be in the form of a round table or presentation of papers.

Leesa asked if she should send out a request for abstracts for the conference, and, although the exact format of the conference has not been finalized, Frank asked Leesa to do so. Leesa said that it is also good advertising for the conference even if no abstracts are ultimately used.

3. Future Work

Frank asked the committee what future projects the committee could execute to further its mission. Dustin proposed have workshops which take a technology need as identified in the survey, then invited presenters to address the issue who either have technology to address the issue, or who would be willing to develop such technology, or who might have important insights on the problem. The committee agreed this would be a great way to continue to advance the mission of ART-FT.

4. Other

Frank re-iterated the need to get active operator participation on the committee. Committee members were urged to recruit operators.

5. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.