

# DRILLING CONTRACTOR

## PEOPLE & COMPANIES



Kaman's heavy-lift helicopter K-MAX features 2 separate forward rotors, which eliminates the need for a tail rotor. The 'aerial truck' showed its stuff at the '99 OTC, making flights around the Houston Astrodomain parking lot while carrying as much as 5,500 lb of equipment.

### K-MAX: Giving drilling a 'lift'.

Helicopter manufacturer **Kaman Aerospace** demonstrated its K-Max helicopter at the '99 Offshore Technology Conference. The chopper is specially designed for heavy lifting, with a range of 150 nautical miles while carrying a payload of more than 5,280 lb. The unit has lifted equipment weighing up to 2.2 tons to an altitude of 12,600 ft. K-MAX's narrow profile gives the pilot an unobstructed view of the load from each side of the helicopter.

## PRODUCTS

**Drill pipe hardbanding.** **ICO** now offers a new hardbanding product. SmoothAlloy was specifically formulated, says **ICO**, to reduce casing wear by as much as 80%, compared to tungsten carbide hardfacings, and extend the life of drillpipe tool joints. Art Lowry or Lloyd Charpentier; 281-721-4200.

**Rotary steerable system.** **Schlumberger's** new PowerDrive steerable rotary drilling system provides the capability to continuously rotate the drillstring, while steering, producing a faster, more controllable drilling system that results in a smoother, cleaner and longer wellbore, the company says. Schlumberger, 225 Schlumberger Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77478; 281-285-4270.

**Training software.** The Computer Rig Floor Simulator (CRS) marketed by **CS Inc** is a Wellware product for self-paced learning in well control, drilling and workover and, the company says, is also ideal for a training network via the Internet. W R Butler, 4208 Balloon Park Rd, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-5802; 505-344-3560; fax, 505-344-3590; csinc@swcp.com. ■

**Nabors announces promotions.** **Larry P Heidt** was recently promoted to President/COO of **Nabors Drilling USA**. He had previously served as the firm's Executive Vice President/COO. **Joe Hudson**, Vice President/General Manager-Southwest Division, will also oversee Nabors' Western Division. **Jimmy Stroud** is the new Vice President/General Manager-Southern Division. **Robert Wilder** was appointed Vice President-Sales, and **Randy Clark** was named Vice President-Business Development.



Larry P Heidt



Paul B Loyd Jr

**T H Hill/Prentice form new venture.** **T H Hill Associates Inc**, and **Prentice Training Co** have formed a new company, **Prentice & Hill**. The new firm will develop new training materials and courses covering the spectrum of drilling engineering, with a practical focus on teaching how to drill deeper cheaper, and how to drill the most challenging wells safely and with minimal failures.

### FirstWave/Newpark work on rigs.

**First Wave/Newpark Shipbuilding** recently modified **Global Marine's** Glomar Arctic I during drilling operations to increase riser storage deck capacity. **FirstWave/Newpark** also won a contract to fabricate, assemble and install new mat sections for **Rio Grande Supply's** jackup Phoenix VI.



**Drilling Systems** recently opened a Houston office: One of the company's simulators is shown above. Inset shows a sample of its 3-d graphics.

**Drilling Systems UK opens Houston office.** **Drilling Systems UK** recently opened a service, marketing and project-management office in Houston. **Stefan Heller** has been named General Manager for the office. **Drilling Systems** develops training simulators for a variety of oilfield applications, including well control, drilling operations, pipe handling, coiled tubing, cementing, underbalanced drilling and more. To reach the new office, call 1/281-257-9588 or e-mail sdh@drillingsystems.com.

### R&B Falcon names officers.

**R&B Falcon** recently elected officers: **Paul B Loyd Jr**, Chairman/CEO; **Andrew Bakonyi**, President/COO; **Tim W Nagle**, Executive Vice President/CFO; **Bernie Stewart**, Senior Vice President, Operations-Shallow Water and Transition Zone Division; **Ron Toufeeq**, Senior Vice President, Operations-International and Deepwater Division; **Wayne K Hillin**, Senior Vice President/General Counsel; **Charles R Ofner**, Senior Vice President-Business Development and Investor Relations.

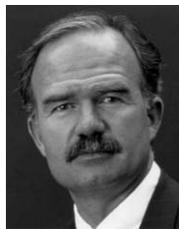
### Rose is Global Marine Chairman.

**Robert E Rose**, President/CEO of **Global Marine Inc**, is succeeding **C Russell Luigs** as Chairman of the Board.

### Friede Goldman, Halter Marine merge.

**Friede Goldman International** and **Halter Marine Group** plan to merge. The combined company, **Friede Goldman Halter Inc**, will be headquartered in Gulfport, Miss. **J L Holloway** will serve as Chairman/CEO. The merger is expected to close in the fall of 1999. ■

## Global Marine's Jack Ryan passes away



Jack Ryan

**THE DRILLING INDUSTRY** lost one of its finest leaders with the death of **John G "Jack" Ryan**, formerly Director and President of **Global Marine Inc**. Mr Ryan, who died after a courageous battle with cancer, had also served as Chairman/CEO of **Global Marine Drilling Co**. Mr Ryan was born 26 Aug, 1952 in Lowell, Mass, the oldest of 10 children of **Pauline Tyrrell Ryan** of Windham, N H, who survives him. After graduating from **Groton School** in Groton in 1971, he received his BA Degree from **Yale University** in 1975. Mr Ryan received a JD degree in 1980 from **Boston University**, where he was an editor of the Law Review. Mr Ryan practiced law before joining **Global Marine** in 1982 as Assistant General Counsel. Mr Ryan was named President of **Global Marine** in 1997. He was a chief architect of the strategies that brought **Global Marine** through the severe offshore drilling downturn of the 1980s. He was also largely responsible for every major initiative undertaken by **Global Marine** as the industry recovered, notably the company's return to deepwater drilling. Jack is survived by his wife, **Mary L Ryan**, and their 3 children, **Caroline**, **Megan** and **J Connor**, as well as 9 brothers and sisters and numerous nieces and nephews. ■

## PEOPLE & COMPANIES

**Seegmiller elected to Cabot Board.** Ray R Seegmiller, currently President and Chief Executive officer of Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, was recently elected to the Board of Directors. Mr Seegmiller succeeds Charles P Siess, Jr, who will remain a member of the Board of Directors.

**Tsubaki approved for API license.** The Roller Chain Division of US Tsubaki Inc is now licensed by the American Petroleum Institute (API) to imprint the API monogram on roller chain products and packaging and to display it in advertising. This widely recognized logo "identifies manufacturers of quality equipment."

**Bob Wagner joins Arthur Andersen.** Robert D Wagner Jr brings his 25 years of oil and gas finance experience to the Global Energy Corporate Finance Group of Arthur Andersen. Mr Wagner was most recently a Partner of M2Capital Partners and Managing Director of Bankers Trust.

**Deutag wins 14-rig BP Amoco contract.** Aberdeen based Deutag has confirmed an award from BP Amoco for platform drilling and maintenance services for all 14 of their platform-based rigs in the North Sea, tripling Deutag's current platform drilling business with BP Amoco. Current planning suggests that the contract will employ 3 crews on a continual basis with the possibility of deploying a fourth crew currently being assessed.

**Schlumberger integrates Camco into Anadrill.** The management of the Drilling & Service Engineering, Manufacturing and Operations of the Camco Drilling Group has been integrated into Anadrill, Schlumberger announced, to ensure special focus on the new PowerDrive steerable rotary drilling system. This will provide clients with a comprehensive set of services, from simple directional control through to integration with formation evaluation for complex geosteering, according to Saad Bargach, President of Anadrill.

**Tech Power breaks ground.** Tech Power Controls Co has broken ground for a new manufacturing facility adjacent to its headquarters in Southwest Houston, doubling its total manufacturing assembly area. Completion is expected in August '99. According to Jasbir Dhindsa, founder and President, the new building will "promote overall efficiency and productivity, increase the service level to the maritime segment, and provide additional capacity to serve the forthcoming recovery of the energy markets."

**Anderson added to RSTS mgmt team.** Greg Anderson, formerly Senior Vice President, Operations, with Universal Services, has signed on with Randy Smith Training Schools as Operations Manager. He will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of RSTS around the world.

**Global Marine & RSTS FOCUS on safety.** Global Marine's commitment to safety continues with a 3-day course specifically developed with Randy Smith Training Schools to improve safety as a company-wide effort for all personnel in Global's worldwide fleet, including upper rig management. The Safety FOCUS (Field Observation Continuously Upgrading Safety) Training course will be offered to the industry after completion by Global's personnel.

**FirstWave/Newpark at work on Glomar Arctic I & Phoenix VI.** First Wave/Newpark Shipbuilding recently completed offsite modifications to increase riser storage deck capacity on Global Marine Drilling Company's Glomar Arctic I while drilling operations progressed normally. FirstWave/Newpark was also awarded a contract for the fabrication, assembly and installation of new mat sections for Rio Grande Supply Company's jackup Phoenix VI.

**BP Amoco hires Putilov as Sidanko rep.** Alexander Putilov, former President of Rosneft, Russia's state oil company, was hired by BP Amoco to represent their interests in Russian oil producer Sidanko. BP Amoco owns 10% of Sidanko, Russia's 5th largest oil company, currently restructuring to release the company from bankruptcy proceedings.

**Benton appointed Marine Drilling VP.** Bobby E Benton, recently Vice President of International Operations of Diamond Offshore Drilling, has joined Marine Drilling Companies Inc as Vice President of Marketing and Sales. Mr Benton will be responsible for worldwide sales and marketing strategies.

**Jagson achieves highest meterage.** Jagson International's Deepsea Matdrill, deployed in the Bombay High Field, was rated best offshore rig working in Indian waters, in recognition of excellent performance for achieving highest meterage of the Year 1998-99 for exploratory drilling.

**Friede Goldman & Halter Marine to merge.** Friede Goldman International and Halter Marine Group have signed a "merger of equals" agreement under which each Halter share will be exchanged for 0.4614 of a share of Friede Goldman. The combined company, Friede Goldman Halter Inc, will be headquartered in Gulfport, Miss. Officers are J L Holloway, Chairman

## PEOPLE & COMPANIES

and Chief Executive Officer; John Dane III, Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating officer; Rick S Rees, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; John F Alford, Executive Vice President. The merger, expected to close in the fall of 1999, is subject to customary closing conditions.

### **Fischer joins Tesco as COO. Mark**

**Fischer** recently joined Tesco Corporation as Chief Operating Officer, bringing more than 24 years of international experience in the oil and gas service industry. Mr Fischer, reporting to President and Chief Executive Officer **Robert M Tessari**, is responsible for management of all the company's operating divisions and subsidiaries.

**Balanced elliptical motion shaker. Swaco**, in conjunction with **Sweco**, introduced their Balanced Elliptical Motion Shaker (BEM-3) for separation of drilling fluids from drill cuttings. In an exclusive agreement, Swaco will provide Sweco's proprietary shakers to the oilfield markets. The BEM-3 utilizes patented Sweco technology to produce balanced elliptical vibratory motion, a gentler rolling motion, which Swaco literature says results in maximum recovery of valuable drilling fluids, cleaner drier cuttings and resulting minimization of drilling waste, higher screen capacity, longer screen life, reduced downstream equipment wear and lower capital expenditures. Larry Barker, Sr Vice President; 713/308-9426.

**Frac system for extreme-rate, ceramic proppants.** Baker Oil Tools says its CK-250 Frac system is designed specifically to optimize pump rate and volume capabilities and debris tolerance associated with ceramic proppant fracturing while minimizing risks of sticking and casing erosion. The system has been tested successfully in over 40 completion applications worldwide, the company says, with pump rates up to 40 barrels per minute at 325,000 lbs of proppant. Company literature points to several features which contribute to the ruggedness and high performance of the CK-250 Frac system: shortened completion hook-up and a floating seal system with fewer exposed seals minimize sticking during the evacuation/reversing phase of frac-packing operations; the SMART Collet, the Flapper Anti-Swabbing Tool and a special blast liner. 654 N Sam Houston Pkwy E, Suite 400, Houston, Texas 77060-5919; 713/625-6600; fax, 281/209-5600.

**Magnum gate valve for extreme depths.** **Worldwide Oilfield Machine Inc (WOM)** reports that its Magnum 3 1/16 in. subsea gate valve with a unique sealing mechanism and subsea actuator has successfully met and exceeded the rigid requirements of API 17D—Specification for Subsea Wellhead and Christmas Tree Equipment. WOM says its patented Magnum gate valve passed the full criteria and cycle testing at 8,203 ft (2,500 m), 10,000 ft, and 11,000 ft, and then performed an additional 4,500 cycle test, witnessed and documented by DNV. The manufacturer believes that this is the only valve and actuator to be successfully tested at this extreme depth. The valves are available in sizes 1 13/16 in. through 7 3/8 in. with working pressures from 2,000 to 20,000 psi and operating temperatures in the -50° through 450° F range. 11809 Canemont, Houston, Texas 77035; 713/729-9200; fax, 713/729-7321; www.womusa.com.

**Compact portable simulator.** The UltraLight simulator, Model DPWS-22UL, weighs in at about 40 lbs and travels in a standard flight carry-on bag for easy in-and-out of airports, foreign locations and rig site training. It also includes drilling and workover, surface and subsea BOP, line up manifolds, Tree and BOP with interactive displays of rig equipment, says CS Inc. W R Butler, 4208 Balloon Park Rd, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-5802; 505-344-3560; fax, 505-344-3590; csinc@swcp.com.

**In-situ waste disposal. Oiltools (Europe) Ltd**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Oiltools**

## PEOPLE & COMPANIES

**International Ltd.**, designed, manufactured, installed and operated Drilled Cuttings Injection (DCI) systems in 1977 for a North Sea operator. Oiltools International offers a case history report covering the successful operation of the first DCI system after the first 3-well, 5-section phase of a planned multi-well operation and highlights the operational costs and parameters of the injection process. The company reports zero equipment downtime for this phase, costs consistent with similar DCI projects, no unplanned overboard discharge of drilling waste, and says that DCI remains the only in-situ solution to drilled cuttings disposal for an offshore platform. Tony Wilkinson, **Oiltools Inc.**, 16630 Imperial Valley Drive, Suite 118, Houston, Texas 77060-3410; 1-281-260-0300; fax, 1-281-260-0311; sales@oiltools-amer.com.

**Ruffneck heater safety alert.** **Ruffneck Heaters** has launched a retrofit program involving approximately 11,000 XL4 hazardous location electric air heaters manufactured prior to March 5, 1999 and sold throughout Canada, mainland US, Alaska, and overseas. The retrofit also includes heaters manufactured under private label for Modine Manufacturing Company (HEX4 series), Crouse-Hinds (EXH4 series), Stelpro Heating (XUH series), and Ouellet Electrical Heating (OAX series). Since the XL4 heater's introduction in 1993, three rupture incidents have occurred. There were no injuries and property damage was minimal. It has been determined that XL4 heat-exchangers can develop internal gas pressure that may lead to an eventual rupture. Ruffneck has developed a retrofit to address this potential problem and is asking anyone who uses an XL4 heater, or its private label equivalent, to register with them immediately in order to receive details of the retrofit program. This can be done by a visit to their website at [www.rhretrofit.com](http://www.rhretrofit.com), or by phone at 1-403-291-5488; 1-800-661-8561 toll free in the US and Canada.

**Galley safety training videos.** **Moxie Media Inc.** announces a new set of training videos for the maritime industry which the company says is designed to educate galley personnel in preventing injuries in the meal preparation process and on maintaining a contaminate-free environment to eliminate the risk of food-borne illnesses. The videos feature world-renowned **Chef Paul Prudhomme**, an offshore cook early in his career, and are shot onboard working vessels. The 2-video set sells for \$300 and includes a written training manual with illustrations and test questions. Discounts

are available for multiple purchases. PO Box 10203, New Orleans, Louisiana 70181; 1-800-346-6943 USA; 504-733-6907; [swebb@moxie-media.com](mailto:swebb@moxie-media.com).

**New 2 7/8-in. OD MWD system.** Aberdeen-based **Geolink (UK) Ltd** now offers their new Ultra-Lite 2 7/8-in. OD MWD system designed, the company says, to provide efficient, cable free, steering and logging for both jointed pipe and coiled tubing applications; re-entry drilling from existing well bores without the need for cutting and pulling of 4 1/2-in. casings; and considerable savings in rig time and repairs. The new system is compatible with existing Orienteer equipment and can be purchased as an upgrade option or as a complete system. (44) 1224 7722222; fax, (44) 1224 7723333; e-mail, [sales@geolink.co.uk](mailto:sales@geolink.co.uk); [www.geolink.co.uk](http://www.geolink.co.uk).

**Free subsurface safety valve brochure.** **Baker Oil Tools** offers a free 12-page, 4-color brochure describing the function, operation, features and benefits of their Select Tubing Retrievable Surface Controlled Subsurface Safety Valve. Features noted by Baker in the brochure are their through-the-flapper, metal-to-metal self-equalizing system and advanced wireline damage-resistant flapper design. 654 N Sam Houston Pkwy E, Suite 400, Houston, Texas 77060-5919; 713/625-6600.