Deutag retires record-setting Wytch Farm rig

**DEUTAG IN JANUARY**

demobilized its rig T-47, which has for 7 years been setting landmark extended-reach drilling records at BP Amoco’s celebrated Wytch Farm field in southern England. To recognize the rig’s accomplishments, which include drilling 100 miles of hole during the bold ERD project, Deutag Operations Manager John Gammage presented IADC with a framed photo of the rig, with scenic and environmentally sensitive Poole Harbour in the background. Ken Fischer, IADC Vice President-Operations, accepted the gift on IADC’s behalf. The presentation was made at the IADC Directors and General Membership Conference held in New Orleans during February 2000.

Well M-16, completed in July 1999, set and still holds the world record for horizontal stepout—more than 35,000 ft, Mr Gammage said. He added that, at a total measured depth of 37,000 ft, it is the longest producing oil and gas well ever drilled.

“None of this would have been possible without the close working relationship between the operator, BP Amoco, and all the contractors and service companies involved,” Mr Gammage remarked. “Praise must ultimately go to all those who worked on the site to actually deliver these fantastic results.”

**Global Marine puts Glomar C R Luigs to sea**

**GLOBAL MARINE INC** in March took delivery of the ultra-deepwater drillship Glomar C R Luigs from the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Designed for an ultimate drilling capability to well depths of 35,000 ft in water depths to 12,000 ft, Global Marine says. The 759-ft Glomar Jack Ryan, the Luigs’ sister ship, is currently undergoing construction at Harland and Wolff. The drillship is currently 77% complete, with delivery expected in the third quarter, according to Global Marine. It will then begin a 3-year contract for ExxonMobil, according to Global Marine.

The company estimates the combined net cost of the 2 new drillships at $730 million. The Luigs and the Ryan are the culmination of a $1.7 billion investment program begun in 1996 to expand Global Marine’s deepwater fleet, the company says.
Joe Hurt joins IADC as full-time Director-Land Operations

JOE HURT HAS joined IADC as Director-Land Operations, bringing to the Association a strong background in land drilling operations and HSE. Mr Hurt, who will serve full time in the position, will be responsible for the activities of the IADC Land Division, HSE Committee, including the IADC Accident Statistics Program, and the Drilling and Well Servicing Structures Task Force.

“I am very pleased that we were able to add Joe to our Operations Group,” remarked IADC Vice President-Operations Ken Fischer. “I know that he will be an important addition to our team and an asset to our land contractor members.”

Mr Hurt previously served at Noble Drilling Services as Health, Safety and Environmental Manager. He is not a desktop driller, though, having paid his dues on the rig floors from South Texas to Montana and working his way up from derrickman and driller.

Mr Hurt is a past Chairman and, previously, Vice Chairman-Land of the IADC Environmental Affairs Committee. He was also active in the Accident Prevention, Human Resources and Training Committees.

He is a veteran of many IADC regulatory battles, including implementation of the Clean Air Act by the US Environmental Protection Agency for land operations and the Texas coastal-zone management regulations that affected land drilling.

Mr Hurt holds a BS in Education from Dickinson State College.