Weatherford signs 3-year technology development agreement with Statoil, 5-year DPR intervention contract with Petrobras

WEATHERFORD International has signed a 3-year Technology Development Cooperation Agreement with Statoil ASA to develop new fiber optic-based sensing and communication systems to extend the life of oil and gas fields.

The agreement is part of the ongoing Statoil Subsea Increased Oil Recovery (SIOR) initiative, which aims to increase oil recovery and accelerate daily production rates.

The primary goal of the project is to provide and deliver reservoir, wellbore and subsea data to shore through an integrated fiber optic communications network. The companies will focus on the development of new downhole optical sensing systems and an integrated fiber optic subsea communications system. The agreement also calls for field-testing in existing Statoil “brown field” and new “green field” assets. Statoil will identify and execute pilots on the Norwegian continental shelf, where new technologies will be tested and deployed.

Additionally, Weatherford recently announced that its Brazilian operations based in Rio de Janeiro has been awarded a 5-year contract worth approximately $87 million by Petroleo Brasileiro SA (Petrobras).

Weatherford will provide drill pipe riser (DPR) intervention systems and services to be used for installation and intervention in subsea wells within the Espirito Santos Basin. The company currently has 4 DPR systems under contract to Petrobras.

WRCA forms joint venture with China’s 3rd-largest steel producer

WIRE ROPE Corporation of America (WRCA) has formed a joint venture with the Wuhan Iron and Steel Corp (WISCO), China’s 3rd-largest steel producer and the 15th-largest in the world. The joint venture will produce wire rope in China for Asian markets.

WISCO-WRCA will build a production facility in China that will be able to produce 50,000 MT of wire rope products. Total investment in the joint venture will be approximately $100 million.

Additionally, WRCA has announced the promotion of James W. Allaman to vice president of international sales. Mr. Allaman, who started at WRCA in 1974, will oversee all South American, Asian and European wire rope product sales.

WRCA recently also hired Blake Chandler as director of mining products. Mr. Chandler has degrees in international business and finance and has been involved in international business development for 10 years.

Knight Well Services names general, operations managers

KNIGHT WELL SERVICES, a division of Knight Oil Tools, has named Bobby Crockett as general manager and Handy Gibson as operations manager. Mr. Crockett will oversee all day-to-day operations and be based in Broussard, La. Mr. Gibson will oversee all operations and personnel at Knight’s Houma, La., facility, and supervise daily operations for all field jobs.

ThruBit appoints president, CEO

THRUNBIT, A SHELL Technology Ventures portfolio company, has appointed James Aivalis as president and chief executive. Mr. Aivalis will lead the global growth and development of ThruBit’s drill bit technology and open hole well logging solutions. Recently he oversaw the global premium connections business at TenarisConnections–Tenaris SA.

RigNet hires VP-Europe, Africa

TRYG VE HAG EVIK has joined RigNet as vice president, Europe and Africa. He will be based in Stavanger, Norway, and will be responsible for RigNet’s growth efforts throughout the North Sea region, as well as Europe and Africa.

Noble Drilling Services appoints new VP-tax

NOBLE CORP announced that Ross W Gallup has joined the company as vice president of tax of Noble Drilling Services. Mr. Gallup has 16 years of energy industry experience and most recently served as tax director at Pride International.

Schlumberger buys TerraTek

SC HUMBERG ER announced it has acquired TerraTek Inc, which will become the Geomechanics Laboratory Center of Excellence for Schlumberger Data & Consulting Services. It will offer rock mechanics, evaluations, unconventional gas reservoir analysis, large-scale drilling and completions performance testing, and log-to-core integration.
M-I SWACO brochures detail production waste management, new RECLAIM Technology

M-I SWACO is offering a brochure describing its production waste management operation, which uses chemical and mechanical processes to remediate oily waste from pits and tanks that over time have become viscous, contaminated sludge. In a project cited in the brochure, the production waste management group cleaned 300,000 bbls of viscous sludge from an open pit and in the process recovered more than 850,000 of commercial grade crude oil.

The company is also offering a brochure on its new RECLAIM Technology, which extends the useful life of oil and synthetic-based drilling fluids while reducing disposal and environmental costs. By removing fine drilled solids that can’t be processed by conventional solids-control equipment, the technology improves drilling efficiency and costs while reducing environmental liability.

‘Fundamentals of Formation Testing’ from Schlumberger

SC HlUMBERG ER has published “Fundamentals of Formation Testing,” a reference book that illustrates state-of-the-art formation testing technologies with field examples from well testing applications to test design, operations and interpretation. The book is the first installment of the “Principles of Log Interpretation” reference series.