

PEOPLE, COMPANIES & PRODUCTS

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 18th-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.



James Allaman



Blake Chandler

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. ♠

Promotions at Superior Energy Services, Premier Oilfield Rentals

SUPERIOR ENERGY Services has promoted **Paul Harris** to international business development manager-marine division. He will be responsible for increasing Superior's international presence and maintaining domestic business relationships.

Additionally, **Russell Crofts** has been named managing director for **Premier**

Oilfield Rentals, a Superior Energy Services company headquartered in Aberdeen. His responsibilities include developing business in the Eastern Hemisphere, with emphasis on emerging markets in West Africa, Middle East, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Far East. Mr Crofts has been with Premier Oilfield Rentals for the past 25 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 **Randy 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

THRUBIT, 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

TRYGVE HAGEVIK 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

SCHLUMBERGER 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. ♠

PEOPLE, COMPANIES & PRODUCTS

Well Control School president receives API service award

DR DAVID TANNICH, president of **Well Control School (WCS)**, was selected to receive the API Certificate of Appreciation Service Award at the 2006 API Standardization Conference in June. The awards are given for exceptional service to industry. Dr Tannich has more than 30 years of experience in the oilfield.

Additionally, **Edwin L Geissler** is rejoining WCS as operations manager. He is a former WCS instructor and spent 8 years with an international drilling company as senior manager of training and development. Mr Geissler will be responsible for WCS' daily operations. ♪



Edwin L Geissler

AlMansoori awarded safety achievement trophy by RasGas

ALMANSOORI Specialized Engineering (MSE) was awarded a safety achievement trophy from **RasGas Company Ltd** after completing 9 consecutive years without a lost-time incident. Sixteen employees from MSE's Tubular Inspection Services Qatar operations were awarded a trophy in recognition of their contribution towards the achievement within RasGas shore base operations at Ras Laffan Industrial City, Qatar.

MSE also has acquired Cairo-based **Gulf Petroleum Investments**, whose core business is tubular inspection and wireline manpower services. The acquisition is in line with AlMansoori's plans to enhance its position in the Middle East.

Earlier in 2006, AlMansoori acquired **Alpine Oil Services Egypt**, a production testing, drill stem testing and memory gauge equipment company. ♪

V&M STAR to provide pipe for BP's Prudhoe Bay oilfield in Alaska

V&M STAR, a division of **Vallourec & Mannesmann Tubes**, has been selected to provide 30,000-35,000 ft of 10 3/4-in., high-strength, seamless line pipe for BP's Prudhoe Bay pipeline operations in Alaska. BP has announced plans to replace approximately 16 miles of oil transit lines at Prudhoe Bay. V&M STAR has agreed to adjust its operating schedules to provide the best possible delivery. Final delivery will be made by mid-September. ♪

BJ Tubular Services gets casing, tubing contract from OXY Libya

BJ TUBULAR Services announced it was awarded a contract by **OXY Libya LLC** to provide casing and tubing running services, as well as float equipment centralisers and thread compounds. BJ Tubular Services will support 27 exploration wells currently scheduled for drilling on OXY Libya's concessions in the Sirte, Murzuq and Cyrenaica regions. Operations are scheduled to begin in September 2006, and initial plans involve using 2 drilling rigs. ♪

• PRODUCTS •

GE offers drilling motor brochure

GE Transportation has developed a brochure for its AC and DC drilling motors, including its standard 752 DC drilling motors and its 1,150-hp and 1,500-hp AC

motors. Since 1997, GE has supplied more than 1,000 AC traction motors for land and offshore drilling rigs worldwide. ♪

'Fundamentals of Formation Testing' from Schlumberger

SCHLUMBERGER 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. ♪



M-I SWACO's production waste management service removes wastes and minimizes future liability and in the process converts the material into a valuable resource.

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 \$500,000 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. ♪