



## IADC offshore competency programme gaining acceptance

IADC met with representatives of North Sea oil industry associations in Stavanger in January as part of the association's efforts to further acceptance of its Offshore Competency Training Programme (OCTP).

**Dr Brenda Kelly**, director of accreditation and certification, and **Jens Hoffmark**, regional vice president – Europe, met with members of the Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF), Oil & Gas UK, the Netherlands Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Association (NOGEP), and producer groups from Denmark and Germany.

Full acceptance of the OCTP would allow drilling contractors to use the programme's two key components – Basic

Introduction to Offshore Safety and Helicopter Underwater Escape Training. They would then be able to move personnel from location to location without having to repeat that training.

Danish and Dutch representatives confirmed their unofficial acceptance of the OCTP at the meeting.

OLF and Oil & Gas UK also accepted the programme's content since it mirrors the harmonized course requirements for their countries. Achieving their acceptance will still require implementation of an audit program that mirrors the audit program in place within each country, acceptability of auditors/auditor qualifications, modification of the programme's plan to accept STCW

courses as equivalent training, and ongoing transparency of implementation, including tracking of training certificates. Group members indicated acceptance of IADC's quality assurance plan, contingent on acceptable qualifications of specific program auditors.

As the next step, IADC will submit the OCTP documents and quality assurance plan to the work group for review. Group members have agreed to individually assist IADC in seeking national trade union acceptance once the programme documentation is deemed satisfactory.

For more information, please contact **Brenda Kelly** at ext 201 ([brenda.kelly@iadc.org](mailto:brenda.kelly@iadc.org)).

## IADC meets with Myanmar drilling industry

IADC president **Dr Lee Hunt** and operations assistant – Asia operations **Chit Hlaing** hosted a meeting in Yangon, Myanmar, in January with operator and service companies active in that country. Representatives of the **Myanmar Oil & Gas Enterprise (MOGE)** were present, including deputy general manager **Kyaw Nyan Tun** and geologist **Tint Sann**.

The meeting opened with brief introductions about IADC's mission in the global oil and gas drilling industry and its various operations worldwide. This information was intended to raise awareness of IADC's Asia operations presence and Mr Hlaing's role in supporting members from the association's Bangkok office.

The luncheon was followed by a discussion about important regional

issues and an update of IADC regional activities. IADC was able to enhance its familiarity with current drilling activities and the near-term market outlook.

Among other guests attending were: **Amar Moussa**, HSE & security manager, **TOTAL E&P Myanmar**; **Tony Cole**, logistics manager & advisor, **Petronas Carigali Myanmar**; **Nay Myo Aung**, assistant rig manager, **Asia Drilling**; **Jonathan Royds**, senior development drilling engineer, **Daewoo E&P Myanmar**; **Sunchai Pongorapin**, drilling operation manager and **Amornpun Kulpraneet**, acting chief, logistics, **PTTEP International**; and **Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing**, CEO, **SMART Technical Services**.

For more information, please contact **Chit Hlaing** at [chit.hlaing@iadc.org](mailto:chit.hlaing@iadc.org).

### Safety alerts

[www.iadc.org/alerts.htm](http://www.iadc.org/alerts.htm)

**Alert 10-04:** Large container lifted by helicopter downraft.

**Alert 10-05:** Dropped objects result in two LTIs.

**Alert 10-06:** Near-misses involve rig braking systems.

### Reminders

• **IADC Drilling HSE Asia Pacific Conference & Exhibition**, 23-24 March, Singapore.

• **IADC Accounting Issues/Procedures Committee meeting**, 25 March, Houston.

• **IADC Ethics & Corporate Compliance Committee meeting**, 31 March, location TBA.

• **IADC ART Drilling Control Systems Subcommittee meeting**, 7 April, Houston.

• **IADC Well Control Europe Conference & Exhibition**, 13-14 April, Aberdeen.

## Asia Operations Forum to meet on 22 March

IADC will launch its Asia Operations Forum (AOF) with a contractor luncheon meeting on 22 March at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Singapore, a day before the IADC Drilling HSE Asia Pacific Conference & Exhibition, 23-24 March at the same location.

IADC senior vice president – government affairs **Brian Petty** will begin by leading a special presentation on the Indonesian local content and taxation issues. That will be followed by a guest presentation by **Guttorm Bentsen**, senior partner and VP of drilling units for **R.S. Platou**, who will speak on rig mar-

ket outlook for the Asia Pacific region.

The meeting will also include a group discussion of relevant issues in the region, as well as an update of IADC activities.

The AOF is the latest in a series of regional forums being held by IADC to bring its members in the Asia Pacific region together to allow valuable networking and to discuss regional issues. Other areas with active operations forums include Europe and the Middle East.

For more information about AOF, please contact **Chit Hlaing** at [chit.hlaing@iadc.org](mailto:chit.hlaing@iadc.org).

## OSHA proposes to add MSD to reporting rules

OSHA is proposing to revise its Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting (Recordkeeping) regulation to add a column to the OSHA 300 Log that employers would use to record work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD). The 2001 Recordkeeping final regulation included an MSD column, but the requirement was deleted before the regulation became effective. This proposed rule would require employers to place a check mark in the MSD

column, instead of the column they currently mark, if a case is an MSD that meets the Recordkeeping regulation's general recording requirements.

Written comments must be submitted by 15 March. IADC plans to comment to the docket against this proposal as it did in 2001. IADC encourages its member companies to submit comments as well.

For details, contact **Joe Hurt** at ext 224 ([joe.hurt@iadc.org](mailto:joe.hurt@iadc.org)).

## Survey seeks comments on drilling control systems

Integrating different pieces of equipment on a rig can be a major hassle, not to mention integration with downhole equipment. A new survey by the Drilling Control Systems (DCS) Subcommittee of the IADC Advanced Rig Technology (ART) Committee seeks to clarify the type of control system that can best provide surface and downhole integration. The survey was designed under the leadership of DCS Subcommittee vice chairman **Terry Loftis**, **Transocean**.

During the 2009 IADC Advanced Rig

Technology Conference, 35% of the audience selected "integration with the downhole system" as the aspect of drilling control systems that needed the most improvement.

The new DCS survey comprises only five questions, including a request for contact information. Contact information will be held confidential by IADC.

To take the survey, go to [www.surveymonkey.com/s/CDXJ8HJ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CDXJ8HJ). For more information, contact **Mike Killalea** at ext 222 ([mike.killalea@iadc.org](mailto:mike.killalea@iadc.org)).

## Accreditation updates

### WellCAP

#### Accreditation awarded:

- **M&O Americas**, Thibodaux, La. (renewal);
- **Randy Smith Training Solutions**, Lafayette, La. (renewal).

#### Accreditation pending:

- **Liaohe Oilfield Well Control Training Center**, China (new);
- **Well Control Group Inc**, Canada (new);
- **WT Consulting SA de CV**, Mexico (new).

### HSE Rig Pass

#### Accreditation pending:

- **Halliburton Energy Services**, Houston, Texas (renewal);
- **Instituto Tecnológico Superior de Poza Rica**, Mexico (new);
- **ONGC Vadodara**, India (renewal);
- **Organizacion Servicios, Capacitacion y Asesoría de Reynosa SA de CV**, Mexico (new);
- **SESIPA SA de CV**, Mexico (new).

### DIT

#### Accreditation awarded:

- **Petroleum Industry Manpower Services (PNG)**, New Guinea;
- **Sinopec Training Center (KSA)**, Saudi Arabia.

## Well Control Europe set for 13-14 April

The 2010 IADC Well Control Europe Conference & Exhibition will be held 13-14 April in Aberdeen under the theme, "Well Control in an Increasingly Complex and Changing Environment." Equipment advances will be highlighted, including a BOP with a fifth-generation MUX control system. Representatives of North Sea regulatory agencies will also be present. Visit IADC's website to register.

Reminder: IADC's sustaining members may pay membership dues and update company and individual information by logging in on IADC's website. Log-in information is available by contacting **Sharon Thorpe**, assistant director – membership, at ext 218 ([sharon.thorpe@iadc.org](mailto:sharon.thorpe@iadc.org)).

## US Ocean Policy Task Force releases report

Six major oil and gas industry associations, led by API and including IADC, expressed reservations about the "Interim Framework" released by the White House Ocean Policy Task Force (OPTF) on managing coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP). While acknowledging OPTF's "laudable goals," industry nevertheless warned that the framework may conflict with existing laws and discourage adequate offshore oil and natural gas stakeholder consultation.

The trades emphasized the historical role of the traditional offshore energy industry, coexisting with and in many cases enhancing other uses of oceans.

Further, they argued that a comprehensive CMSP should enhance access to offshore areas and promote E&P development of new resources. Above all, CMSP shouldn't become an exercise in prescriptive mapping or zoning.

In particular, they warned against using the "precautionary principle,"

which is more frequently used in Europe, as a rationale for policy decisions, which are often not based on sound scientific data and don't require demonstrated adverse impacts. Setting the precautionary principle in regulation would violate Congressional intent, which clearly instructs federal agencies to consider both the benefits and costs of regulation and "multiple use," rather than predetermine outcomes assumed solely to have direct environmental benefits.

The industry comment was submitted to the chief of the Council on Environmental Quality, which held national public hearings in 2009 on the way forward for developing a comprehensive offshore management plan, now individually under the auspices of MMS, NOAA, EPA and other agencies of the US Department of Commerce.

For details, contact **Brian Petty** at +1/202-293-0670 ([brian.petty@iadc.org](mailto:brian.petty@iadc.org)).

## Gin Pole Truck Guidelines issued

The IADC Rig Moving Committee issued voluntary Gin Pole Truck Guidelines on 1 March. These guidelines are intended to help improve the safety of rig-moving operations and include information on inspections,

operations and manufacture of gin pole trucks. They will be posted on the IADC web page for the Rig Moving Committee. For more information, please contact **Joe Hurt** at ext 224 ([joe.hurt@iadc.org](mailto:joe.hurt@iadc.org)).

## Rigs receive ASP certificates:

For certificates received since last LTI (in years):

**EnSCO Offshore International Co:**

ENSCO 54 (9), 107 (1);

**Nabors Offshore Corp:** Nabors 87 (3), MODS-200 (6), P-10 (8), P-53 (9);

**Noble Contracting SARL:** Noble Earl Frederickson/218 (8);

**Ocean Rig:** Eirik Raude (3);

**PT Sodexo Indonesia** (1);

**SinoTharwa Drilling Co:** ST-1 (3), ST-2 (3), ST-4 (2), ST-5 (1), ST-6 (1), ST-7 (1), ST-8 (1), ST-9 (1), ST-10 (1),

ST-11 (1), ST-12 (1), ST-21 (3), ST-22 (3), ST-23 (1), ST-24 (1).

For certificates received since last recordable incident (in years):

**EnSCO Offshore International Co:** ENSCO 107 (1);

**EnSCO Offshore UK Ltd:** ENSCO 102 (1);

**Noble Contracting SARL:** Noble Earl Frederickson/218 (6);

**Trinidad Drilling LP:** Rigs 104 (3), 120 (2), 123 (3);

**Unit Texas Drilling LLC:** Rig 331 (1).

## Raspino urges industry to develop new leaders

Personnel challenges were highlighted at last month's IADC/SPE Drilling Conference in New Orleans during the opening address delivered by 2010 IADC chairman **Louis Raspino, Pride International**. Stressing the importance that industry take action now, he cautioned that the next personnel shortage could be worse than the last one if we don't start aggressively recruiting and training.

Billions of dollars have been spent on growing the rig fleet in the past few years; yet no amount of money can magically give a new employee 15 years of experience overnight, Mr Raspino said.

"We know there will always been cycles in this business. We should remember how panicked we were just a short 18 months ago – before the downturn – when we could all see predictions of the whole industry running out of skilled labor and the chaos and crisis it was going to cause," he commented.

Mr Raspino also urged companies to focus on the long-term future, not short-term costs. "If we slam on the brakes now as an industry in continuing to invest in training and developing new employees, we're setting up for an even worse panic tomorrow."

Companies also must renew their focus on leadership training and development. "Remember, a large number of today's employees need to be developed into tomorrow's leaders of our rapidly expanding industry," he said.

Mr Raspino concluded his address by calling attention to an emerging trade battle in the US over Chinese drill pipe supplies. An anti-dumping and countervailing duty case was filed late last year at the US International Trade Commission (ITC). If the ITC agrees with the petitioners, Chinese pipe could be excluded from the US, which could lead to sharply increased prices and shortages. For more information on this issue, please contact **Brian Petty** at +1/202-293-0670 ([brian.petty@iadc.org](mailto:brian.petty@iadc.org)).

## Obama sends mixed message on OCS E&P

Actions speak louder than words, and when it comes to the Obama Administration's energy policies, it's becoming apparent that their commitment to "opening new offshore areas for oil and gas development," promised in the president's State of the Union address in January, doesn't jibe with the president's own numbers.

A recent article in the **Platts** "Oilgram News" pointed out that the White House's proposed 2011 budget contains no mention of offshore oil and gas. In fact, the US Interior Department's budget showed an expectation for revenues to decline over the next decade. Since less revenue means less exploration, some are pointing to this as proof that the administration has no intention of opening up new areas to offshore drilling. Proposals to cut \$36.5 billion

worth of tax breaks for the industry is another bad sign.

However, IADC senior VP – government affairs **Brian Petty** urged the industry not to panic. He was quoted in the **Platts** article, "There is a dawning awareness, even in the Department of the Interior, that they need to be more of an advocate for offshore development because the revenues are significant." There is also hope that the soon-to-be-unveiled OCS five-year plan will open up the Atlantic and even the eastern Gulf of Mexico for exploration.

"I think there is a war going on within the White House, and it's fierce. But I think the president is being dragged by reality – the need for revenue and pressure from his own caucus to support this," Mr Petty remarked.

## ISO jackup site assessment standard advances

The proposed ISO standard for jackup site assessment (19905-1) has passed balloting at the Draft International Standard stage, with no negative votes submitted. A large number of comments were submitted by the standards organizations of Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway and Singapore, which will need to be resolved before the standard is balloted at the next (FDIS) stage.

For further information, please contact **Alan Spackman** at ext 207 ([alan.spackman@iadc.org](mailto:alan.spackman@iadc.org)).

### IADC welcomes 32 new members

- **All Points Equipment**, Houston, Texas;
- **Alton McLean Ltd**, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, UK;
- **Ashton Oilfield Services LLC**, Addison, Texas;
- **Axiom Process Ltd**, The Woodlands, Texas;
- **Belize Natural Energy Ltd**, Belmopan, Belize;
- **Berkley Oil and Gas Specialty Services LLC**, McKinney, Texas;
- **Blake International USA Rigs LLC**, Houma, La.;
- **C M Labs Simulations**, Montreal,

- Quebec, Canada;
- **Canyon Drilling Co**, Oklahoma City, Okla.;
- **Dana Petro Rig**, Tehran, Iran;
- **DF – VIMARC Corp**, Washington, DC;
- **Diversified Industries**, Conroe, Texas;
- **Drill Pipe International LLC**, New Hope, Minn.;
- **Drillog Petro-Dynamics Ltd**, Houston, Texas;
- **Equipment Sales and Service Co (ESSCO)**, Amman, Jordan;
- **Fortiori**, UAE;
- **HC Training & Language Services**, Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico;

- **Huisman Intrepid Services LLC**, Houston, Texas;
- **Hydrotech Inc**, Fernley, Nev.;
- **NRG Drilling Ltd**, New Plymouth, New Zealand;
- **RF System Lab**, Gaylord, Mich.;
- **Safekick Ltd**, Reading, UK;
- **Sakson Egypt Petroleum Services Free Zone SAE**, Cairo, Egypt;
- **SelecTransportation Resources LLC**, Houston, Texas;
- **Servicios Generales Jema SA de CV**, Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, Mexico;
- **SJ Petroleum Machinery Co**, Jingzhou, Hubei, China;
- **Startex Software**, Houston, Texas;
- **Swift Drilling BV**, IJmuiden, The Netherlands;
- **ThyssenKrupp Materials France**, Maurepas, Cedex, France;
- **Transmark EDS BV**, Oudkarspel, The Netherlands;
- **Trinity Machine Works Inc**, Houston, Texas;
- **Vanover and Associates**, Duson, La.

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