



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

International Association of Drilling Contractors Elects Officers for New Advanced Rig Technology Committee

Rig technology take center stage among oil & gas executives

Houston, 18, July 2008 – The International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) has announced the officers elected to lead the newly created Advanced Rig Technology Committee (ART).

Chairman, Steven Richards, Key Energy

Vice Chairman-Operators, Jeff Swain, Chevron

Vice Chairman-Service, David Reid, National Oilwell Varco

The IADC ART Committee comprises five subcommittees, of which four have chosen Vice Chairmen to chart the working group's progress. These subcommittee leaders are:

Vice-Chairman-Software Interface, Zain Master, Caterpillar

Vice-Chairman-Guidelines, Logan Puckett, Pride International

Vice-Chairman-Reliability, Robert Urbanowski, Grey Wolf Drilling

Vice-Chairman-Future Technology, Frank Springett, National Oilwell Varco

According to Lee Hunt, IADC president, “The executives serving on the Advanced Rig Technology Committee will address efficiencies and processes that will ultimately allow for advancements in rig technology. The collaborative effort by this committee demonstrates the drilling industry’s commitment to meet the world’s future oil and gas needs in the most efficient manner possible.”

The mission of the ART Committee is to improve safety and efficiency through sound operating procedures, design of automated systems and standardizing automation. Issues of note include control philosophy, communication protocol between equipment, competency, and comprehensive automation of the complete drilling process, integrating surface and downhole equipment, including completion systems.

The five subcommittees will meet on various dates in August and September, and the full committee will come together on 30 September at IADC’s Houston headquarters. More information on the IADC ART Committee is available at www.iadc.org/committees/advanced_rig_technology/index.html.

About IADC

Founded in 1940, IADC strives to secure responsible standards, practices and regulations that provide for safe, efficient and environmentally sound drilling operations worldwide. To achieve its objectives, the Association holds a variety of meetings and conferences on technology, well control, contracts, taxation, management and other topics of interest to the global drilling and producing industry. Through its volunteers and professional staff, IADC also interacts closely with regulatory agencies and legislators worldwide on issues affecting the drilling industry. The Association is also a leader in developing new standards for industry training, notably through its Well Control Accreditation Program (WellCAP) and its rig-floor orientation program, RIG PASS. IADC is also a major publisher and distributor of reference manuals, forms and other publications for the global drilling industry. The Association communicates with the industry, government and the public through its newsletters and official magazine *Drilling Contractor*.

For more information about IADC, please visit www.iadc.org.

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