



## PRESS RELEASE

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### International Association of Drilling Contractors Names Claus Chur Contractor of the Year

KCA DEUTAG executive honored at drilling industry luncheon

**Houston, 20 March 2008** – The International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) announced today Claus Chur was named the 2008 Contractor of the Year. More than 150 drilling executives were present at the luncheon award ceremony held on March 19, at the Petroleum Club of Houston where Mr. Chur was honored. The award was presented by John Deane, President, ReedHycalog.

The annual Contractor of the Year award, sponsored by ReedHycalog, was established in 1988 to recognize an individual drilling contractor representative's outstanding career achievements in technical innovation, safety and economic efficiency in the drilling industry. It is the only industry award that exclusively honors drilling contractors. ReedHycalog contributes a \$7,500 scholarship in the recipient's name to the institution of his choice.

Claus Chur started his career in 1979 after receiving a master's degree in Petroleum and Drilling Engineering from the University of Clausthal when he worked as a Drilling Engineer with a Shell Exxon affiliate. In 1985 he was appointed Operations Manager and later Technical Director of the Continental Deep Drilling Program of the Federal Republic of Germany, a geoscience research project to investigate physical and chemical processes in the deeper continental crust. Joining DEUTAG in 1995, he held a number of key executive positions and in 2001 was appointed to the KCA DEUTAG Board. Mr. Chur held several posts within IADC and the Society of Petroleum Engineers including serving as IADC Chairman in 2006. He is the author of several publications and serves on several advisory committees of the industry and government. Today as Director Technical Services, he is responsible for the technical integrity of KCA DEUTAG's rig fleet and the group-wide Supply Management. Additionally he serves as Managing Director of KCA DEUTAG Drilling GmbH based in Bad Bentheim, Germany.

Dr. Lee Hunt, IADC president stated, "It is my privilege to know and to have had the opportunity to work with Claus over the last 15 years through his involvement with IADC. The Contractor of the Year award recognizes his long term commitment to the betterment of the drilling industry. IADC congratulates him on his many achievements, integrity and dedicated leadership to making a difference."

**About IADC:**

Since its founding in 1940, the International Association of Drilling Contractors has exclusively represented the worldwide oil and gas drilling industry. Its mission is to promote commitment to safety, preservation of the environment and advances in drilling technology. Through conferences, training seminars and a comprehensive network of technical publications, IADC continually fosters education and communication within the upstream petroleum industry. IADC has a global reach, operating wherever its members operate: Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

For more information about IADC, please visit [www.iadc.org](http://www.iadc.org).

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