



Anadarko buys Kerr-McGee, Western Gas in \$23.3 billion deal

Anadarko Petroleum Corp announced it has agreed to acquire **Kerr-McGee Corp** and **Western Gas Resources Inc** in separate all-cash transactions totaling \$21.1 billion, plus the assumption of debt estimated at \$2.2 billion.

"We are creating a combined company with industry-leading positions in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico and the Rockies, 2 of the fastest-growing oil and natural gas producing regions in North America," said **Jim Hackett**,

Anadarko chairman, president and CEO. He emphasized that the transactions are consistent with Anadarko's strategy, which is built around the company's core competencies in unconventional resource development and high-impact exploration.

Kerr-McGee's core properties are located in deepwater GOM and onshore in Colorado and Utah. Western Gas Resources' 2006 production is expected to total about 12.5 million bbl equivalent.

New VP of Human Resources appointed at Grant Prideco

Grant Prideco has appointed **Lias "Jeff" Steen** as vice president of human resources. Steen, who previously served as vice president for administration and legal for **ReedHycalog**, will be based at Grant Prideco's Houston headquarters.

At ReedHycalog, Mr Steen was responsible for management of the legal, human resources and QHSE departments and employee training. He also recently served as a mayoral appointee to the Ethics Commission for the City of Houston.

Mr Steen graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in agricultural economics and received his Juris Doctor from South Texas College of Law.



Lias Steen

Pride Executive VP, COO retires

Pride International Inc announced that **John R Blocker Jr**, its executive vice president and chief operating officer, has elected to retire from the company.

According to **Louis A Raspino**, Pride president and chief executive officer, there are no plans to refill the chief operating officer position. Those duties have been reorganized.

Expro director retires

Expro International Group announced that **Colin Ainger**, corporate development director, has decided to retire after 24 years of service. Mr Ainger served as finance director through the successful flotation of Expro in 1995 and took up his current position in 1997. He has also been responsible for Expro's health and safety performance and has assumed the role of CSR director for the last 3 years. Mr Ainger's duties will be absorbed by other board members.

Knight Well Services names new Gulf Coast regional sales manager

Bobby Crockett has been named Gulf Coast regional sales manager for **Knight Well Services**. Mr Crockett will be based at Knight's new corporate facility in Broussard, La., and will serve Gulf Coast markets from Houston to New Orleans. He will represent all well ser-



Bobby Crockett

vices products, with emphasis on abandonment and temporary abandonment equipment.

Mr Crockett has more than 27 years' experience marketing oilfield tools and services. Most recently he was a New Orleans-based sales manager for **Superior Energy Services**.

BJ Services appoints new country manager for Libya

BJ Services announced that **Marc Allenby** has been appointed as Libya country manager for the well services division within the Europe and Africa region. Mr Allenby has been instrumental in opening the new well services business unit in Libya, and he manages all operations activities related to well services throughout the country, with emphasis on specialist services such as coiled tubing, cementing and pumping services.

Most recently, Mr Allenby worked for 2 years as business development manager for the Middle East region in Dubai and as country manager of Kuwait from 2000 to 2003.

New account manager at Knowledge Systems

Knowledge Systems announced that **Casey Johnson** has been hired as North America account manager for software sales. Mr Johnson recently served as sales manager for the North and South American regions at **Mercury Computer Systems**.



Casey Johnson

He has served in the US Army reserve and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Utah Valley State College.

RigNet inks contract with Premium Drilling, expands management team

RigNet Inc announced it has been selected by **Premium Drilling** to provide voice and data communications on its fleet of 15 offshore drilling units. It will also provide managed communication services for Premium's offices in Singapore and Houston.

Additionally, RigNet recently announced key leadership appointments to its management team.

Lars Eliassen was promoted to vice president Americas and will be responsible for the North and South American regions. **Alan Frost** joins RigNet as vice president of central operations and will be responsible for its global engineering teams, network operations and provisioning.

Curtis McGee joins the company as vice president of business development. He will be working with regional vice presidents and sales teams to drive new opportunities around the world.

BP awards Weatherford long-term pan-European contract

Weatherford International announced that BP Exploration Operating Company Ltd has awarded the company a new contract for providing tubular running services on a pan-European basis. The contract could be worth up to \$150 million over a 5-year term, with potential for further extension.

The contract awarded is performance-based, with strong reliance on BP's Global Well Service Initiative and continuous performance reviews.

The pan-European award follows the recent award by BP Baku of a similar long-term contract across installations there, as well as Gulf of Mexico awards on many BP deepwater operations.

Vetco wins ExxonMobil deal on Mondo field

Vetco has been awarded a contract by ExxonMobil to supply subsea systems for the Mondo field, phase 1 of the deepwater Kizomba C project.

The company will be responsible for the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) of 17 subsea trees, 5 manifolds, topside and subsea control systems and flowline connection systems for the Mondo field, in 740 m of water, 370 km west of Luanda, Angola.

The contract calls for initial fast-track deliveries starting in 2006.

PRODUCTS

New Hughes Christensen bit drills longer through tough formations

Hughes Christensen has introduced the Genesis ZX PDC bit for extreme drilling. Throughout the oilfield, the Genesis ZX bit has drilled longer footage consistently through hard and abrasive formations without sacrificing ROP.

The Genesis ZX PDC bit includes Zenith (Z) cutters for extreme applications. Z cutters' layered diamond technology offers improved abrasion resistance and toughness compared with earlier PDC cutters. Other important engineering innovations include:

- An engineered cutting structure that allows the bit to drill faster through soft/medium formations while retaining the durability to drill harder intervals;
- New stability technology that minimizes vibration severity and increases resistance to whirl;



- SmoothCut patented technology that minimizes cutter-damaging peak loads by balancing the workload over the face of the bit;

- Enhanced hydraulics, optimized through proprietary Computational Fluid Dynamics, ensuring the best balance of fluid flow, cutter cooling and erosion resistance.

In an East Texas interval of hard and abrasive sands, Genesis ZX PDC bits drilled 36% faster, shaving 183 hours off the offset wells' average drilling time in the same section during the past 3 years.

In steeply dipping, over-thrusted and overturned limestones and sandstones in Oklahoma, Genesis ZX technology reduced the interval's drilling days by 50% and reduced the cost per foot by 58% compared with the offset wells' respective averages.

EV Offshore camera system offers real-time downhole inspection

EV Offshore is debuting a new camera system for real-time downhole inspection that can be deployed on wireline or coiled tubing. A rotate-and-tilt head allows full, hemispherical viewing, and digital recording transfers images instantaneously over the Internet. Typical applications include



dropped-object investigation, damage assessment and inspection of well-heads, the seal area, threads and the annulus. The system can be run into a live well under well-control conditions, in wells where deployment can only be made on wireline or CT, and in highly deviated wells.

Halliburton introduces PropStop service and free eRedBook software

Halliburton recently introduced its PropStop service, designed to help address the declining production rates often seen in fractured wells in mature assets. PropStop service extends a range of offerings to mitigate proppant and fines production. It also helps to maintain highly conductive fractures and long-term productivity.

Additionally, Halliburton has introduced its eRedBook software, a digital toolkit with quick calculators for computations used in daily operations; an interactive wellbore tool that enables users to share well schematics faster than before; production information from all Energy Services Group product service lines; and the API's most up-to-date pipe data. The eRedBook software can be downloaded at no cost at Halliburton's Web site.

Jet-Lube compounds suitable for environmentally sensitive areas

Jet-Lube recently introduced the Jet-Lube NCS-30 ECF and SEAL-GUARD ECF. The compounds offer a wide temperature range (from -65°F to 500°F), superior adhesion to wet steel, and maximum wedge thread drill string connection protection; withstand invert and high pH muds; prevent galling; and are non-conductive for MWD applications.

The NCS-30 ECF has achieved a "Yellow" HOCNF rating in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, making it permissible in sensitive drilling areas such as the Barents Sea. The SEAL-GUARD ECF is the only running compound for premium and chrome connections to be approved "Yellow" in Norway and CEFAS Classification E in the UK.