



IADC launching new accreditation programs

AT THE HEALTH, Safety, Environment & Training Conference & Exhibition held 7-8 February, IADC unveiled its new Competence Assurance Accreditation Program. It is also gearing up to formally launch the IADC Drilling Industry Training Accreditation Program.

A voluntary system open to all companies operating in the oil and gas drilling industry, the Competence Assurance program was developed by IADC as a system of accrediting company competence assurance programs to make sure they meet accepted practices to develop and ensure the skills of their personnel.

Many operators require contractors to have competency programs, so IADC members decided to develop a set of standards to meet expectations, said **Steve Kropla**, IADC Director of Accreditation & Certification.

The Drilling Industry Training Accreditation Program is aimed at recognizing training not currently addressed by Well CAP, RIG PASS, UBO and Ballast Control & Stability accreditation programs.

"It could be a very broad umbrella that would cover many aspects of technical training, rig crew training and training for specific types of equipment," Mr Kropla said.

For more information, contact IADC's Houston headquarters at ++ 1/713-292-1945 or its Eastern Hemispheres office at ++ 31/24-6752252. ■

Drilling Contractor takes on new associate editor

LINDA HSIEH HAS recently joined the IADC as associate editor for DRILLING CONTRACTOR magazine. Ms Hsieh is also assuming responsibility for IADC's monthly newsletter, "Drill Bits," and will manage IADC's media relations.

"Linda brings to IADC excellent qualifications," remarked IADC President **Dr Lee Hunt**. "I am confident that Linda will make a strong contribution to IADC's communications department."

Ms Hsieh will report to IADC Vice President/Publisher **Mike Killalea**. She can be reached at ++ 1/713-292-1945 or at linda.hsieh@iadc.org. ■

IADC recognizes committee chairmen's work



IADC President **Lee Hunt** (center) presents Certificates of Recognition to outgoing HSE Committee Chairman **Glen Shropshire** (right), Transocean HSE Manager, and outgoing Training Committee Chairman **Dado Matkins**, Transocean Director of Corporate Training, during the IADC HSE & Training Conference & Exhibition held 7-8 February in Houston. The new chairmen have been named as **Adrian Gray**, GlobalSantaFe Director Worldwide ISM & HSE Affairs, for the HSE Committee and **Richard Grayson**, Nabors Offshore Corporation Safety & Training Manager, for the Training Committee.

Iraqi delegation visit to Houston office in works

IADC WILL HOST a delegation of leaders from Iraq's **North Oil Company**, **South Oil Company**, **Iraq Drilling Company** and other segments of its resurging oil industry. The meeting will take place at IADC's Houston headquarters and be conducted in cooperation with the US Department of State.

The meeting is the latest in a series of technical exchanges between IADC and the Iraqi oil industry. In 2004, representatives of the Iraqi companies met with the IADC Southern Arabian Peninsula Chapter and later that year addressed IADC's International Well Control

Conference in Dubai. In 2005, NOC, SOC and Iraq Drilling Company became IADC members.

The meeting will provide IADC members with an opportunity to hear about the status of drilling activities in Iraq and opportunities to participate in the ongoing work.

No firm date has been set for the meeting, and members interested in attending should contact **Ken Fischer**, Vice President - Middle East & Asia, at ++ 1/713-292-1945 or by e-mail at ken.fischer@iadc.org. ■