



Varel names new regional manager

Varel International has appointed **Ron Mayo** as the company's new Gulf Coast Regional Manager. He will be responsible for building and managing the operations and sales team for Varel's Gulf Coast Region, which includes South Texas, Southern Louisiana, Southern Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. Mr Mayo is joining Varel after a decade of



Ron Mayo

sales management at **Smith Bits**, a division of **Smith International**.

Additionally, Varel has announced that it has made a substantial capital investment to increase its manufacturing capacity for large-diameter roller cone bits measuring 16 in. to 36 in. in size. This investment will triple Varel's monthly manufacturing capacity for large-diameter bits. The decision to increase its manufacturing capacity was "a direct response to the increased global demand for bits ranging in size from 16 in. to 36 in.," said **Chris Byrd**, VP of Varel's Roller Cone Business Unit.

ENSCO expands its management team, board of directors

ENSCO International's board of directors has named **Daniel W Rabun** to serve as President of the company and as a member of the board of directors, effective by March 31. Mr Rabun has provided legal counsel to ENSCO for more than 15 years.

William S Chadwick Jr has been named the company's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

He has been with the company since 1987 and most recently served as Senior Vice President-Operations.

Carl F Thorne will continue to serve as ENSCO's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. It is currently contemplated that Mr Thorne will step down as CEO within the year, at which time Mr Rabun will be appointed to that position. Mr Thorne will continue to serve as Chairman.

BJ names general manager, Thailand manager, operations manager

BJ Services Company has appointed **Kenny Watt** as general manager of **BJ Tubular & Completion Assembly Services** (BJ CAS). Mr Watt will be responsible for overseeing all operational, financial, business development and personnel activities. Most recently, he served for 3 years as area manager-Middle East for BJ Tubular Services in Dubai. In that post, he was responsible for successful development of operations carried out in India, Qatar and Saudi Arabia and for new market entries in Oman and Azerbaijan.



Kenny Watt

er-Thailand for BJ CAS. Mr Anderson will be responsible for managing the division's facilities in Thailand as well as driving expansion efforts in the country. He most recently served as operations manager of BJ Completion Assembly Services in Aberdeen, Scotland.

With Mr Anderson heading up operations in Thailand, **Ken Stewart** has been promoted to the position of operations manager-BJ CAS in Aberdeen at the division's world headquarters. Mr Stewart will be responsible for managing all operations on behalf of the division, including personnel, HSE, quality assurance, environmental and financial issues.



Ken Stewart

BJ Services Company also has appointed **Iain Anderson** as operations manager-

Noble Corp announces senior management promotions

Noble Corporation has promoted **Mark A Jackson** to President and Chief Operating Officer from his previous position of Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

Julie J Robertson has been promoted to Executive Vice President. She previously served as Senior Vice President-Administration and Corporate Secretary. She will maintain her office as Secretary of Noble Corp.

Robert D Campbell has been promoted to Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Noble Corp. He previously served as Vice President and General Counsel of **Noble Drilling Services Inc.**

Chairman of the Board and CEO **James C Day** said, "As the company celebrates its 85th year of operation, these announcements are part of the ongoing evolution of its management team."

ReedHycalog names Director of Roller Cone Engineering

Craig Ivie has been named Director of Roller Cone Engineering at **ReedHycalog**. He will be responsible for the design and manufacturing of Roller cone drill bits on a worldwide basis. Mr Ivie has been with ReedHycalog for more than 19 years.

Additionally, ReedHycalog has announced it will construct a new headquarters and technology center near Conroe, Texas. It will consolidate three other Houston-area facilities into one location. Construction is estimated to take 18 to 24 months.

Parker Drilling names VP-Operations

Parker Drilling Company has appointed **Michael D Drennon** as Vice President, Operations. He will be responsible for worldwide drilling operations and the associated financial performance and will report to Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer **Dave Mannon**.

Before joining Parker Drilling, Mr Drennon was program director at **BP**.

Pride hires new Director of Contracts and Marketing

Shawn P Vigeant has joined **Pride International** as Director of Contracts and Marketing. Mr Vigeant spent the previous 12 years with **Diamond Offshore Drilling** and most recently served as the company's Manager of Contracts & Marketing.

Vetco Gray celebrating its 100-year anniversary

In 2006, Vetco Gray will celebrate its 100-year anniversary of service to the upstream oil and gas industry. Beginning in 1906 with Regan Forge & Engineering Co, Gray Tool Co in 1922 and Venture Tool Co in 1930, these companies have joined over the years and today are known as Vetco Gray.

It is a global company with more than 60 locations in more than 30 countries.

“During this centennial year, we want to stress to our customers and employees the three ideals that we believe define Vetco Gray,” said Peter Goode, President and CEO of Vetco. “These are experience, integrity and opportunity.” ■

Obituary: Bill Plamondon Jr dies at age 81

WN Bill Plamondon Jr, 81, of Spring Lake Heights and Houston, Texas, died on 21 January at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. He worked in sales and marketing for Marine Drilling in Houston and worked for California-Texas Oil Company in New York as materials engineer and for Continental-Emsco Company in Houston. He initiated the first offshore rig locator that was distributed to contractors and international oil companies. He also was Vice President for Sales and Marketing for various offshore drilling companies such as Dixilyn-Field Drilling Co, Zapata Offshore Co, Global Marine Drilling Co and Houston offshore Inc. ■



WN Bill
Plamondon Jr

PRODUCTS

Cam Lock offers unique Fast-mask

Cam Lock Ltd has introduced its Fast-mask Positive Pressure Escape Breathing Apparatus. It is instantly activated when the face-mask is deployed from the carry bag and automatically inflates the head harness while purging the facemask of any hazardous gas. There are no head harness straps or buckles to adjust or break. The mask can simply be put over the head, and it automatically tensions to obtain a positive pressure seal.

The Fast-mask differentiates from conventional escape sets through 2 features. First, there is no cylinder valve hand wheel to operate, which have been prone to overtightening in the past. The



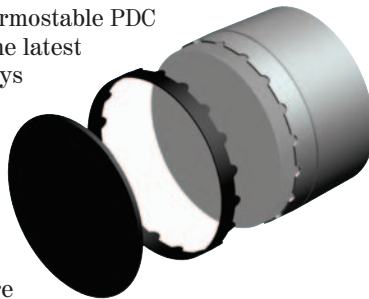
Fast-mask uses a sprung-loaded spool valve that releases the high pressure air from the cylinder when activated by the removal of a molded spring clip from the spool. Because the spool valve incorporates o-ring seals in balance under pressure, they ensure no long-term creep or leakage from the cylinder. This guarantees the cylinder remains full during storage and ensures maximum duration of use.

Second, Fast-mask offers the oil and gas rigs operational requirement of connecting to a cascade airline hose “muster” station — where the action of connecting the Hansen female hose coupling to the regulator depresses a sprung loaded lever — automatically closing the cylinder spool valve. The wearer doesn’t have to open or close a cylinder hand wheel when disconnecting the cascade airline to escape and evacuate.

ReedHycalog’s Raptor cutters stays sharper longer

ReedHycalog has built on its patented TRex thermostable PDC technology and introduced new Raptor cutters, the latest generation thermostable PDC technology that stays sharper longer to drill further and faster. The patented Raptor design takes TRex technology and applies it to the complete outer surface of the polycrystalline diamond, whereas TRex cutters only feature thermostable PDC on the front face of the cutter.

Like TRex, the new Raptor cutters are 200% more heat-tolerant and 400% more abrasion-resistant than the highest grade PDC material.



Jet Lube serves up threadlocker in 4 formulas and a pipe sealant

Jet Lube is offering 4 varieties of JET-LOK threadlocker and a PTFE pipe sealant. For permanent high temperature 450-degree F stud lock applications, JET-LOK TL 71-50 suits applications with large-diameter threaded parts. For high-tolerance connections, the JET-LOK TL-90 Wicking/ Retaining Sealant penetrates before curing. JET-LOK TL 22-50 Removable Screw Lock and TL 42-50 Nut Lock are vibration-proof but their seal can be broken with common hand tools.

For pipe connections, JET-LOK PS-92 and PS-67 Pipe Sealants with PTFE provide an instant seal and cures to burst pipe pressure. The PTFE content in this pipe sealant provides lubrication and prevents galling when connections are made.

Iron Derrickman racking board pipe handling system

Iron Derrickman Ltd has introduced the first Iron Derrickman racking board pipe handling system designed to fit into existing double and triple drilling rig masts, with little or no modifications. This equipment takes the place of a derrickman working at the racking board during drilling and tripping operations and is the next step to removing personnel from the drill floor. After 6 months of extensive testing, the first Iron Derrickman followed by 4 more units will be put to work on pad drilling operations for Ensign Drilling US. ■