



Varel International opens office in Barnett Shale region

Varel International has announced the opening of its office in the Barnett Shale region. The office, located in Haslet, Texas, will provide sales and service functions for customers operating in this dynamic region.

Varel has been active in this market for more than 6 years. "The combination of the recent growth and forecasted drilling activity in this region justified the need for us to dedicate resources exclusively to this area," said **William Burton**, VP of Sales & Operations for Western Hemisphere-North.

Boots & Coots completes acquisition of hydraulic well control business

Boots & Coots International Well Control reported that its previously announced acquisition of the hydraulic well control business (HWC) of **Oil States International** closed on 3 March.

The company also announced that 2 members have been added to its board of directors. **Douglas Swanson** and **Cindy Taylor** have been appointed to the board as independent directors. **Gabriel Aldape**, former VP - Finance of HWC, was appointed as interim Chief Financial Officer of Boots & Coots.

"This acquisition represents the achievement of a significant milestone as we expand our pressure control service capabilities," said **Jerry Winchester**, president & CEO of Boots & Coots.

Draka opens Aberdeen center

Draka Marine, Oil & Gas International has announced the grand opening of its distribution center in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Draka Distribution Aberdeen will serve as a global resource as well as provide local support to customers in the North Sea market with wire and cable needs for newbuild and maintenance repair projects.

Newbuild orders at Keppel FELS

Keppel FELS has secured a \$132 million contract from a wholly owned special purpose company of **SeaDrill Ltd** for a KFELS B Class jackup rig. Delivery is expected in the second quarter of 2008.

The company has also secured a second order for a KFELS B Class jackup rig valued at \$184 million from **Jindal Group**, based in India. The rig is due for delivery in late 2008.

M-I SWACO cuttings transport system wins NOIA's Safety in Seas award

The National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) recently named M-I SWACO's CLEAN CUT automatic cuttings collection and transport system the winner of its Safety in Seas award.

The award recognizes excellence among those who have contributed to improving the safety of life offshore. The CLEAN CUT dense phase pneumatic conveying technology was named the recipient of this year's award in recognition of its contributions to safety at sea. The totally enclosed pneumatic system is used to collect and transport drill cuttings from offshore rigs and platforms to onshore treatment and disposal facilities.

Compared with the typical "skip and ship" approach, the system offers a safer and more environmentally acceptable method of collecting, storing and transporting drill wastes. A key benefit of the technology is a significant reduction in crane lifts.



Amos Bussmann (right), president of award sponsor Compass Publications Inc, presents the Safety in Seas award to Loren Carroll, president and CEO of M-I SWACO.

The award was presented to **Loren Carroll**, president and CEO of M-I SWACO, at NOIA's annual meeting in Washington, DC. Compass Publications established the award in 1978.

An independent selection committee, including representatives from the US Coast Guard, the National Academy of Sciences' Marine Board and the Minerals Management Service, reviewed the nominations and selected M-I SWACO as the winner.

Eventure Global Technology adds 3 to its business development teams

Eventure Global Technology recently announced the addition of **Antonio Rana** to its sales and marketing team as business development manager in Asia Pacific. Mr Rana will support technical and business development activities in Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam.



Antonio Rana

Mr Rana has worked for **Halliburton**, **Cooper Cameron**, **AVA** and **Dresser Oil**

Tools, and **Schlumberger**. He holds a mechanical engineering degree from the Professional School of Chalong Sur Saone in France.

Eventure also has announced the addition of **Wael El-Mofty** to its sales and marketing team as General Manager for Saudi Arabia. He will support technical

and business development activities in Saudi Arabia.

Mr El-Mofty has held management positions with various international companies. He earned a chemical engineering degree from Cairo University and received his management diploma from the American University in Cairo.



Wael El-Mofty

Additionally, Eventure has announced that **Gary Prehoda** is joining as its Global Director of Sales. Mr Prehoda will lead a business development team that last year accounted for more than \$65 million in sales of Solid Expandable Tubular (SET) systems. He previously worked for Schlumberger in global sales development. He holds a BS in petroleum engineering from the University of Wyoming.

BJ Tubular wins contracts to provide services in Libya

BJ Tubular Services announced it has been awarded a contract by Woodside Energy Ltd for casing and tubing running and completion assembly services in Libya. The 2-year contract began in April and is expected to include services in the Murzuq Basin, southwest of Tripoli near the Algerian border. All services will be supplied from BJ's new base in Misurata, 200 km east of Tripoli.

The company also has been awarded a contract by Compagnie Des Petroles Total Libye to provide well services offshore Libya. BJ will be supplying conductor cold-cutting services as well as hammer conductor-driving services. The contract will be carried out from BJ's operations base in Tripoli.

InterMoor installs 1st SEPLA in Gulf of Mexico

InterMoor Inc, an Acteon company, has successfully installed the world's first permanent SEPLA mooring system for a floating production unit in the Gulf of Mexico.

SEPLAs (suction embedded plate anchors), which is proprietary to InterMoor, uses polyester rope to lower cost and to improve performance over conventional steel catenary systems.

The system was designed for ATP Oil & Gas Corp to match the life of ATP's Gomez facility. Gomez is situated in about 3,000 ft of water in the Gulf of Mexico's Mississippi Canyon 711.

PRODUCTS

Varel's Challenger Jet Air bits designed for underbalanced operations

Varel International has introduced Challenger Jet Air journal bearing bits, its new tungsten carbide roller cone product line specifically designed for underbalanced drilling applications.

The inserts are made from harder, more water-resistant grades of tungsten carbide and are further enhanced using Varel's patent-pending High Energy Tumbling (HET™) process. HET significantly improves fracture toughness and impact resistance of standard tungsten carbide inserts. The use of special bit and cone geometries and insert arrangements results in efficient drilling while reducing sliding contact and wear, effectively extending bit life. The back rows feature semi-round top inserts instead of flat-topped insert to cut the wall of the hole and maintain full gage hole longer.

The bits feature sophisticated floating element bearings with silver-plated com-

ponents. An advanced, thermally stable lubricant with low friction coefficient keeps the bearings running cool in harsh conditions. A radial elongated seal made from an abrasion-

resistant, high saturated nitrile (HSN) elastomer provides effective sealing for long bit life.

The bits also feature interchangeable steel nozzles held in place with nail retention. This interchangeability allows nozzle sizes to be selected based on the surface equipment and application in order to optimize hole cleaning.

Challenger Jet Air bits, in diameters 8 3/4-in. and larger, can be optionally fitted with a specifically designed center nozzle to enhance bit cleaning and prevent balling when drilling sticky formations or when injecting water.

The bits are available in sizes 6 1/4 in. to 11 in.



Halliburton Security DBS Drill Bits offers brochure on rotary steerable drill bits

Halliburton Security DBS Drill Bits is offering a new brochure on its HyperSteer and FullDrift drill bits, a complete line of drill bits for all rotary steerable applications. This family of drill bits is suitable for both push-the-bit and point-the-bit drilling systems. Each rotary steerable bit is custom-designed to optimize directional control, vibration and bore hole quality. The HyperSteer



and FullDrift Bits are based on the company's FM3000 fixed cutter technology platform, with Z3 cutters.

The brochure features a dynamic gatefold with illustrations of key

aspects of bit optimization and software design tools.

Schlumberger introduces new service to evaluate zonal isolation

Schlumberger has introduced its new Isolation Scanner cement evaluation service. It enables accurate evaluation of traditional, heavyweight and latest-generation lightweight and foam cements.

By measuring radially and deeper toward the formation, the Isolation Scanner confirms zonal isolation, pin-points any channels in the cement, and enables squeeze or no-squeeze decisions. It also provides information about casing and casing-within-casing eccentricity.

The Isolation Scanner combines traditional pulse-echo techniques with a new ultrasonic technique that induces a flexural wave in the casing using a transmitter and 2 receivers. The analysis of the flexural waves at the 2 receivers enables the characterization of the cased-hole environment in terms of the acoustic velocity of the material filling the annulus between casing and formation or the second casing string.

Prime Energy compressor is oil-free

Prime Energy is offering the first 100% oil-free compressors designed for offshore applications. The diesel-driven high-pressure units, the PNS 1250-offshore, will be used primarily for cleaning pipes, dehydration, pressure-testing pipes and instrument-air applications such as operating valves. The 100% oil-free design eliminates the risk of unwanted oil contamination and increases the longevity of drying equipment. It has an operating pressure ranging from 80 to 350 psig.