THE 2004 DRILLING Engineering Association (DEA) Workshop, Step Changes in Drilling Technology, is set for 22-23 June at the Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston. The conference is sponsored by the Minerals Management Service (MMS).

Registration begins at 7:30 am with coffee service sponsored by Blade Energy Partners USA. DEA Chairman Morris Keene, Occidental Oil & Gas Corporation, will open the conference with welcoming remarks at 8:20 am followed by a keynote presentation moderated by Mr. Keene.

The keynote address will be presented by Julio Quintana, Vice President Exploration for Schlumberger Oilfield Services. Mr. Quintana will discuss Systems Engineering in Research and Development.

The conference’s first session, Rigs I will include two presentations. Mark Childers with Atwood Oceanics will present Tender Assist Drilling–A Viable Deepwater Development Concept. The second presentation, Slider-Surface Automation for Direction Drilling, will be presented by Eric Maidla with Slider LLC.

A break follows this session at 10 with the second session, Downhole Tools I, beginning at 10:30 moderated by Gary Collins, ConocoPhillips, and David Dowell, ChevronTexaco.

The first presentation, The Development of the First “TRUE” Oilfield Air Hammer, will be presented by John Adam Meyers, Diamond Air Drilling Services; Rainer S Beccu, Drilco Tools SA; and Tommy E Taylor, Fasken Oil & Ranch Ltd.

Innovative Downhole Tool to Compensate for Dynamics Pressure Losses in Drilling Applications with Narrow Operating Windows will be presented by Sven Kruger, Volker Kruger and Gerald Heisig with Baker Hughes INTEQ, and Franco Donati and Roberto Panciulli with ENI E&P.

The third presentation of the session is Very High-Speed Drill String Communications Network by David Hall with Novatek/Intelliserve.

Luncheon and exhibit viewing begins at Noon followed at 1:15 pm with the Drilling Fluids I session moderated by Ron Bland, Baker Hughes INTEQ, and Don Duttlinger, Petroleum Technology Transfer Council. The first presentation, Alternative Approaches to Dual Fluids II, begins at 1:30 pm, moderated by Mr. Keene.

The second presentation of the session will be Maximizing Reservoir Potential Using Enhanced Analytical Techniques with Underbalanced Drilling by Sara Shayegi, Emad Bakri Ibrahim and Humberto Rueda with Halliburton Energy Services.

A coffee break and exhibition viewing begins at 2:45 pm followed by a session on HPHT at 3:15 moderated by Mike Harris with Apache Corporation.

Eddie Robertson with Rowan Companies will present Deep Drilling for Natural Gas on the Shelf: With the Introduction to HPHT Environment, Drilling Contractors Must Take Steps in the Right Direction.

The next presentation, by David Lewis with Blade Energy Partners, is HPHT Deep Gas Well Design Learnings.

James Griffith with Halliburton will make the third presentation of the session, Finite Element Analysis Simplifies Complex Engineering of Cement Sheaths for HPHT Production Operations.

A welcoming reception and exhibition viewing begins at 5 pm.

On Wednesday, 23 June, Mr. Keene will moderate the second keynote presentation of the conference followed by the day’s first session on Risers. Moderated by Mike Utt with UNOCAL, the session will feature two presentations. Hilton Prejean with Tuboscope will present Full Length Inspection of Marine Risers Utilizing a High Speed Multi-Channel Full Circumference Profiling System. Li Lee and Don Allen with Shell Global Solutions will present A Solution to IV4 of Drilling Risers in Loop Currents.

At 10:30 am, following a coffee break, is the Downhole Tools II session moderated by Mr Collins and Mr Dowell. Turbo-drill and High Speed Bit Analysis in Extreme Drilling Applications will be presented by Rocky Seale, Tim Beaton, Sii Neyrfor and Carl Hoffmaster with Smith Bits Geodiamond.

Jack Kolle and Ken Theimer with Tempress will present Seismic-While-Drilling with a Swept Impulse Source.

Luncheon follows this session from 11:30-12:30 when the Rigs II session begins, moderated by Mr. Keene.

Bryce Levett and Hugh Elkins with Varco Drilling Equipment will make the session’s first presentation, Continuous Circulation System: Constant Drilling Fluid Circulation Even During Connections. James Armstrong with WZI Offshore LLC will present Drilling the Wetlands Adjoining the GOM for Deep Gas Without Dredging.

The conference’s final session, Drilling Fluids II, begins at 1:30 pm, moderated by Mr Bland and Mr Duttlinger.

Three presentations are included in this session. Manuel E Gonzalez with ChevronTexaco will present Wellbore Stresses and Thermal Effects.

Hong (Max) Wang and Ron Sweatman with Halliburton Energy Services will present New Technology Can Widen Mud Weight Windows to Significantly Lower Well Costs.

The final presentation is Offshore Managed Pressure Drilling Activity by Don Hannegan with Weatherford.

Closing remarks and adjournment follow this session.