

OTC offers the latest technology and innovations

INNOVATION WITHOUT LIMITS is this year's Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) theme marking the organization's 35th anniversary. In addition to discussing innovation as it relates to offshore oil and gas E&P, this year's OTC includes several firsts for the conference.

OTC still offers its usual array of industry breakfasts, the popular awards luncheon and the timely topics offered at its general sessions.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS, CITATIONS

During this year's awards luncheon, honoring **F Richard Frisbie** and the NaKika Project, OTC will present a special citation to **IADC**, an Endorsing Organization, and the Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) for their foresight, initiation and leadership in the development of the "IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines."

The Deepwater Well Control Task Force, established in 1997, comprised 54 volunteers representing 36 IADC and OOC member companies, government and academia. **Diamond Offshore** Vice President-Operations Support **Moe Plaisance** chaired the task force, completing the guidelines in 1998 covering well planning, well control procedures, equipment, emergency response and training.

At the Minerals Management Services' (MMS) request in 2000, the task force was reassembled to produce a special supplement to the guidelines addressing the prevention of unplanned riser disconnects on floating rigs.

The OTC Distinguished Achievement Award for Individuals goes to F Richard Frisbie for his vision and leadership over several decades in the advancement of enabling technology to allow the realization of deepwater drilling and production, especially the use of remotely operated vehicles (ROVs).

OTC's Distinguished Achievement Award for Companies, Organizations, and Institutions will be presented to **Shell** and **BP** for outstanding application of technology in the design, construction and installation of the Na Kika floating development and production system in 6,350 ft of water, and the associated subsea infrastructure that ties together six fields.

DEBUTS IN 2004

OTC Papers Online, a searchable database of more than 9,000 technical papers from all OTC meetings since 1969, enables anyone doing research related to the offshore oil and gas industry to quickly locate relevant data from the abundance of technical information presented at this premier event.

OTC developed a fully searchable database that allows users

to purchase and download papers in PDF format. Users can search for a specific paper by title or paper number. They can also input a phrase or question to describe a research need and locate all relevant papers, listed by order of relevance.

OTC also introduces its first recruitment event via Oilcareerfair, which provides a forum for conference attendees to interact with potential employers.

It also offers recruiting companies the chance to meet face-to-face with potential talent. Oilcareerfair has had a presence since 2002 at various conferences.

GENERAL SESSIONS

LNG is the topic of discussion during an OTC General Session and two technical sessions this year. *Liquefied Natural Gas - Understanding the Value Chain*, will present the history and future direction of LNG.

Panelists will discuss upstream operations; LNG processing; transportation, regasification and distribution.

Industry representatives from the operating community will address market forces and regional supply and demand requirements that underlie growth in LNG.

Moderating this general session is **Rodney Schmidt**, Managing Director of **PFC**. Panelists include **Steve J Lowden**, Senior Vice President, Business Development and Integrated Gas for **Marathon Oil Corporation**; **Charles M Reimer**, President, **Freeport LNG Development**; **Audi Setter**, Vice President, International Marketing and Business Development, **ChevronTexaco Global Gas**; and **Anne Quinn**, Group Vice President Gas & Power, **BP**.

A second general session will look at the *Risks and Challenges to the Successful Execution of Major Offshore Projects*. This general session addresses four critical risks key to the successful execution of major projects around the world: financial, contracts, geopolitical and technological.

The session is moderated by **Kris R Nielsen**, Chairman of **The Nielsen-Wurster Group**. Panelists include **Rodney Cook**, Africa and Middle East Business Unit Manager for **Noble Energy**; **Jean Francois Duhot**, Vice President, Development Studies for **Total**; **Jon Erik Reinhardsen**, Group Executive Vice President for **Aker Kvaerner**; **Bart Heijermans**, Vice President Offshore for **GulfTerra Energy Partners**; and **James A "Buddy" DeVoe**, Vice President, **ABB Lummus Global Floating Production Systems**.

TOPICAL LUNCHEONS

Nine topical lunches are scheduled during OTC. On Monday, 3



May, *Trends in Drilling Operations for Exploratory and Development Wells in Deep Water* will be presented by **Jean Cahuzac**, Executive Vice President and COO for **Transocean**.

Opportunities for Investment in the North Sea will be presented by **Stephen Timms**, UK Minister of State for Energy, e-Commerce and Postal Services.

Dilma Rouseff, Minister of Mines and Energy in Brazil will present *Strategies for Improving the Oil and Gas Industry in Brazil*.

Topical Lunches scheduled for Tuesday, 4 May include *Business Relations Between Operators and the Service Industry - Who Takes the Financial Risk of the Project* presented by **Daniel Valot**, Chairman and CEO of **Technip**.

Norwegian Perspectives on Global Oil and Gas Challenges will be discussed by **Einar Steensnaes**, Minister of Petroleum and Energy for Norway.

Matt Simmons, Chairman and CEO of **Simmons & Company International**, will discuss *The Future Cost to Create More Energy*.

On Thursday, 6 May, **Graham Searle**, Director of EP Projects, **Shell International Exploration & Production**, will present *Managing Mega-Mega Projects*.

From Subsea to Outer Space and Back by Astronaut **Mike Gernhardt** will discuss the physiological and technological parallels between subsea construction and assembling the international space station.

The last topical luncheon will look at rebuilding Iraq, presented by **William H Lash, III**, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access and Compliance, International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce.

INDUSTRY BREAKFASTS

Industry breakfasts are scheduled for 4-6 May. During Tuesday's breakfast, *CNG: An Emerging Marine Gas Transport Industry* will be discussed with Session Chair **Paul S Britton**, Managing Director, **EnerSea Transport**.

Speakers will include **Matt Simmons**; **Matthew D Palmer**, Project Manager - Compressed Natural Gas, ChevronTexaco Global Gas; **William J Sember**, Vice President Energy Development, **American Bureau of Shipping**; and **Axel Meisen**, President and Vice Chancellor, **Memorial University**.

Wednesday's topic is *Examining Angola's Offshore Opportunities*, hosted by the US Department of Commerce with moderator **Helen J Burroughs**, Director, Office of Energy, **International Trade Administration**. Speakers will include **Desiderio da Costa**, Angola's Minister of Petroleum; **Manuel Vicente**, CEO of **Sonangol**; and **George Yapunicich**, Angola Business Development Manger for **Baker Hughes**.

Thursday's breakfast will feature *Commercial Opportunities in Qatar's Offshore Oil and Gas Sectors* moderated by Ms Burroughs.

Speakers will include **J Anthony Meyer**, Vice President, International and Alaska Operations for **Anadarko Petroleum**; and **Nasser K Jaidah**, Director, **Oil & Gas Ventures**.

ACTIVE ARENA

Active Arena will be held Thursday, 6 May from 9:30 am to noon. *Independent Operators - The Future of the North Sea* will be the topic. The maturity of the US Gulf of Mexico's shelf resulted in smaller discoveries and an exit by many major operators for deeper waters and international areas.

The North Sea is facing a similar situation with smaller discoveries and majors directing their investments to areas offering greater reserves. In both cases, independent oil and gas companies moved in to replace the majors.

The panel will explore similarities between the North Sea and Gulf of Mexico and if lessons learned can be applied to the North Sea and vice versa.

Panelists include **John Evans**, Inland Revenue Assistant Director; **Mel Fitzgerald**, Regional Vice President, **Halliburton Energy Services Group**; **Daniel McNease**, CEO, **Rowan Companies**; **Thomas J Morrow**, President, **Challenger Minerals**; **Taf Powell**, Head of Offshore Division, HSE Hazardous Installations Directorate; **Cameron Stewart**, UK Department of Trade and Industry; **Simon Toole**, Director of Exploration, Licensing and Development UK DTI; and **Ian Whewell**, Deputy Director of Offshore Division, Health & Safety Executive. ■