

# Drilling Onshore America targets training, mentoring

**IADC DRILLING ONSHORE** America is the industry's premier forum for the presentation of ideas relating to onshore drilling technology, training and HSE, drilling contracts and equipment issues. The conference is set for 19 May at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside.

Conference sponsors include **Grant Prideco, Halliburton Energy Services, Hydril Company, Pason Systems USA Corporation, and Smith Services.**

Conference attendees will hear longtime industry participants and observers provide their experience and expertise for various topics that will be presented throughout the day long conference.

Attendees will leave the conference with new knowledge and insight about personnel recruitment and then how to retain the new employee' training for the new hires for drilling operations; and mentoring programs to help assure the

Closing out the conference is the always anticipated market outlook session that always features the keen insight of the drilling and E&P market by industry analysts and observers with years of experiencing reporting on the industry.

The conference will also feature numerous companies exhibiting their products such as rig equipment and training materials.

The conference opens with a welcoming breakfast featuring two seasoned drilling contractor executives that will share their perspectives on the outlook for the land drilling industry and the challenges it faces in today's extremely strong market.



Scott Gordon

Coast Division Manager for UnitDrilling Company.

## RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

Three sessions during the morning will provide the conference attendees with expert insight and knowledge to be able to better hire qualified people and then to be able to keep them once they are hired.

**Dr Roy Rhodes, R R Consulting,** provides the conference with his years of personnel recruiting, training and retention knowledge and experience to discuss Personnel Recruitment and Retention: Aptitude and Attitude. Dr Rhodes will offer insights on testing applicants for aptitude and attitude in order to help the company keep its qualified new hires on the job.

The discussion of personnel continues with training issues discussed by **Ron Walsmith, Director of Oil & Gas Train-**



**Drilling Onshore America focuses its attention on recruitment, training and mentoring efforts in the industry plus market and equipment trends.**

Photo courtesy of Nabors Drilling

industry continues to be staffed with qualified knowledgeable people.

In addition to personnel and training issues and initiatives, the conference will also present experts on compensation programs and downhole bonuses; spill prevention responsibilities; and new rig inspection standards.

Moderated by **Scott Gordon,** Division Vice President, Land, IADC, the panel will include **George Dotson,** President and COO, **Helmerich & Payne International Drilling,** and **Cloyce Talbot,** CEO, **Patterson-UTI Drilling Company LP.** The breakfast panel is moderated by **Scott Gordon,** Division Vice President, Land, IADC, and Vice President & Gulf

ing, **High Plains Technology Center.** In 2002, IADC began working with the US Department of Labor to develop drilling training for new hires at several junior colleges around the southwest, resulting in \$8 million in federal grants shared among three schools that offer such training. The program has subsequently expanded to include training for derrickmen and supervisors. High Plains Tech-

nology Center is one of the three schools that provide the training, and Mr Wal-smith will outline the components of the program at his institution.

Rounding out the personnel and training sessions will be two HSE specialists in the onshore drilling industry that will discuss mentoring programs. As people in the industry today become older and then retire, their roles must be filled by good qualified people.

To assure continuity of knowledge and to avoid reinventing the wheel, some drilling contractors are instituting mentoring programs to accelerate the knowledge of young people while preserving institutional knowledge.

Discussing the mentoring programs will be **Rick Heck**, Director, Safety, Health & Environment, Unit drilling Company, and **Warren Hubler**, Vice President, HSE, Helmerich & Payne International Drilling Company.

#### EQUIPMENT AND CONTRACTS

The afternoon presentations following lunch and time to visit with the exhibitors, includes a session on Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure

(SPCC) plans. The presentation by **Donald Smith**, Senior On-Scene Coordinator for **EPA Region 6**, will provide advice on precisely what the contractors' responsibilities are regarding SPCC.

In another afternoon presentation, a labor specialist will provide attendees with information to ensure that their company's bonus plans is in accordance with the provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. **Bill Clineburg**, an attorney at **King & Spalding LLP**, will provide the conference with his expertise on the topic.

Current inspection standards and practices for masts, derricks, substructures and traveling equipment will be examined during the conference. **Bill Hedrick**, Vice President, HSE & Regulatory Affairs for **Rowan Companies**, will examine the impact of last year's changes to API RP-4G, including inspection. He will also review API RP-8, which provides inspection standards for traveling equipment.

#### MARKET OUTLOOK

Closing out the conference is the much anticipated market outlook session will feature two long-time industry observers

who will help the attendees determine "How High is Up?"

The domestic onshore drilling market is extremely strong, and many in the industry believe it will continue to strengthen as long as commodity prices remain at their record levels. **Allen Parks**, Partner, **Parks, Paton, Hoepfl & Brown**, and **Marshall Adkins**, Managing Director, **Raymond James & Associates**, will tell all they can while prognosticating on the future of the onshore drilling and E&P industries.

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE

A special thanks go to the following committee members for their support in organizing the IADC Drilling Onshore America Conference:

**Ray Brazzel**, **Bandera Drilling Company**; **Larry Burnett**, **Grey Wolf Drilling Company**; **Scott Gordon**, **Unit Drilling Company**; **Clyde Hebert**, **Helmerich & Payne International Drilling Company**; **Ernie Nelson**, **Nabors Drilling USA**; **Jim Nicklos**, **Nicklos Drilling Company**; **Danny Patterson**, **Rowan Companies**; and **Joe Hurt** and **Mike Killalea**, **IADC**. ■

The advertisement features a background of a textured, brownish surface. At the top left is the IADC 1940-2005 logo. The main title "IADC DRILLING HSE EUROPE 2005" is in large, bold, gold letters. Below it is the tagline "GETTING TO ZERO: PROGRESSING TOWARD AN INCIDENT-FREE WORKING ENVIRONMENT". The "ENDORSED BY" section includes logos for the Danish Energy Authority, IRO, and the Petroleum Safety Authority Norway. The "SPONSORED BY" section includes logos for Mærsk Oil & Gas AS, Noble Energy, Dong Energy, Hess, ENSCO, and Maersk Contractors. Contact information for IADC Europe is provided, including a phone number, email address, and website. The event dates (19-20 May 2005) and location (Esberg Performing Arts Centre, Esberg, Denmark) are listed at the bottom.