



Nabors' training takes safety to a new level: More facilities planned

Ken Willis, Regional Superintendent of Training, Rocky Mountain Region, Nabors Drilling USA

NABORS DRILLING USA'S (NDUSA) Rocky Mountain Region is giving new employees an opportunity to experience a drilling rig first hand through the use of a training rig and facility operating in Caspar, Wyoming. Rig 968 has been operating for 18 months and is rigged up on cased hole to provide the necessary tools to enhance and train the crews working in the Rockies.



Nabors Drilling USA's training rig is used to train employees in the Rocky Mountain Region, which includes Wyoming, Colorado and North Dakota operations.

With the proven success of the training program in the Rockies, NDUSA is adding additional training facilities in 2005. NDUSA is sharing the Nabors Offshore training facilities located in Houma, Louisiana, and began rig-based training in April.

This facility provides trained employees for the Gulf Coast District. Additional rig-based training facilities are planned for the Oklahoma area to be operational this year, supplying trained employees for the Mid-Continent District.

FULLY FUNCTIONAL RIG

Rig 968 is a fully functional triple, and trainees perform tasks on the rig just as they would in the field. The rig is described as a performance enhancement training tool from entry level to follow-up training for all rig crew positions.

The training facility is also utilized to assist with breaking out new derricks, in addition to a maintenance training course for drillers and motorhands.

The addition of the training rig has been an incredible asset to the region. NDUSA is shifting its focus on placing equal value to safety and operation efficiency, utilizing this training rig to assist in achieving that goal.

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Use of the Employee Development Team for field training has taken the training center program to the field for the purpose of gaining consistency across all positions.

The team consists of nine individuals dedicated to taking safety to another level at Nabors. A Toolpusher, Driller and Derrickman run the training rig site, and the other six team members are on two-man training teams. One is an

Operational Trainer and the other is an HSE Trainer.

The HSE Trainer introduces the tools necessary to work safely and the Operational Trainer, often a toolpusher or driller, shows the hands how to use the tools in their daily course of work.

NDUSA has worked closely with its customers on several projects to enhance the operational and HSE efficiency of each of the company's rigs through the training. It all leads to the rig crews getting the mindset that a safe operation is an efficient operation, and, conversely, an efficient operation is a safe operation.



Ken Willis, Regional Superintendent of Training for the Rocky Mountain Region of Nabors Drilling USA, created the materials, curriculum and program for the training rig and facility.

NDUSA has received great support in this training effort, not only from Nabors management, but also from the operators for which the company works.

Safety has equal importance and priority on their rigs and operation. The Rocky Mountain Region has established a firm stance with making safety a value from their floorhands to their pushers. NDUSA wants its employees to go home the same way they came to work.

The best way to accomplish that is to provide training for the workforce, to focus on the inputs instead of the outputs and assist them to take ownership in the rig. When they take personal stock in the rig they perform better across the board.

The Rocky Mountain Region will continue using the training rig to enhance its workforce. It has become a vital tool in the Region's goal of training its workforce to obtain an incident and injury free mindset. ■