



DRILL BITS

November 2002

The Monthly Newsletter for IADC Members

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IMO air pollution regulations will likely have impact on MODUs

To date, Annex VI to MARPOL 73/73 has been ratified by 6 nations representing 25% of the world's merchant fleet tonnage. It will enter into force 12 months after being ratified by 15 States whose combined fleets of merchant shipping constitute at least 50% of the world fleet. Provisions of the regulations most likely to impact MODUs are: emission standards for new or upgraded engines; requirements to maintain records on fuel oil quality; and prohibition of any ship-board incineration, except that using "approved" incinerators. At the 48th session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (7-11 Oct), Belgium,

Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Panama and Spain indicated that their national processes for the ratification of the Protocol of 1997 of MARPOL 73/78 had reached the final stages and they would be able to ratify Annex VI by the end of the year or in the first half of 2003. The United Kingdom also indicated the national processes were progressing. This would mean that the Annex might ratify the entry into force conditions in mid 2003 and enter into force before mid 2004. For more information, please contact **Alan Spackman**, ext 207 (alan.spackman@iadc.org).

Coast Guard OIM licensing update

As of October 2002, US Minerals Management Service (MMS) approved course certificates are no longer available. Such certification is a prerequisite for a Coast Guard Offshore Installation Manager (OIM) license.

In November 2000, IADC petitioned the US Coast Guard to amend its regulations in 46CFR 10.470 to accept certificates for approved blowout prevention and well control training courses that are issued by institutions accredited by IADC WellCAP program.

The events of 11 September 2001 and their focus on homeland security redirected their resources for Coast Guard regulation development and they stated it could be up to five years before Interim Final Rule can be published on this material. In the mean-

time, the Coast Guard contacted MMS and researched the history of rulemaking for Licensing of Officers and Operators for MODUs.

They concluded that the requirement had been included at the request of MMS. Since MMS no longer approves training programs but takes a different approach for ensuring personnel on facilities are appropriately trained, the Coast Guard requirement is no longer applicable.

For now, the National Maritime Center (NMC) will issue a policy letter directing Regional Exam Centers (RECS) to not require the MMS certificate from an applicant for Offshore Installation Manager.

For more information, please contact **Alan Spackman**, ext 207 (alan.spackman@iadc.org).

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Rigs receive ASP certificates

Each rig listed below received a certificate for the years indicated since the last LTI:

Six Years

- **Noble Corp**, Rig Noble Lewis Dugger.

Two Years

- **Foresight Drilling Co, Ltd**, Rig Cypress.
- **Noble Drilling**, Rig Noble Ton Van Langeveld;
- **Ensco Offshore Co**, Rig 54, Rig 86;
- **Ensco Asia Pacific Pte, Ltd**, Rig 96;
- **Noble Drilling West Africa**, Rigs Noble Don Walker, Noble Ed, Noble Tommy Craighead;
- **Caza Drilling (California) Inc**, Rigs 516, 512, 506;
- **Rowan Companies Inc**, Rowan Gorilla II Rig 028.

One Year

- **Noble Drilling**, Rigs Noble Julie Robertson, Noble George Sauvageau, Noble Ronald Hoope;
- **Noble Drilling West Africa**, Rigs Tommy Craighead, Noble Perry Johns, Noble Lloyd Noble;
- **Caza Drilling (California) Inc**, Rigs, 516, 514, 513, 512, 511, 508, 506, 505;
- **Rowan Companies, Inc**, Rig 52, Land 52, Land 35, Gorilla III 044;
- **Pride Foramer**, Rig Pride Pennsylvania;
- **National Drilling & Services Co**, Rigs 10, 31;
- **Comanpa, C.A.**, Rig Comanpa-24;
- **Union Drilling**, Rig 2, 6, 25, 48.

WellCAP updates

Full WellCAP Accreditation:

- Randy Smith Training Solutions program renewal;
- Diamond Offshore Drilling Company - Introductory WellCAP;
- The Drilling Staff Training Center of Shengli Petroleum Adm Bureau;
- Daqing Well Control Training Center of China;

Rig moving committee is formed

Drilling contractor and rig transportation personnel in the Land Operations Division recently formed a Rig Moving Committee. The goal of the committee is to improve safety during the rig moving and transportation process.

The committee intends to monitor regulatory issues that affect the movement of drilling rigs and related equipment. **Steve Adam** of **Peak USA** was selected as chairman of the new committee. Task groups

were established to review Rig Move Procedures, current DOT regulations, and to invite additional interested companies to the next meeting to be held at the Peak USA office at 515 W. Greens Road, Suite 1170, Houston on 19 November 2002.

For information, contact **Steve Adam** at 281-872-7325 (sadam@peakusa.com) or **Joe Hurt**, ext 224 (joe.hurt@iadc.org).

WellCAP sites visits conducted

Five WellCAP site visits were conducted in September and October at various locations in the People's Republic of China and in the state of California. The visits were conducted by Steve Kropla, Director of Accreditation & Certification for IADC.

China site visits took place from early to mid-September at the Drilling Staff Training Center of Shengli Petroleum Administration Bureau, Dongying, Shandong; the Well Control Training Center of Zhong Yuan Petroleum Exploration Bureau, Puyang, Henan; Karamay Drilling Company's Western China Well Control Center in Karamay, Xinjiang; and the Daqing Well Control Training Center in Daqing, Heilongjiang.

Mr Kropla was assisted with translation and technical review services on all four vis-

its by **Xu Zhe** of **MSP Drilex**. In addition, he was assisted on the Shengli and Daqing visits by **Yu Wenping** of **Sinopec** (China Petrochemical Corporation).

All four schools previously had been awarded provisional accreditation and required the initial site visits to be considered for full accreditation. In early October, Mr Kropla conducted an initial site visit at the WESTEC (Westside Energy Services Training and Education Center) well control training school in Shafter, California. That facility also had received provisional accreditation and required a site visit to be considered for full accreditation.

For more information, contact **Steve Kropla**, ext 211 (steve.kropla@iadc.org).

International Sewage Pollution Prevention Certificate required

The IMO Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships will enter into force on 27 September 2003 in accordance with article 15 (2) of MARPOL 73/78.

An International Sewage Pollution Certificate will be required for any ship engaged

in voyages to port or offshore terminals under the jurisdiction of other Parties of the Convention.

The acceptance of Norway of this annex satisfied the conditions for implementation.

For information, contact **Alan Spackman**, ext 207 (alan.spackman@iadc.org).

DOT to change drug & alcohol form

In the 30 Sept Federal Register, the Department of Transportation's Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance (ODAPC) proposes to revise the Management Information Systems (MIS) forms currently used within six US DOT operating administrations (OA) for submission of annual drug and alcohol program data.

Included in DOT operating administrations are US Coast Guard as well as the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administra-

tion. DOT proposes to streamline and standardize the annual reporting of drug and alcohol data by the use of a one page data collection form.

Comments on the proposed rulemaking are to be submitted to the docket by 14 Nov 2002. Additional information on this proposed rule change can be obtained from **Alan Spackman**, ext 207 (alan.spackman@iadc.org) or **Joe Hurt**, ext 224 (joe.hurt@iadc.org).

Tee off at the Southern Arabian Peninsula Chapter Golf Tournament 12 & 13 Dec

The SAPC Golf Tournament will be held over two days for a group of 224 players on the 12 & 13 Dec, with the first day being at the Dubai Creek Golf Club and the second day at the Emirates Golf Club (EGC) in Dubai.

The Southern Arabian Peninsula Chapter Golf Tournament is now the largest corporate golf tournament in the region and gathers contractors, service and operating personnel from throughout the Gulf and beyond.

For information, contact **Gordon McGeachy** (toes@emirates.net.ae, **Dave Kiem** (ansonuae@emirates.net.ae or **Thomas Ng** (thomas.ng@weatherford.co.ae).

Advertise in the "03 IADC Directory

If you do business with the worldwide rig fleet, the 2003 IADC Membership Directory in an outstanding advertising value. The Directory will include separate listings for all IADC members and other key information.

The Directory, the drilling industry's definitive corporate reference, puts your marketing message in the hands of 5,000 drilling and producing executives.

Plan now to show your support of the vision and goals of your Association by scheduling an ad in the 2003 IADC Membership Directory. For more information, call **Mike Killalea**, ext 222 or your local Oil & Gas Journal sales office.

Offshore Operators Committee to meet 4 Dec 2002

The Offshore Operators Committee General Membership Meeting is being held on Wednesday, 4 Dec 2002 at 9:00 am at the Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel in Kenner, LA.

For more information, call **Allen J Verret**, OOC Executive Director at 1/504 561 2598.

IADC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines updated

IADC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines have been updated to include new topics such as Unplanned Disconnects in deepwater drilling; Riser Margin Overview; External Pressure Loading of BOP Equipment, and more. Now available in an easy-to-reference, perfect bound manual. For more information on this publication or a 2002 publications Directory, contact **Jason McFarland**, ext 214 (jason.mcfarland@iadc.org).

A must have video

IADC now offers a *Safe Offshore Personnel Basket Transfer Procedures* video. The video covers proper inspection and maintenance procedures and demonstration of safe use practices. Moxie Media, 13 minutes. Contact **Jason McFarland**, ext 214 (jason.mcfarland@iadc.org).

NOAA stipulations potential harm to offshore leasing

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is currently conducting a formal interagency Endangered Species Act consultation on the multi-sale draft Biological Opinion (BO) prepared by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lease Sales in the current Five-Year Plan. The draft NOAA BO contains stipulations for OCS sales that could complicate or compromise the MMS leasing program. In a joint letter to MMS, seven national trade associations including IADC, expressed support for efforts by both MMS and NOAA to develop a final BO that uses sound science to define prudent and effective policy to protect marine mammals and endangered species. The trade associations highlighted areas of concern with the BO. First, it does not include

or allow for future consideration of the results of a major series of research cruises involving sperm whale migrations to replace the outdated studies included in the BO. Second, the National Marine Fisheries Service hasn't established a resolution goal based on sound science that can be tested in partnership with industry. Third, conclusions about specific types of responses conflict with information cited and give the appearance of retrofitting the data to match a prior conclusion that assumes adverse effects on marine life by offshore E&P operations.

Adoption of the BO as drafted is likely to result in unnecessary delays, potentially costing jobs and reducing access to valuable OCS oil and gas resources. For more information, contact **Brian T Petty**, 1/202 293 0670 (brian.petty@iadc.org).

Kelly appointed to advisory panel

Paul Kelly of **Rowan Companies** has been appointed to serve as a member of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) through July 2004 by the Secretary of the Navy. The Panel is the advisory group to the National Ocean Research Leadership Council. It consists of senior officials of the Government from all major

Federal activities that have national oceanographic responsibilities. The purpose of the panel is to advise the Council on all matters of policy and procedures relating to ocean science and technology. Together, the Council and the Panel are integral parts of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program.

New IADC Safety alerts are issued

- Alert 02-44: Improper storage of hazardous liquid;
- Alert 02-45: Stabbing board incident results in an LTI;
- Alert 02-46: Fall from mud pump;
- Alert 02-47: Air compressor line rupture results in an LTI;

For more information on IADC Safety Alerts, contact **Joe Hurt**, ext 224 (joe.hurt@iadc.org) or **Dawn Brown**, ext 205 (dawn.brown@iadc.org).

SPE/IADC Drilling Conference 19-21 Feb 2003

The 20th Annual SPE/IADC Drilling Conference will be held at the RAI Congress Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands from 19-21 Feb 2003. For information call +44 (0)20 74084466 or www.spe.org or <http://iadc.org>.

IADC welcomes 11 new members

- **Clutchco International Inc,** USA;
- **Delgado Community College,** USA;
- **Friede & Goldman,** USA;
- **Gulf Copper & Mfg. Co,** USA;
- **High Plains Technology Center,** USA;
- **Pruitt Tool & Supply Co, Inc,** USA;
- **Rexnord Corp,** USA;
- **Scanpower Petroleum Technology,** Norway;
- **Teufelberger Seil GMBH,** Austria;
- **Patriot Drilling LLC,** USA;
- **Sedco Drilling Co, Ltd,** USA.

RIG PASS Updates

Accredited RIG PASS Schools:

- Onsite Training Services Aberdeen;
- Saudi Aramco Training & Career Dev. Organization, Saudi Arabia;
- High Plains Technology Center, Woodward, OK;
- Scandrig, Inc, Houston, TX;
- Arabian Drilling Company, Saudi Arabia.

Renewals RIG PASS:

- S.W. Jack Drilling Company, Indiana, PA;
- Total Safety, Inc, Centerville, OH;
- National Drilling & Well Control Program/University of New South Wales - Australia;
- Randy Smith Training Solutions, Lafayette, LA.

For more information, contact **Barbara Burrage**, ext 217 (barbara.burrage@iadc.org).

Surface BOP Workshop for floating drilling operations

The one-day IADC Surface BOP Workshop for Floating Drilling Operations will be held 6 Nov at the Omni Houston Westside Hotel in Houston.

The workshop will address HSE, risk analysis, well construction, and much more. For more information, contact **Leesa Teel**, ext 210 (leesa.teel@iadc.org) or check out the IADC web site.

Share "Best Practices" examples

The principal US Onshore E&P associations, including IADC, have launched an initiative to share "Best Practices" examples.

As an industry, we can learn from experience, improve our ability to avoid disagreements and disputes, and improve credibility and relationships with surface users as well as owners.

The state, regional and national trade associations that represent the E&P sector

are cooperating to gather examples of what producers and contractors have experienced as good operating practices.

These will be compiled and shared within the industry (with no company or specific group identification).

If you have any questions or if you would like to participate, please contact **Joe Hurt**, ext 224 (joe.hurt@iadc.org) or e-mail **Bill F. Whitsitt**, President Domestic Petroleum Council (wfwhtsitt@aol.com).

Legislation expected early 2003 on EU Working Time Directive

IADC is continuing its leadership role in the implementation of the European Union (EU) Working Time Directive as it applies to offshore and onshore oil and gas activities. The outstanding issue to be resolved is the question of reference period and annual leave. In August 2002, offshore industry trade groups, including IADC, sent a letter to the Department of Trade and Industry in London noting the need for a 52 week reference period. The reasons for this are seasonal work involving major maintenance, well servicing, diving, installation and other marine related activities concentrated in spring, summer and autumn months. Safety, weather dependency and available day-

light are critical factors, shutdowns and major maintenance have to be phased, and there are limits to the amount of equipment and the number of available specialists. The UK Continental Shelf is an expensive hydrocarbon province, competing for limited investment funds. A shorter reference period would make industry in the UK less competitive. The offshore associations requested that their views be considered when DTI prepares its official Public Consultation Document.

For more information, please contact **Brian T Petty**, 1/202 293 0670 (brian.petty@iadc.org).

Shipowner liable for a prior injury

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit recently ruled that a shipowner has a duty to pay maintenance and cure to an injured seaman who failed to disclose a prior injury unless it can be shown that, had the shipowner known of the prior injury, the seaman would not have been hired.

In this case, the seaman failed to disclose a prior back injury. The shipowner provided

evidence that, had it known of the prior injury, further medical examinations would have been undertaken.

The court held that the evidence was insufficient to justify a summary judgment in favor of the shipowner. *Britton v. U.S.S. Great Lakes Fleet, Inc.*, No. 01-3567 (9 September 2002). For more information, please contact **Alan Spackman**, ext 207 (alan.spackman@iadc.org).

2003 IADC/SPE UB Conf 25-26 Mar

The premier event of the year in underbalanced technology will be co-sponsored by IADC and SPE at the Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and Convention Center, Houston, Texas, USA, on 25-26 March 2003.

The theme for the event is "*Maximizing Ultimate Recovery and Minimizing Formation Damage Through Underbalanced Operations*." These operations strive to maintain an underbalanced state from the drilling phase through the productive life of

the well. Multiple technical and operational disciplines, working together, are crucial to achieve this goal.

The mission of the conference is to convene a forum to explore underbalanced technology, emphasizing reserve additions, enhancement of well productivity, reduction of formation damage, and advances in drilling, logging, and completion techniques and practices.

For more information, call SPE at 1/972 952 9393 or spe.org.