

# DRILLING CONTRACTOR



## DRILLING SERVICES

### Tesco finishes field trial program

**Tesco Corp** recently used its Casing Drilling™ process to drill and cement a well to a total measured depth of 9,576 ft in 12.6 days.

The well in Wyoming, the last in a 5-well field trial drilling program, was drilled to total depth with a 4½-in. production string.

Tesco has signed a commercial Casing Drilling contract for up to 6 additional wells in the same field.

An earlier well was drilled and cemented using its 4½-in. Casing Drilling tools to a depth of 9,436 ft. That was Tesco's deepest wireline tool retrieval to date and the deepest use of Tesco's proprietary pump

down float system for cementing. During drilling of this well, the proprietary drilling assembly was in the hole for a total of 236 drilling hours before being successfully retrieved by wireline.

On another project in northern British Columbia, Tesco drilled and cemented surface casing to a depth of 232 m with 9½-in. Casing Drilling tools in 33½ hr.

Tool retrieval problems were encountered with the prototype tools on the subsequent 7-in. string. But Tesco expects to eliminate those problems with its new generation of 7-in. Casing Drilling tools available in the first quarter of this year. ■

### Multiple mooring is used in GOM

Multiple mooring techniques were used to moor a semisubmersible drilling rig for **BP** in the US Gulf of Mexico at its Mad Dog III location.

Due to the slope of the sea floor, **Delmar Systems Inc** moored **Diamond Offshore's** Ocean Victory at the 4,300-ft water depth location using a combination of the rig's on-board mooring equipment and 3 preset mooring legs. The preset mooring legs were installed on location using Delmar's patented Subsea Connector and single-ves-sel installation procedure.

The rig's mooring system consists of conventional chain and wire segments attached to high-holding-capacity anchors.

The Delmar suction anchor legs consist of two suction anchors—one 9½ ft in diameter by 60 ft long and the other 9½ ft in diameter by 50 ft long. These suction anchors were connected to 3,000 ft by 3¼-in. sections of chain and 6,000 ft by 3½ -in. sections of wire rope.

Conventional anchor handling operations and connection to preset mooring were completed in 28 hr. ■

### N Sea contract to BJ

A 3-year contract has been awarded to **BJ Services Co** by **TotalFina Elf Exploration UK plc** to provide cementing, pumping and related engineering services for the Alwyn North and Dunbar fields in the North Sea.

Because the Dunbar platform is too small to accommodate related cementing and other service equipment, BJ Services is supplying these services from the semi-submersible rig Sedco 706 positioned alongside the platform.

A hose connects the rig with the platform.

BJ Services will service the contract from its base in Aberdeen. ■

### ROV record in GOM

Late last year, the **Oceaneering International Inc** remotely operated vehicle (ROV) system Magnum 51 descended to a Gulf of Mexico record depth of 8,835 ft.

The record was set while providing drilling support services for **BP** from the drillship Glomar C R Luigs on Walker Ridge Block 425.

The Magnum 51 is a 100-hp cage-deployed work class ROV system rated for operation in 10,000-ft water depths. There are 58 Magnum systems in operation worldwide in support of deepwater oil and gas drilling, construction and production.

Oceaneering provided ROV drill support services on over 65% of the record 36 wells reported by the **US Minerals Management Service** being drilled in water depths greater than 1,000 ft during the week of 16 Oct. 2000, according to **F Richard Frisbie**, Senior Vice President for Deepwater Technology. ■

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