

## IADC CONNECTION

### A successful UBO conference

**MORE THAN 180** underbalanced operations specialists from around the world attended IADC's UBO Technology Conference & Exhibition held in Aberdeen last November. IADC's Underbalanced Operations Committee concluded the conference with a productive meeting.

Advancements in UBO technology were presented in the numerous papers and operating experiences shared with conference attendees. Two of the presentations can be accessed at the underbalanced operations committee's website at <http://iadc.org/committees/underbalanced/index.html>. A more in-depth review of the papers will be presented in a future issue of *Drilling Contractor*.

The UBO Committee held its regular quarterly meeting following the two-day Conference. The first item on the committee's agenda was the election of **Jonny L. Gent, BP**, to the Committee Chairmanship.

M. Gent replaces **Pat Brand, Blade Energy Partners**, who has served a two-year term.

"I am proud to have been selected to lead



**Richard Reiley with BP in Houston, left, and Paul Radcliffe, Frontier Technology Network Ltd in Aberdeen, and conference Chairman, meet to discuss underbalanced drilling operations.**

this energetic group," Mr. Gent remarked. "We have set an ambitious work plan for 2002 and I encourage all companies involved in underbalanced operations to take part in this important activity."

The Committee finalized draft documents covering UBO HSE Guidelines, a UBO Addendum to the Rig Pass accreditation program for safety orientation training and a glossary of UBO terminology.

The first training company has requested IADC certification. In addition, the group has compiled a comprehensive review of existing standards for equipment used in underbalanced operations. A gap analysis identifies underbalanced equipment without industry standards.

The committee believes the gap analysis will aid all underbalanced work and improve the good safety record enjoyed by underbalanced drilling operations to date. The gap analysis was developed as the foundation to work with API and other standards organizations to eliminate the deficiency.

The committee is seeking increased operator and drilling contractor participation. There is presently good participation from the service companies and consultants. If you are interested in joining the committee, contact contact **Ken Fischer**, ext 208 ([ken.fischer@iadc.org](mailto:ken.fischer@iadc.org)), or **Jon Gent** at [gentjl@bp.com](mailto:gentjl@bp.com). ■

### IADC Houston Chapter raises funds for children

**THE IADC HOUSTON** Chapter will again raise funds to help local charity through its popular Silent Auction, part of the fun at the Chapter's 2002 Dinner Dance, 8 Feb at the Westin Galleria Hotel.

The chapter was able to donate \$34,000 raised during last year's silent auction. The funds directly helped severely impaired and profoundly deaf Houston children. The 2001 donation allowed Houston charity **Just Like Us** to purchase many items including wheelchairs, vocational supplies, eye and ear exams, a Christmas party for 20 elementary students and a luncheon celebration, the first ever, for 70 children. One of the most useful items they purchased was a digital camcorder and camera. Just Like Us chronicles the progress of each multiple impaired child enrolled at **T E Rogers Elementary**, where the children reside. If a child is deemed ready to go home, Just Like Us provides parents an instructional video on caring for their child.

Your company can help ensure that this year's auction will be successful by generously providing the Chapter with auction

items such as golf, fishing or hunting outings or equipment, crystal or GPS gear, all of which have proved popular in previous auctions.

To make a donation for the auction, call **Darryl Smith**, 1/281 749 7806, or **Pat Haygood**, 1/713 625 5563. ■



**The North Sea chapter also supports children's organizations. Filling the hat for Children 1st at the Annual Safety Awards Ceremony are, from left, Vaughn Griffin, Baker Oil Tools; Bob Mankin, Maersk Contractors, Chairman, IADC North Sea Chapter; Dennis Krahn, IADC; and Aldert Van Nieuwkoop, Global Marine, Vice Chairman, IADC North Sea Chapter.**

