

# Land Contractors Day has informative conference



Photo courtesy of Nabors Drilling

**IADC'S ANNUAL LAND** Contractors Day is set for 4 April at the Omni Hotel in Houston.

The presentations and panel sessions will leave onshore drilling contractors with information about safety issues, drilling contracts, technology and the all important question, when can the land drilling industry expect to see a market recovery.

In addition to the conference numerous companies will be exhibiting their products and will have representatives available to answer questions.

Registration and exhibit viewing begins at 7:00 a.m. with the welcoming breakfast set to start at 8:00.

During the breakfast three seasoned drilling contractor executives will share their perspectives on the outlook for the land drilling industry and the challenges it faces in today's market.

The panel will be moderated by **John Lindsay**, IADC Land Division Vice President and Vice President of U.S. Land Operations, **Helmerich & Payne IDC**.

The session will feature the words and wisdom of **Glenn Patterson**, President and COO of **Patterson-UTI Drilling Co., L.P.**, **Ed Kautz**, Managing Director, **Caza Drilling Co.**, and **Robert L Park-**

**er, Jr.**, President and CEO, **Parker Drilling Company**.

Following a coffee break, **Rodney Foreman**, Principal Safety Representative for **El Paso Production Company**, will present *Safety in Land Drilling: An Operator's Perspective*.

Strategies to improve safety on the rig floor are taking new directions, including behavior-based programs, STOP and other methods.

However, the bottom line in safety comes down to the actions by the man on the rig and his confidence that those in authority have safety foremost in their minds.

Mr Foreman will present his thoughts on how to improve rig floor safety.

Following this presentation will be a look at *The Why & What of Revisions to IADC Model Land Contracts*.

**Scott Gordon**, Vice Chairman, Land, IADC Contracts Committee, and Vice President, Division Manager-Gulf Coast Division for **Unit Drilling Corporation**, will discuss the recent modifications and the rationale for the changes to IADC's US Land Model Contracts, which was driven by recent court decisions and changes in operating practices.

Completing the morning sessions will be a technical presentation by **Robert Tessari**, founder, President and CEO of **Tesco Corp.**, which pioneered casing drilling, among other technologies.

Mr Tessari will discuss *Casing Drilling: An Update & Vision for the Future*. Drilling with casing has been one of the most exciting technical innovations in land drilling in the past decade.

During this presentation, Mr Tessari will provide insights on the latest casing drilling activity and Tesco's vision for

the future. Tesco Corp. is building three revolutionary drilling rigs using the company's proprietary Casing Drilling™ technology and will operate them under an exclusive contract to Conoco for a two-year development drilling program in Conoco's South Texas Lobo natural gas trend.

Following lunch and time to view exhibits, the afternoon sessions begin with *Behavior-based safety: Stop,*

*Look, Listen, and Live.* Recognizing potential hazards and unsafe acts, then taking the time to correct attitudes and behavior before conducting the job is the gestalt of preventing rig accidents. Such behavior-based approaches come in many guises. In this presentation, **Dr Tome Hayes, with Randy Smith Training Solutions, Inc.,** will discuss the fundamentals of behavior-based safety in dramatic and inspiring terms.

Next come two sessions that are not to be missed that will strive for answers to difficult questions facing the land drilling business today and in the future.

How long has the market been down? The land drilling industry came in for tough times once again in late 2001 and early this year.

When will we hit the next upward-bound inflection point? Two well-regarded industry watchers will help chart a path through the fog in *Market Outlook: Been Down So Long It Looks Like Up To Me.*

Presenting their take on the market and its recovery are **Robert Ford**, Vice President-Senior Oilfield Services Analyst for **Sanders Morris Harris**, and **Marshall Adkins**, Managing Director-Energy Equity Research, **Raymond James & Associates.**

Following a coffee break, a climactic panel discussion among operators who topped the list for most footage drilled in 2001 will present their thoughts on what's important in drilling today, where we're likely headed and how drilling contractors can better serve their customer.

The panel discussion, *Land Drilling in 2002 and Beyond: Perspectives of the "Drillingest" Operators*, will be moderated by **Bob Wilder**, Vice President Sales for **Nabors Drilling USA, L.P.** **Joel Kiker**, Drilling Operations Manager for **ExxonMobil Development Company** and another speaker from **ChevronTexaco** will present their thoughts on the topic.

John Lindsey will make closing remarks and comments.

Special thanks go to the Conference Planning Committee members for organizing another informative Land Contractors Day conference: **Scott Gordon**, Unit Drilling Company; **Joe Hurt** and **Mike Killalea**, IADC; **John Lindsay**, Helmerich & Payne IDC; and **Bob Wilder**, Nabors Drilling USA L.P.

A preliminary list of conference exhibitors includes **Derrick Equipment Company**, **Epoch Well Services, Inc.**, **Gulfelectroquip**, **IADC Publications**, **LeTourneau Ellis Williams Co., Inc.**, **PowerTuff Rig Parts**, **Rex Tech International**, **Tesco Corporation**, **T.I.D.T.**, and **Varco International, Inc.** ■