

EDITORIALS

From the Chairman

IADC: NOT JUST FOR CONTRACTORS

ANOTHER TRADE ASSOCIATION, for Florida orange growers, popularized a marketing slogan in the 1970s—“Orange juice, it’s not just for breakfast anymore!” In like fashion, IADC is not just for contractors. As I make the rounds on behalf of IADC, particularly in my visits to our chapters around the world, I am struck by how our association reaches outside the traditional drilling contracting business. Many in the service and producing segments take the time to attend our chapter events, participate in our committees and attend our conferences.



Lawrence R. Dickerson, Chairman

IADC’s mission is to serve the drilling industry. That’s a broad, immutable vision. The details, though, change with the times. In our earliest days, though IADC activities were not without value to others in the industry, our initiatives were targeted on the drilling contractor—development of model contracts, IADC Daily Drilling Report among a host of pursuits.

Times have changed. In today’s consolidated “well construction” industry, partnerships and alliances are a *de facto* part of this business. As we in industry seek to align goals, it only makes sense that IADC and other trade groups follow suit.

IADC, I’m pleased to report, is a leader in this regard, as in so many others.

Our Underbalanced Operations Committee is a prime example. Chaired by **Mike DuBose** of **Rowan**—a contractor—this committee of operators and service companies continues to forge ahead in developing landmark guidelines and operating principles for this important new discipline.

The IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines is another striking example. Led by **Diamond Offshore’s Moe Plaisance**, this dedicated group of operators, trainers and contractors produced a working document that won the admiration of industry and regulators alike.

Similarly, WellCAP, IADC’s globally implemented accreditation program for well control training, has won applause and adoption around the globe.

An inter-industry work group of operators, contractors and service people are also breaking new ground in devel-

oping guidelines for surface BOP operations. Once again, IADC saw a strong industry need and is filling it.

Also, IADC is working closely with the **Drilling Engineering Association**, the industry’s premier association for encouraging drilling research and development. IADC’s official magazine **DRILLING CONTRACTOR** represents DEA to help publicize efforts to advance drilling technology.

These are a few important examples. There are others. In short, IADC succeeds as a forum, bringing together contractors, service companies and operators, both in social and business settings.

And here’s a glass of orange juice to that! ■

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From the President

TIME TO WORK

THE MUCH VAUNTED European Working Time Directive, from which IADC secured a temporary exemption for the drilling industry 10 years ago, finally arrived in the UK this year for the development of implementing legislation. Industry presented a strong case for maintaining a 52-week reference period for scheduling rotas to maintain maximum flexibility taking weather windows and maintenance into consideration. Anything less would have created costly and non-productive working schedules. As with all things political, there are compromises. The most obvious in this case may be an additional two weeks paid vacation time granted to all offshore workers.



Lee Hunt, President

What remains is for industry to work together in forging guidance documents to assist in bringing the entire UK OCS workforce into a common scheme of working times.

Luckily, working together is something the industry trade associations are quite capable of doing. The original EU Working Time Legislation, and industry’s exemptions, were forged by concerted lobbying led by IADC and the London based International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (OGP; formerly known as E&P Forum). In the current round of legislative development, IADC participated with the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA) and other regional trade organizations to negotiate a way forward which provided maximum benefits for employee work and rest, balanced with realistic requirements for offshore crew rotational schemes. A “job well done” has been earned by all involved. ■