ENSICO building new jackup in Singapore

ENSICO International has formed a joint venture with Keppel FELS Limited to acquire, for $26.25 million in cash and project management services, a 25% ownership interest in a new premium jackup to be built by Keppel FELS in Singapore. The enhanced design rig will be designated as the BIGFOOT and will be named ENSICO 106.

Total cost of the rig is approximately $105 million. ENSICO will have an option to purchase the remaining 75% interest in the rig prior to delivery and for two years after delivery, which is expected during the first quarter 2005, ENSICO will market, manage and operate the rig under charter from the joint venture.

Tesco signs contract with Pemex

Tesco Corporation signed a Casing Drilling contract with Pemex that calls for the drilling of 10 onshore wells in the Burgos and Poza Rica fields in Northern Mexico. Contract value is just under $4.8 million. Tesco will drill with all three casing strings on each well using Drillers Technology Rig #4, which was recently released from the Lobo field in South Texas. Operations in Mexico began in the latter part of the first quarter and be completed by year end.

The company’s “Gamma” rig, the last in a series of three purpose-built Casing Drilling rigs under contract to Conoco, has begun drilling operations in the South Texas Lobo field.

New European Operations Director

Dominic Cattini was appointed IADC Director, European Operations. He will be based in London. Mr. Cattini’s most recent assignment was Head of Strategic Policy and Advice for the State Supervision of Mines, the primary regulatory agency for hydrocarbon exploration and development in The Netherlands. Prior to that he was Manager of Health, Safety and Environment for Ultramar Exploration Ltd in London. He is a graduate of St Aloysius College in London (Applied Mathematics, Pure Mathematics and Physics).

IADC Houston Chapter contributes to industry, charities

IADC Houston Chapter is donating $5,000 to fund the revamping of the Life on a Rig exhibit on the Ocean Star Offshore Rig and Museum in Galveston, Texas. The exhibit will provide visitors museum with a realistic experience of what it’s like to live offshore. IADC Houston Chapter is asking for donations of photos and equipment for the exhibit. Please call Shane Marchand with Helmerich & Payne IDC in Houston at 281-398-5457.

"We are donating $5,000," said Darryl Smith, IADC Houston Chapter Chairman, and General Manager of Operations for Atwood Oceanics. “We will be donating each year for the next two years.”

The Houston Chapter also donates to a local organization that supports a school for handicapped students, and is also a magnet school for gifted students. This year, the IADC Houston Chapter donated $40,000 to the organization.

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