

EDITORIALS

From the Chairman

THE MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION

I AM OBSESSED with safety. It is an obsession that, I am pleased to note, pervades the global drilling industry. As IADC Chairman, I am pleased to discover that my colleagues around the world are equally obsessed. There are many examples of our industry's obsession with protecting our people and equipment, and I would like to share with you three recent milestones.

Recently, I had the pleasure of accepting on IADC's behalf the Special Citation bestowed by the Offshore Technology Conference in recognition of the outstanding contribution to safety made by the IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines. These landmark guidelines represented a concerted, industry-



Marion M Woolie, Chairman

led effort in which drilling contractors, operators, service firms, academics and government officials worked side by side under the leadership of **Moe Plaisance of Diamond Offshore**.

The original guidelines, published in 1998, cover well planning, well control procedures, equipment, emergency response and training. In 2000, at the request of MMS, the task

force was reassembled to produce a special supplement dealing with preventing unplanned riser disconnects on floating rigs.

The deepwater well control guidelines are often cited as an example of industry-government cooperation. In 1999, IADC received a commendation from the US Coast Guard, US Minerals Management Service and the National Research Council that specifically cited the IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines.

NORTH SEA CHAPTER SAFETY AWARDS

About two weeks later, I had the pleasure of attending the IADC North Sea Chapter's annual safety banquet. It's a great event with terrific speakers and loads of industry bonhomie. More than 320 people attended the event, which honored eight contractors for operating mobile and platform rigs without sustaining more than 3 lost working days over the course of a year or more. I applaud these fine performances, both winners and runners up—**GlobalSantaFe Corp**, **KCA DEUTAG**, **Noble Drilling**, **Rowan Drilling**, and **Transocean**. I urge you to turn to the IADC Connections section of this magazine, where these safety-oriented companies are listed.

MMS SAFE

It is no less inspiring to tip my hat to the winners of the US Mineral Management Services Safety Award for Excellence. Drilling Contractor highlighted the winners of the regional awards in its May/June edition—**ENSCO International**, **GlobalSantaFe**, **Pride International**, and **Pride Offshore**. In this issue, we give due in our Contractor News section to

winners of the national SAFEs for 2003, both contractors and operators alike. I particularly salute my fellow drilling contractors—the winner, **Helmerich & Payne IDC**, and the two finalists, **Diamond Offshore Drilling** and **Noble Drilling**.

It is truly an honor to work in an industry so dedicated to eliminating the potential for harm. Let's stay obsessed with safety. ■

From the President

AND THE WINNER IS ...

IADC!! OVER THE YEARS, our Association has built a strong reputation for progress and achievement in advancing the interests of the oil and gas industry. And, on occasion others, taking note of this, have seen fit to bestow public recognition on our membership's accomplishments in working through IADC.

Most recently, the Offshore Technology Conference bestowed a Special Citation to IADC (jointly with the Offshore Operators Committee) for "...foresight, initiative and leadership in the development of the Deepwater Well Control Guidelines."

These guidelines have enabled deepwater development to progress rapidly by demonstrating industry's competency in self-regulation and safe operating practices.

Last year, IADC was inducted as an Offshore Pioneer in the Technology Hall of Fame by the Offshore Energy Center. A plaque located aboard the Ocean Star (OEC's drilling rig museum) cites IADC and its members for achievements in promoting advances in Health, Safety and the Environment through the development of offshore safety programs.

Several years ago, IADC was the recipient of a Special Letter of Commendation authored jointly by the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Minerals Management Service and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences for our activity in promoting offshore safety and environmental initiatives.

In what now must seem like ancient history, in 1984 IADC was awarded the prestigious Safety at Seas Award by the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) in recognition of the pace setting "Safety of Life Offshore Conference", an industry first for its time.

In 1990, the first IADC International Well Control Conference was held in Esbjerg, Denmark. The next year it was awarded First Place honors by the American Society of Association Executives for "...best international conference..." This conference was the beginning of the IADC franchise for worldwide leadership in holding annual conferences focused on well control issues. Two are being held in 2004: The Well Control Conference of the Americas in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October and the International Well Control Conference in Dubai, UAE in December.

IADC is unique among industry trade associations in garnering such extensive recognition. The honor, of course, really goes to the loyal and active support of our members for the human capital devoted to advancing the health, safety and environmental achievements by our industry. Thanks, everyone, for making IADC a real winner! ■



Lee Hunt, President