**THE 2004 IADC** International Lifting and Mechanical Conference & Exhibition will feature HSE & training specialists and experts from around the industry presenting the latest issues, innovations and initiatives in lifting and handling. The conference, set for 20-21 April in Amsterdam, is sponsored by BP and Noble Corporation and endorsed by the UK Health & Safety Executive, Danish Energy Authority, Offshore Mechanical Handling Equipment Committee and the Petroleum Safety Authority Norway (PSA).

LADC President Dr Lee Hunt will open the conference Tuesday morning with welcoming remarks and then introduce Brad Smolen, E&P HSE Director for BP, who will present the conference keynote address on BP’s Lifting Immersion: Raising Awareness & Competencies.

The conference’s first session, Management Control I, will begin at 9:30 am with session chairmen Gert-Jan Windhorst, Noble Drilling (Nederland) BV, and Stein Tonning, Petroleum Safety Authority Norway. The first presentation during the session will be BP North Sea Lifting Review by Henri Kayser.

**Walter Cabuccio** with Transocean USA will present Deck Management Improvements.

The Competency I session begins at 11:00 following a break. Session Chairmen are Wes McDonald, Rowan Companies, and Richard Stuart, Lloyd’s Register.

**Eddie Sarkis** with Maersk Contractors will make the first presentation, Train the Crane. Richard Coad, Drilling Systems UK will present KraneSIM. The topic of simulation will continue with Use of Simulation for Training and Assessment of Drillers by Malcolm Lodge with GlobalSantaFe in the UK. Randy Pruitt with BP Sharjah is ready to present an alternate paper, Sharjah Underbalanced Coiled Tubing Drilling Project.

The session is followed by lunch from 12:30-1:30 pm, which is sponsored by GlobalSantaFe Corporation.

The first afternoon session, Management Control II, features four presentations. Session chairmen are John Karish with BP and Bill Hedrick with Rowan Companies.

**Russell Hoshman** with the US Minerals Management Service (MMS) will present MMS Perspective of Lifting Incidents in the Gulf of Mexico. Improved Safety of Lifting & Mechanical Handling as Part of a Total Safety Culture will be presented by Gert-Jan Windhorst with Noble Drilling (Nederland) BV. F Jonathan Deegan with BHP Billiton in Australia will present Practical Lessons Learned Relating to Lifting and Slinging Operations Around the World in a Major Drilling Operation. In the final session presentation, Sigurd Forsund with the PSA, will present From Results of Analysis to Corrective Measures: Lifting with Offshore Cranes.

A break is scheduled for 3:30-4:00 pm following by the afternoon’s second session on Equipment Design, chaired by Soren Strange, Danish Energy Authority, and Bob Alexander, Transocean Offshore (North Sea) Ltd. The session includes four presentations and two alternates.

**Step Change in Safety: Cargo Baskets,** by Mark Milne, Transocean Offshore (North Sea) will detail Step Change’s Lifting and Mechanical Handling Guidelines, a cross-industry endeavor. Presentation of the Draft Revised Edition of R-003 Lifting Equipment Operation will be presented by Arild Eriksen with Smedvig and the Norwegian Rig Owners Association. Steve Nelson with Diamond Offshore Drilling will present Mitigating Risks to Personnel Working at Heights with Secondary Fall Protection.

The session’s final presentation is Status Implementation of Remote Operated Pipe Handling on the Norwegian Continental Shelf by Geir Eikill with Statoil.

A reception from 6:00-7:30 pm follows the day’s sessions.

Wednesday begins with welcoming remarks and a keynote address from 9:00-9:30 pm followed by the day’s first session, Competency II chaired by Stein Tonnig, PSA and John Quast with Shell.