



PEOPLE & COMPANIES

Pride announces organizational change. Pride International announced that its president, **John C G O'Leary**, has departed the company. The company's action was due primarily to strategic differences between Mr O'Leary and other senior executive management as well as the board of directors over the company's decision to discontinue entering into construction projects for rigs to be owned by others, and to other management styles. **Paul A Bragg**, CEO, assumed the additional position of president.

Cudd Well Control announces new staff. **Dan Eby**, PE, joined Cudd Well Control, a division of Cudd Pressure Control, as Manager of Engineering Services. He has over 25 years experience in all aspects of drilling, completion, workover and well control projects onshore and offshore. Mr Eby was previously with Wild Well Control. **Wayne Lansford** joined Cudd Well Control as Senior Well Control Specialist. He also has over 25 years of oilfield experience in drilling, completion, workover and well control projects onshore and offshore.



Dan Eby

Minerals Management Service program gets higher status. Recognizing the high level of responsibility associated with offshore regulatory programs, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) has elevated a key MMS position to Senior Executive Service status. MMS veteran **Bud Danenberger** was selected to fill the position of Chief of Offshore Engineering and Operations because of his demonstrated leadership skills and extensive experience in safety and regulatory issues within the offshore program.

Tesco announces management changes. Tesco Corporation

announced the appointment of **Julio Quintana** as COO. He has more than 24 years of business, marketing and management experience with a major international oil and gas operator and a major international service company. He will be responsible for management of all of Tesco's operating divisions and subsidiaries. A strategic objective is to accelerate the growth of new markets created from the company's casing drilling and casing running products and services. Also, Tesco appointed **Michael C Kearney** as Executive Vice President Finance and CFO. He has more than 30 years of financial and operational experience in oil service manufacturing, exploration and production and refining and marketing. He most recently was CFO and Vice President of Hydril Company.

Norsk Hydro, Enventure sign monodiameter venture agreement. Norsk Hydro recently signed an agreement with **Enventure Global Technology** that incorporates solid expandable tubulars (SET) technology into their Tekno 2005 program to develop new reserves and reduce development costs in Norwegian offshore fields. The cooperative effort consists of the first field application of Enventure's monodiameter technology in combination with

Norsk Hydro's multi-well, extended reach field development scenario. The applications will maximize recovery of reserves at distances exceeding 10 km from the drilling structure. One potential candidate is the Ormen Lange field. Production from the field is expected to supply the UK with 20% of its total natural gas demand by 2007.

Strata Control names general manager. **Richard L Boyd** was named General Manager of **Strata Control Services Inc**, a provider of specialty drilling fluid additives to the oil and gas industry. Prior to joining Strate, he was an employee in the drilling department of **ExxonMobil** for 23 years with international projects in Russia, Azerbaijan, Brazil and Canada. He previously was superintendent for Gulf Coast drilling projects for W&T Offshore and Drilling Manager at Trans-Texas Gas Corp.

Global Industries sells liftboat division. **Global Industries** entered into a definitive agreement to sell its liftboat division to **Mercury Offshore Assets LLC**. The transaction is valued at approximately \$53 million. The sales is the result of the liftboat market transitioning into a turnkey fully integrated well services environment that is not part of the company's strategy.

Varel International opens office. **Varel International** opened its office in Pau, France to serve as the company's primary office for the sale and service of polycrystalline diamond compact (PDC) drill bits in the eastern hemisphere. The office is close to the company's PDC manufacturing facility in Tarbes, France. ■

PRODUCTS

Fiber-based fracturing technique. **Schlumberger Oilfield Services** has extended its Fiber Assisted Transport hydraulic fracturing technology to enhance proppant distribution in wells with temperatures ranging from 150°F to 400°F. Successful applications of the technology throughout the North American tight gas market have resulted in approximately 100 treatments pumped thus far in 2004. In a recent East Texas study, average daily production rates were increased by 100% over the first

three months of production compared to conventionally treated offset wells. This yielded an incremental 54 MMscf from the Fiber Assisted Transport treated well over the same three month period. The technology provides a mechanical means, a network of fibers, to enhance proppant placement and distribution in tight gas fracturing applications. Following the fracture treatment, the fibers decompose as the well is produced, leaving a uniform, more productive proppant pack. ■