



EDITORIAL

From the President

'Safety is the most important thing we do'

A RECORD NUMBER of people attended the 2007 IADC HSE Conference in February, making it the highest-attended health, safety and environment conference in IADC history.



Lee Hunt, President

That's no small feat, considering the industry has amped up to a frenetic pace to get wells drilled, to staff new rigs and to keep old rigs running. This attendance record shows that not only do more people want to make HSE a priority, but more people are actually doing it.

"Safety is the most important thing we do everyday," IADC vice chairman **John Lindsay of Helmerich & Payne International Drilling Company** said in his opening address.

Some highlights of the achievements and initiatives heard at the conference:

- Preliminary numbers show that worldwide safety performance continues to improve even as manhours increase, John reported. The total recordable incidence rate is down 11%, from 2.32 in 2005 to 2.16 in 2006. Lost-time incidence rate is down 7%, from 0.60 in 2005 to 0.56 in 2006. And the fatality rate is down 3%, from 0.01304 in 2005 to 0.01265 in 2006. "Everyone in the industry should be commended," he said.
- **Kerrie Peyton, Noble Corporation's** manager of HSEQ, discussed empowering workers to take control of safety and to drive improvement from the bottom up.
- **Billy Stidham, contractor HSE advisor,** reported that **Shell E&P** has mandated a Competency Assurance Program to reduce incidents, with an implementation deadline of 31 December 2008.
- **Ralph DeLeonardis, HSSE operations manager for BP,** described how they're using

online tools to help and encourage employees to build tailored training plans.

- Rig manager **Scott McKaig** described how **GlobalSantaFe's** C.R. Luigs drillship won the MMS SAFE Award with its safe operations.
- **Bryan Roy, drilling and completions manager for Marathon Oil Company,** advocated that it's OK to stop the job on a rig. "We'll do it safely, or we won't do it at all."

ENVIRONMENT, TOO

Environmental performance is gaining prominence industry-wide as well. Following the success of the IADC Environmental Conference in 2005, this year's event (in Amsterdam on 3-4 April) will cover a diverse range of key topics, such as climate change and sustainable drilling.

One item on the agenda is an initiative that grew out of the IADC HSE Committee. The recently developed Environmental Data Guidelines is a new guideline for drilling contractors to consistently track and internally report environmental performance. Four categories of data collection have been established to give a representative view of performance:

- loss of primary containment reporting.
- loss of primary containment causes.
- energy consumption.
- atmospheric emissions due to energy use.

It's basic, but users can expand the system as they see fit — we're just giving you a starting point. IADC hopes that the guidelines will enable drilling contractors to measure not only their performance, but also their improvements.

Joe Hurt, IADC senior director - land operations, will provide a full project report at the conference in Amsterdam. See you there. ♠