

PEOPLE, COMPANIES & PRODUCTS

Varel acquires drill bit distributor Pendemak

VAREL INTERNATIONAL HAS announced the acquisition of **Pendemak Industries**, the company's largest and longtime Canadian-based distributor of oil and gas drill bits. Pendemak Industries will now be known as **Varel Rock Bits Canada**.

The acquisition does not affect any of the Canadian leadership or sales force. Former president of Pendemak, **Rod MacKenzie**, will continue on as vice president, sales and operations

— Canada, Varel Rock Bits, Canada.

"This acquisition is an important milestone in Varel's long-term strategy to be recognized as a leading global drill bit company," said **Jim Nixon**, Varel president and CEO. "The addition of the Pendemak business to the Varel portfolio is a natural extension of our strategy, positioning us for long-term growth through the existing team without disruption to the Canadian customer base." ♪

New marketing, business development VP at Knight

DOUG KELLER HAS been promoted to vice president of marketing and business development for **Knight Oil Tools**, president **Mark Knight** announced. Mr Keller was regional manager — Gulf Coast for the last 3 years and served as business development manager for



Doug Keller

6 years before that. In his new position, Mr Keller will identify new markets, possible acquisitions and product lines. Mr Keller is on the board of directors of the American Association of Drilling Engineers and president of the Petroleum Club of Lafayette. ♪

Keppel O&M, Qatar Gas Transport to develop shipyard in Qatar

QATAR GAS TRANSPORT Co Ltd (NAKILAT) has signed an agreement with **Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd** through its subsidiary **KS Investments** to jointly develop a world-class shipyard facility in the Port of Ras Laffan, Qatar.

"Our vision is for the new shipyard to become a centre of excellence for the repair and maintenance of LNG carriers," remarked **Muhammad A Ghannam**, managing director of NAKILAT. ♪

New chief operating officer Douglas Wall joining Patterson-UTI

PATTERSON-UTI ENERGY has announced that **Douglas J Wall** is joining the company as chief operating officer. Mr Wall comes from **Baker Hughes**, where he served since 2005 as group president, completion & production. In that position, he was responsible for the combined activities of **Baker Oil Tools**, **Baker Petrolite**, **Centrilift** and **ProductionQuest**. He served

as president of Baker Oil Tools from 2003-05 and as president of **Hughes Christensen Co** from 1997-2003.

Mr Wall earned a degree in economics from the University of Calgary and an MBA in finance and marketing from the University of Alberta. He began his oilfield career with **Adeco Drilling and Engineering** and **ATCO Drilling**. ♪

GEODynamics names VP of technology, global sales director

GEODYNAMICS HAS named **Matt Bell** as vice president of technology and **Ted Price** as global sales director. Mr Bell previously helped manage a \$300 million-plus investment portfolio

at **Shell Technology Ventures**. Mr Price worked for **Halliburton Energy Services** for 21 years in a number of sales and managerial positions before joining GEODynamics. ♪

Cameron awarded subsea systems contract by Petrobras

CAMERON HAS BEEN awarded a contract worth approximately \$127 million to supply subsea systems for **Petrobras'** Gas Production Anticipation Plan (Plangas) efforts offshore Brazil. Petrobras' investments in the Plangas program are designed to significantly increase domestic natural gas production in southeastern Brazil. Under the contract, Cameron will provide 22 subsea Christmas trees, control systems and related equipment.

Initial delivery and installation is slated to begin in the 2nd quarter of 2008, with additional deliveries of subsea trees and associated equipment to continue through 2009. The trees for the project will be manufactured in Cameron's facility in Taubate, Brazil. ♪

InterMoor sales rep named

INTERMOOR, AN ACTEON company, has named **Keith Waldorf** as sales representative, InterMoor vice president sales & marketing **Brad Adkins** announced. He will be based in Houston and will be responsible for making sales calls to oil and gas operators and drilling contractors for the Gulf of Mexico region.



Keith Waldorf

Mr Waldorf has more than 17 years of experience in sales and marketing, most recently as marketing manager for **Seacor**

Marine. While based in Singapore, he served as **Seabulk Offshore's** marketing manager for Southeast Asia. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin. ♪

Atwood Oceanics promotions

ATWOOD OCEANICS recently announced several senior management promotions. **Alan Quintero** is vice president-engineering; **Darryl Smith** is vice president-operations; and **Ronnie Hall** is general manager-operations. ♪



ClearWater's BlastArmor buildings are designed to provide blast resistance. Toxic gases also are kept out.

BlastArmor buildings protect workers from explosions, toxic gases

TO PROVIDE BLAST resistance for employee housing at well sites or refineries, Texas-based **ClearWater Environmental Systems** is constructing BlastArmor steel-fabricated buildings that offer robust resistance to explosions and toxic gases. The buildings have been designed to withstand a 400-millibar pressure wave at 75 ft. The wall facing the blast is manufactured from $\frac{3}{16}$ -in. steel in a proprietary design of deep crimp patterns that add strength to the structure. There are no windows in the wall, and special steel-plate doors are blast-resistant. The doors are operable after the blast with "panic bar" openers.

"The most important aspect of this design is to ensure that the building will retain its integrity so that anyone inside can survive and escape as soon as possible," said **Hunter Sheridan**, an independent consulting engineer who oversaw the planning and testing of the design. "We had tests conducted by an outside engineering firm to certify that the design meets the criteria for safety and performance. They did extensive calculations that confirmed its viability."

Another protective feature is an air control system that keeps out combustible and toxic gases after an explosion or a release event. BlastArmor buildings are equipped with a positive pressurization unit that provides up to 2 psi of air pressure to the interior, preventing ingress of toxic gases. Class 1 Div 2 explosion-proof controls for the air pressurization unit allow start-up in contaminated air conditions. Gas sensors on the outside of the building are connected to platform or site alarm systems to detect and sound a warning.

Fire safety inside the units is addressed with steel wall studs and fire-safe wall insulation/wallboard. Stainless steel junction boxes connect to external power, communication, and fire and gas control systems. ♪

Fluid for pressure-critical drilling applications

BAKER HUGHES DRILLING Fluids introduces RHEO-LOGIC, the next generation of constant rheology synthetic-based drilling fluid. It mitigates the effects of temperature and pressure on the viscosity of the fluid downhole ("rheology"), allowing operators to better-manage dynamic pressures while drilling critical wells. The system has been field-proven to reduce mud losses, allow increased trip speeds, improve hole cleaning, and enhance overall drilling efficiency in pressure-critical wells. ♪

New category of stud bolts introduced

DAN-LOC BOLT & Gasket introduces a new category of stud bolts for corrosion-resistant applications. The Dan-Loc TuffCor bolt was engineered to provide lower maintenance and extended life in severe environmental conditions, such as offshore and coastal onshore locations. Dan-Loc developed the new bolt category using salt fog tests conducted by independent laboratories. In these tests, TuffCor bolts lasted 5,000 hrs without corroding while standard bolts corroded after just 1,000 hrs. Although test times cannot be converted directly to field life, the tests showed a dramatic advance in corrosion resistance. ♪

Miller derrick/oil rig harnesses, accessories



BACOU-DALLOZ introduces new Miller derrick/oil rig harnesses and accessories. Featuring the Miller Revolution Harness technology, the derrick/oil rig harnesses offer greater mobility with the patented PivotLink rotary connection. The modular attachment design also provides connection points for a complete line of tool belts and accessories for easy snap-on/off flexibility. Specially designed harness suspension loops provide greater mobility when climbing the rig, the D-ring positioned on the back of the

belt maintains positioning on the tube board, while the D-Ring extension on the back allows total freedom of movement when connected to the block at the top of the rig. ♪

VisuWell technology analyzes wellbore conditions

VISUWELL BY R&M Energy Systems is a proprietary technology-driven wellsite service that scientifically and quantitatively analyzes the primary mechanical components of a sucker rod-pumped producing wellbore. The sucker rod string, tubing string, tubing deviation, perforations depth and seating nipple depth can all be evaluated in real time before the well is put back on production. VisuWell correlates the rod condition, tubing condition and well deviation into an integrated, online profile of the wellbore, for anyone in an organization to see, virtually anywhere in the world. This allows a reservoir management team to collaborate efficiently, regardless of location. ♪