North Sea Reporter

News & Analysis - keeping you informed

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Total seeks approval from DECC for Laggan-Tormore and issues tenders

Total has submitted to DECC an environmental statement for the Laggan-Tormore fields, in west of Shetland blocks 206/1 and 205/5, based on a subsea development and up to eight wells. It also covers the installation of twin 18-inch multiphase pipelines, a hydrate inhibition pipeline and a control umbilical from the fields to a new gas processing plant at the Sullom Voe terminal in Shetland. Work is due to begin in April 2010 and the facilities will have a design life of 30 years.

Tenders were issued on 1 September for the gas processing plant, pipelay and umbilical lay and for pipeline procurement and supply for return by 17 November. Total is currently out to tender to four or five contractors for engineering of the subsea system, which will include two templates, and hopes to narrow this down to two companies by October. Project sanction is looked for by end first-quarter 2010 to be followed by contract awards.

Gas from Laggan-Tormore will be exported from Sullom Voe to the St Fergus terminal via a new pipeline with a connection to Total's existing Frigg line close to the decommissioned MCP-01 facilities. Condensate will be stabilised and exported by tanker using existing BP facilities at Sullom Voe. Pipeline installation is planned in 2012 and 2013. This part of the development is covered in an accompanying East of Shetland ES.

Production is planned to start in 2014 and to reach an estimated peak flowrate of 12,859 cmd of gas and 2,655 cmd of condensate in 2015. There will be a small volume of associated produced water from the development.

Drilling on Laggan-Tormore is expected to be carried out in two phases: phase 1 (2012-2014) - Laggan, comprising a possible three new wells, plus re-entry of an existing well; and Tormore, involving one new well, plus possible re-entry of an existing well. Phase 2 (2015) – two additional wells (one per field), with locations determined following a review of first year production data. (continued on page 2)

The Laggan gas-condensate prospect was discovered by Shell in 1986. Total subsequently drilled an appraisal well in 1996 and a further appraisal in 2004. The Tormore reservoir was discovered in summer 2007. Partner interests in Laggan-Tormore are Total (operator) 50%, DONG 20%, Eni 20% and Chevron 10%.

Meanwhile, Total today (Wednesday) said it had agreed to acquire from ExxonMobil, Marathon Oil and Anadarko a 43.75% stake in UK licence P967, which includes the Tobermory discovery. Total will also become operator of the acreage. The Tobermory gas reservoir was discovered in 1999 in well 214/4-1. Total says the acquisition is in line with its strategy of developing its position in the west of Shetland basin around Laggan and Tormore. Tobermory could use the new gas export infrastructure to St Fergus being planned for Laggan-Tormore, it adds.

Production

ExxonMobil plans new drilling programme on Beryl

Detailed studies have identified additional drilling opportunities on the ageing Northern North Sea Beryl field and partners have approved funding to resume drilling. An initial programme will involve three wells drilled from the Beryl Alpha platform. The programme is expected to increase the workforce by over 80 personnel and involve investment of around \$200 million. Beryl has produced 1 billion barrels of oil and gas since coming on stream in 1976. Output is currently averaging 25,000 b/d of oil and 100 MMcfd of gas. Partner interests in the field are ExxonMobil (operator) 50%, Hess 22.22%, Shell 22.78% and OMV 5%.

Beryl clocks up 1 billion barrels since start-up in 1976

Briefs

A general shortage of qualified personnel and the asset integrity of the ageing UKCS infrastructure are two of the key issues facing UKCS operators, according to **DNV**, in a survey published yesterday (Tuesday). The UK enterprise risk management survey findings, based on interviews with senior executives at MD, CFO and COO level in many of the top 20 UKCS operators, also identified supply chain and lifting costs, project risk management and oil price as other challenges.

Taqa has extended from 30 days to 60 days a contract with Seajacks for well services in the Dutch sector of the Southern North Sea. The contract, worth \$8 million, is scheduled to start in mid-November when the *Seajacks Kraken* returns from its current job in Canada (*NSR 34/9*). Meanwhile, Seajacks's second newbuild, the *Seajacks Leviathan*, has arrived in Vlissingen and is having its thrusters reinstalled following transport from the Lamprell yard in Dubai. It is due to start work with Fluor in a week to 10 days time on the Greater Gabbard wind farm.

Construction

Teekay Corporation sells Petrojarl Varg to subsidiary

Teekay Corporation is selling to subsidiary Teekay Offshore Partners the FPSO *Petrojarl Varq* for \$320 million. Teekay Corporation is providing \$220 million, with

thet partnership contributing \$104 million of equity raised last month. The \$220 million loan comprises two tranches: the first is a \$160 million short-term facility, which will be repaid on completion of a new \$260 million revolving credit facility that is currently in syndication; the second is a \$60 million unsecured subordinated debt facility with a maximum term of five years. The acquisition is expected to be completed by mid-month.

Teekay Offshore CEO Peter Evensen says the acquisition makes the company a complete "wellhead to refinery" provider. The company has options to acquire up to four further FPSOs from Teekay Corporation.

The *Petrojarl Varg* recently started a new four-year fixed-rate contract extension with Talisman Energy on the Norwegian Varg field, in the North Sea, where the FPSO has been operating for over 10 years. Talisman also has options to extend the new contract for up to an additional nine years.

Contracts

Apache North Sea has awarded Expro a contract, worth around \$7.5 million annually, for work primarily on the Forties field. Expro will provide wireline services and establish an alliance with another leading provider to deliver coiled tubing and pumping services. In total, 24 offshore employees will be dedicated to the contract, which has a firm duration of three years, with two one-year extension options.

BG has extended by two months a contract with Dolphin Drilling for the accommodation semi-submersible *Borgholm Dolphin* for work on the UK Central North Sea Armada field. The extension, which is worth about \$11.1 million, will provide continuing work for the vessel to around mid-December.

BP has awarded DOF Subsea a contract, worth about £13 million (\$21.4 million), for well positioning, acoustic rig moves and verification services in block 31, offshore Angola. The planned five-year contract, which began last month, initially involves the design, manufacture, installation and positioning of about 40 transponder frames which will be used by DOF for acoustic rig moves and by the block 31 subsea installation contractors.

BP has awarded Oceaneering International an initial three-year contract, worth about \$45 million, plus two, one-year options, for corrosion and inspection management services for the onshore Sangachal terminal and offshore production facilities in Azerbaijan and export pipelines in both Azerbaijan and Georgia.

ExxonMobil has awarded Amec a contract for detailed design, procurement and logistics support services for the Kizomba Satellites project, in block 15, offshore Angola. The project will be carried out by Paragon Angola, Amec's joint venture with Prodiaman in Luanda, with support from Amec's Houston offices.

Interpetroleum/Pemex is terminating early in October, rather than at end-December as previously planned, a short-term contract for Prosafe's accommodation unit Safe Concordia (NSR 34/22). The Concordia started an eightmonth contract, worth \$18 million, in May on Pemex's Cantarell field off Mexico. The vessel has been contracted under a direct assignment, special funding

arrangement with Pemex, in contrast with all the other Pemex contracts using Prosafe vessels, which are on fixed budget funding.

Korean National Oil Corporation has chartered Deep Sea Supply's AHTS vessels *Sea Ocelot* and *Sea Eagle 1* for four months firm, from around November, in support of a one-well workover and an exploration well offshore South Korea. The contract, which is worth over \$6 million, will start in direct continuation of a programme with Gazflot on the Sakhalin project off Russia which started on 13 May.

TDW Offshore Services has agreed a three-year frame deal with Amserve Engineering to provide a range of pipeline services on a call-out basis on behalf of Shell's M3, B11, E11 RB, F23 and F6 platforms, offshore western Borneo, Malaysia. Under the agreement, TDW will supply SmartPlug® pipeline pressure isolation and hot tapping services as required, in addition to subsea repair clamps.

Briefs

EV Offshore has carried out a subsea well inspection for Nexen Petroleum on the UKCS Scott Field using its RT 120 drill pipe-deployed camera system.

Farstad Shipping has agreed to buy from India's Sical Logistics the platform supply vessel *Sical Torino* for about NKr150 million (\$25.3 million). The vessel, a VS470 MkII (3,570 dwt) built at STX Norway Offshore, Langsten, is currently trading in the North Sea spot market. Farstad expects to take delivery of it by end-month.

Gassco has been granted PSA approval to carry out refurbishment, replacement and installation of new equipment at Kårstø. The project includes upgrading the metering station in line with regulatory requirements to maintain technical integrity and improve loading flexibility; installation of two new crossovers from the Statpipe inlet and the Åsgard inlet to meet the CO2 content requirements for export gas sales from Kårstø, as well as improve availability at the processing facility; installation of a new 36-inch flare line from the Statpipe inlet to the Åsgard flare; and replacement of the existing Statpipe inlet pressure reduction station.



Kårstø onshore facility. Source: StatoilHydro

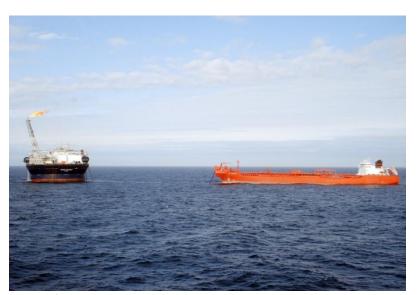
GE Oil & Gas launched a new S-Series shallow water vertical christmas tree at Offshore Europe in Aberdeen this week. The new tree merges horizontal and vertical tree technology, cutting weight by 20% and reducing height.

Grenland Group, on behalf of FMC, has fabricated, assembled and tested subsea facilities, including two manifolds, two manifold support structures and two closed caisson structures, totalling 500 tons, under a NKr120 million (\$20.3 million) contract for Woodside's Pluto LNG development, off northwest Australia. The structures, now en route to Australia, are part of FMC's delivery to Woodside's A\$12 billion (\$10.4 million) Pluto project.

ITF, the industry technology facilitator, issued two calls for proposals at Offshore Europe today (Wednesday). It is looking for global technology developers to come forward with solutions to challenges facing in-well communications and the use of light well intervention vessels for subsea well abandonment.

SBM Offshore, on behalf of BP, has awarded Aberdeen-based engineering and fabrication company L&N a contract, worth £500,000 (\$826,884), for welding work on the Skarv FPSO. The workscope includes welding and cladding a giant swivel stack, being built in South Korea.

Sevan Marine reports the shuttle tanker *Betty Knutsen* on 6 September completed offloading the first cargo of oil from the Premier Oil-operated Shelley field FPSO *Sevan Voyageur*. Shelley came on stream on 6 August (*NSR 31/12*).



Shelley field. Source: Sevan Marine

Sovereign Oilfield Group is investing £310,000 (\$511,314) in leasing an additional building in Dunfermline to expand the operations of wholly-owned subsidiary Forfab. Forfab has secured a number of new contracts worth £4 million (\$6.6 million) over the past financial year which has led to a requirement for additional workshop space. The new building, adjacent to its current facilities in the Pitreavie Business Park, will provide an additional 21,000 sq feet of workshop space.

Recent awards									
Operator	Secto	or	Field		Type of v	work		Contractor	
Apache	UK		Forties		Wireline	services		Expro	
BG	UK		Armada		Accomm	odation ext		Dolphin Drilling	
Current and fu	ture cons	truct	ion projects						
Operator	Sector	Fie	eld	Block(s)		Oil/Gas	Тур	e of development	
ATP	UK	Ch	eviot	2/10, 2/15	a, 3/11b	o/g	Floa	ater	
3P	Nor	Ska	arv	6507/2, 3,	5	o/g/c	Floa	ater	
BP	Nor	Va	lhall (redev)	2/8, 2/11		o/g/c	Plat	tform	
BP	UK	Cla	ir Ridge	206/8		o/g	Plat	tform	
Cirrus Energy	NL	M	[/] 7-A	M/7		g	Plat	tform	
ConocoPhillips	Nor	Gr	eater Ekofisk	2/4, 2/7		o/g/c	Plat	tforms	
ConocoPhillips	UK	Jas	mine	30/6		g/c	Plat	tform	
Eclipse	UK	Or	monde	113/28a, 1	13/29a	g	Plat	tforms	
Eni	Nor	Go	liat	7122/7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 7123/7		o/g	Floa	ater	
E.ON	UK	Ва	bbage	48/2a		g	Plat	Platform	
GDF Suez	UK	Cy	gnus phase 1	44/11a, 44	/12a	g	Platform		
GDF Suez	UK	Or	ca	44/29b, 44/30, D/15, D/18		g	Platform		
Nexen	UK	Go	lden Eagle	20/1		0	Floa	ater	
RWE Dea	UK	Bre	eagh	42/13		g	Plat	Platforms	
RWE Dea	UK	Cli	pper South	48/19		g	Platform		
StatoilHydro	Nor	Gjç	ðа	35/9, 36/7		o/g/c	Floa	ater	
StatoilHydro	Nor	Gu	drun	15/3		I/g	Plat	tform	
Total	NL	K/!	5-CU	K/5		g	Plat	tform	
Total	UK	La	ggan/Tormore	206/1a, 20	5/5a	g/c	Sub	sea to onshore plant	
Venture	UK	En	sign	48/14, 48/	15a	g Pla		tform	
Venture	NL	F/3	3-FA	F/3		g	Plat	tform	
Recent start-ups									
Operator	Secto	or	Field	Block(s)		Product	On	stream date	
3P	UK		Machar East	23/26a		0	Ma	rch 2009	
E.ON Ruhrgas	UK		Rita	44/21b, 44	/22c	g	Ma	rch 2009	
thaca	UK		Jacky	12/21c		0		il 2009	
Maersk	UK		Affleck	30/19a		o/g		gust 2009	
Nexen	UK		Ettrick	20/2a, 20/3	3a	0	_	gust 2009	
Petrofac	UK		Don W/SW	211/13b, 2		0	_	ril 2009/July 2009	
Premier UK		Shelley	22/2b		0		gust 2009		
StatoilHydro			Alve	6507/3		g/c	_	rch 2009	
StatoilHydro			Tune South	30/5, 6, 8		g/c		2009	
StatoilHydro	Nor		Tyrihans	6406/3, 64	07/1	l/g		July 2009	
StatoilHydro	Nor		Yttergryta	6507/11		g		January 2009	
Talisman Nor			Rev	15/12		g/c	January 2009		

Rig Market

By John Kendall

Seadrill's North Sea rigs defy dayrate pressure

Rig contractor Seadrill, in a fleet update, confirms all its units operating in the Norwegian sector have moved on to higher dayrates. The confirmation comes at time when there is a general downward pressure on rates in other North Sea and international sectors.

Seadrill's North Sea fleet has moved on to an average dayrate of \$428,000 Seadrill is clearly benefitting from owning one of the most modern fleets available, which, for the time being, is enabling the company to defy industry calls for lower rates. Furthermore, the contractor has its European fleet of five units concentrated in Norway, where more stringent operating requirements support higher dayrates. In June the units were on an average dayrate of \$416,000 that has now increased to \$428,000, up 9.7%. Although the rise is perhaps modest, it is nevertheless likely to generate some envy among competitors in the current climate.

The dayrates for the drillship *West Navigator* and the semi-submersible *West Phoenix* have climbed \$18,000 for each, to \$578,000 and \$513,000 respectively. Both units are also on long-term contract: the *Navigator* is with Shell until December 2012, while the *Phoenix* is currently due to be released by Total in January the same year.

The jack-up *West Alpha* is on contract with StatoilHydro until end-2010 and has moved on to a \$316,000 dayrate, up from \$306,000. The dayrate for the semi-submersible *West Venture* has increased by the same amount and currently stands at \$258,000. The *Venture* is potentially the first of Seadrill's rigs to be released off contract as its firm commitment with StatoilHydro ends in July 2010. However, the operator has rights to a further one-year option at a fixed price of \$258,000 that is unlikely to be passed up. Meanwhile, the most modest increase relates to the semi-submersible *West Alpha* which has risen by just \$6,000 to \$479,000. The *Alpha* is currently drilling for BG, but is formally contracted to a consortium of operators until April 2012, two months earlier than previously reported.

The West Africa region provides Seadrill with less positive news. Total has terminated a contract for the semi-submersible *West Menang* that was drilling offshore Congo. The contract was scheduled to expire by end-2010 and featured a last reported dayrate of \$127,000 that has since dropped to \$99,000. Seadrill received early termination notice from Total and the rig is now stacked in Namibia. Elsewhere, the drillship *West Capella*, also with Total drilling offshore Nigeria, has moved on to a marginally higher dayrate of \$546,000. The *West Setia*, meanwhile, has started a three-year contract with Chevron in Angola's Cabinda sector.

The next phase of Seadrill's newbuild programme will see the semi-submersible *West Orion* delivered in April 2010 when it will drill for Petrobras offshore Brazil. The drillship *West Gemini*, due for delivery around the same time, remains available for hire.

Diamond reschedules survey for Ocean Guardian

Diamond Offshore has decided to bring forward a planned five-year special periodic survey for the semi-submersible *Ocean Guardian*, which arrived at Invergordon on Monday (7 September). The rig arrived in port after completing a one-well contract with Nippon, drilling Bowmore appraisal 15/24a-9. Diamond says the survey will take about 35 days to complete, as a result of which it expects to be marketing the rig as available from mid-October.

The Nippon contract involved an operating dayrate of around \$298,000, a marked improvement on the \$260,000 figure Diamond received for the previous contract with AGR, when the turnkey operator used the rig to drill Bandon well 27/4-1 for Serica in Ireland.

Ocean Nomad is due off contract later this month

Later this month the *Ocean Nomad* is due to be released by Talisman, once it completes current Shaw well 22/22a-7z. The *Nomad* is on a higher dayrate of around \$338,000. The joint availability of the *Guardian* and *Nomad* should provide an indication of how strong semi-submersible demand is in the current market.

Transocean wins three-year contract for Key Manhattan

Contractor Transocean and operator Eni have agreed contract changes affecting three rigs in the Mediterranean sector. The main beneficial aspect for Transocean sees the contractor obtaining a firm three-year commitment for the jack-up *GSF Key Manhattan*, which has been idle in Egyptian waters for the past few months. Eni will use the rig for drilling offshore Italy. Although the contract will not start until February, it features an operating dayrate of \$137,000.

Meanwhile, other changes include the early termination of Eni's contract with the GSF Arctic III that was due to expire in October. The Arctic III was being used for drilling offshore Libya, but is currently idle in Sicily. The contract for the G H Galloway terminated on 1 August and the rig is in the process of being stacked in Croatia. The remaining contract duration on the Galloway has been included in the overall contract time Eni has with the Manhattan.

Offshore West Africa, the *GSF Adriatic IX* is about to start a contract of around nine months, drilling for Afren in Nigerian waters. As with several other jack-ups in the region, the *Adriatic IX* has had to endure a period of being stacked, but should now be active until at least May. The commitment with Afren involves a confirmed initial dayrate of \$97,000, although the operator can extend the contract for fixed periods of 175 days (\$95,000), 250 days (\$90,000) and 425 days (\$85,000).

SembCorp's PPL yard delivers Aquamarine Driller

SembCorp subsidiary PPL Shipyard has delivered the newbuild jack-up *Aquamarine Driller* to Vantage Drilling two months ahead of schedule. The rig, a Pacific Class 375 design, is the 27th unit of this design to be ordered. The *Aquamarine* will be able to operate in water depths of up to 375 feet and drill wells to depths of 30,000 feet. The rig is the third of four jack-ups PPL has been contracted to build for Vantage; the last one is due for delivery later this year. The early delivery of the *Aquamarine* helped Vantage acquire a maiden contract for the jack-up which involves drilling offshore West Africa for an undisclosed client.

North Sea I	Rig Utilisatio	on – 9 Septem	ber 2009				
Semi-subme	ersibles						
		2009 2010			10		2011
Rig Co.	Current Rigs	Rig Months (Contracted)	Utilisation %	Rig Months (Contracted)	Utilisation %	Rig Months (Contracted)	Utilisation %
Aker Drill	2	8 (8)	100%	24 (24)	100%	24 (24)	100%
COSL	0	0 (0)	0%	6 (6)	100%	18 (18)	100%
Diamond	4	48 (38)	79%	48 (16)	33%	48 (10)	20%
Dolphin	5	60 (50)	83%	60 (48)	80%	60 (28)	46%
OryShip	1	9 (9)	100%	0 (0)	0%	0 (0)	0%
Noble	1	12 (12)	100%	12 (12)	100%	12 (0)	0%
Odfjell	2	18 (18)	100%	24 (24)	100%	24 (17)	70%
Saipem	1	18 (18)	100%	24 (24)	100%	24 (12)	50%
Seadrill	3	36 (36)	100%	36 (36)	100%	36 (30)	83%
Songa	3	36 (36)	100%	36 (36)	100%	36 (36)	100%
itena	2	24 (24)	100%	24 (18)	75%	24 (12)	100%
Fransocean	16	186 (168)	90%	180 (128)	71%	180 (82)	45%
TOTALS	40	455 (417)	92%	474 (372)	78%	486 (269)	55%
Aug-09		433 (417)	<i>327</i> 0	372	70/0	269	33/0
ul-09		417		378		281	
un-09		447		396		254	
May-09		449		390		252	
Apr-09		455		390		242	
Mar-09		456		404		248	
Feb-09		465		413		260	
lan-09		465		413		260	
Dec-08		465		413		200	
Nov-08		461		413			
Oct-08		461		413			
Sep-08		461		365			
lack-ups		401		303			
ack-ups		20	09	20	10		2011
Rig Co.	Current	Rig Months	Utilisation	Rig Months	Utilisation	Rig Months	Utilisation
	Rigs	(Contracted)	%	(Contracted)	%	(Contracted)	%
insco	8	96 (76)	79%	96 (28)	29%	96 (24)	25%
∕laersk	7	79 (79)	100%	84 (84)	100%	84 (74)	88%
Noble	8	100 (94)	94%	108 (55)	51%	108 (8)	7%
North Off.	2	24 (15)	62%	24 (0)	0%	24 (0)	0%
Rowan	2	24 (23)	96%	24 (7)	29%	24 (0)	0%
Seadrill	1	12 (12)	100%	12 (12)	100%	12 (0)	0%
ransocean	7	84 (65)	77%	84 (22)	26%	84 (8)	9%
TOTALS	35	419 (364)	87%	432 (208)	48%	432 (114)	26%
Aug-09		364		186		114	
lul-09		362		186		114	
un-09		360		186		106	
Лау-09		355		217		93	
Apr-09		355		214		92	
Mar-09		359		217		92	
eb-09		361		207		92	
an-09		360		195		92	
Dec-08		353		179			
Nov-08		342		172			
Oct-08		342		172			
Sep-08		329		172			

		location & contract d		Sector	Dayrato	Contract expiry
Rig	Туре	Operator	Location	Sector	Dayrate (\$,000)	Contract expiry
AKER DRILLING						
Aker Barents	SS	Det norkse (Aker Exp)	6306/6-2	Nor	520	09/12
Aker Spitsbergen	SS	StatoilHydro		Nor	530	07/14 + options (imminent start)
DIAMOND						
Ocean Nomad	SS	Talisman	22/2a-7z	UK	337-339	09/09
Ocean Princess	SS	Talisman	16/22	UK	337-339	10/11
Ocean Vanguard	SS	StatoilHydro	25/2-17	Nor	404-406	04/10
ENSCO						
Ensco 70	JU	Maersk Oil		Den	114-116*	09/09 (*Accommodation contract
Ensco 71	JU	Maersk Oil	Halfdan HC	Den	94-96	10/09
Ensco 80	JU	Ithaca	12/21c	UK		Temporarily in Invergordon
Ensco 92	JU	ВНР	110/15-L14	UK	214-216	01/10 + options
Ensco 102	JU	ConocoPhillips	30/7a	UK	200-203	12/11
FRED OLSEN – DOLP	HIN					
Bideford Dolphin	SS	StatoilHydro	35/11	Nor	420	01/11
Borgland Dolphin	SS	StatoilHydro		Nor	344	01/10 then consortium to 01/14
Bredford Dolphin	SS	ExxonMobil	25/8-17	Nor	392	06/10 + then RWE 90 days
Byford Dolphin	SS	Hurricane (Senergy)	205/21a-4	UK	256	10/09
MAERSK						
Maersk Gallant	JU	ConocoPhillips	8/10-3	Nor		12/12
Maersk Giant	JU	Talisman	9/2-C1	Nor	295	12/11
Maersk Guardian	JU	Talisman	9/2-D3H	Nor		03/11
Maersk Innovator	JU	ConocoPhillips	2/4	Nor		12/11
Maersk Inspirer	JU	StatoilHydro	15/9 Volve	Nor		02/11 + 4x1 year options
Maersk Resolute	JU	DONG	Nini-A10	Den		12/11
Maersk Resolve	JU	Maersk Oil	Gorm-F	Den		05/11 + 1 year option
NOBLE						
Noble Al White	JU	Total	K/5-CU2	Neth	208	10/09
N. George Sauv.	JU		5504/5-2	Den	220	12/10 (Wintershall)
N. Hans Deul	JU	Shell	K/8-FA109	Neth	128	02/11
N. Julie Robertson	JU	Venture	48/10a-15z	UK	198	09/10
N. Lynda Bossler	JU	Cirrus	M/7	Neth	220	11/09
N. Piet van Ede	JU	GDF	E/17-A1	Neth	212	10/10
N. Ronald Hoope	JU	GDF	L/5-12	Neth	212	12/09
N. Scott Marks	JU	Venture	49/4	UK	(212-214)	09/11
N. Ton v Langeveld	SS	Venture	29/8a-6	UK	380	06/10 + 6-month option
		, remain	25/00 0			50, 10 × 6 memor epote.
NORTHERN OFFSHO	JU	Maersk Oil	Halfdan	Den	170-173	09/09
Energy Endeavour Energy Enhancer	JU	Centrica	Grove	UK	67-69*	09/09 (*Accommodation contract
		Centrica	Grove	UK	07-09	09/09 (Accommodation contract
OCEAN RIG (DryShip	os) SS	Shell	620E/E 2	Non	176 F11	00/00 than Datrohras /Dlask Con
Leiv Eiriksson	33	Jileli	6305/5-3	Nor	476-511	09/09 then Petrobras/Black Sea
ODFJELL	CC	Chahaill	24/40	Nan	F00	00/12 202
Deepsea Atlantic	SS	StatoilHydro	34/10	Nor	500	08/13 + 2x2 year options
Deepsea Bergen	SS	StatoilHydro		Nor	320	06/12 (imminent start)
ROWAN						
Rowan Gorilla V	JU	Total	22/30c-G11	UK	260-263	11/09

Rig	Туре	Operator	Location	Sector	Dayrate (\$,000)	Contract expiry
SAIPEM						
Scarabeo 5	SS	StatoilHydro	6406/2	Nor	391-421	12/10
SEADRILL						
	cc	BG	17/12 AD	Nor	479	Consortium to 04/13
West Alpha	SS	StatoilHydro	17/12-4B	Nor		Consortium to 04/12
West Epsilon	JU	· ·	16/2-5	Nor	316	12/10
West Navigator	DS	Shell	6305/8	Nor	578	12/12
West Phoenix	SS	Total	6506/9-1	Nor	513	01/12
West Venture	SS	StatoilHydro	31/2	Nor	258	07/10 + 1 year option (\$258,000)
STENA						
Stena Carron	DS	Chevron	213/27-4y	UK		11/13
Stena Don	SS	StatoilHydro	6506/12-P4AH	Nor	430-433	12/09 + 1 year option
Stena Spey	SS	Chevron	13/22a-B19y	UK	300	06/10
SONGA (*managed l	ny Odfiell)					
Songa Dee	SS	Lundin	16/1-12	Nor	425	06/11 + 1 year option
Songa Delta*	SS	Det norske	6609/10-2	Nor	435	06/12 · 1 year option
Songa Trym*	SS	StatoilHydro	31/5	Nor	475	01/11 + 1 year option
20ga,		otato, a. o	02/0			62, 22 · 2 year operor.
TRANSOCEAN						
GSF Arctic IV	SS	Nexen	15/22	UK	275	09/10 (sublet from Shell)
GSF Britannia	JU	Shell	49/26-D58	UK	110	09/09
GSF Galaxy I	JU	BP	22/20-A19	UK	115	10/09
GSF Galaxy III	JU	Nexen	20/6a-B19	UK	107	08/11
GSF Labrador	JU	E.ON Ruhrgas	48/2a-B3	UK .	187	12/09 then Dana
GSF Monarch	JU	Shell	Ameland-205	Neth	78	09/10
IW McLean	SS	Petro-Canada	12/25-3	UK	414	03/10
Paul B Loyd Jr	SS	BP	211/12	UK	483	08/12
Polar Pioneer	SS	StatoilHydro	24 /25 74	Nor	295	01/14
Sedco 711	SS	Shell	21/25-T1	UK	384	11/10
Sedco 714	SS	Total	3/14d-18	UK	236	11/10 (yard 10/09)
Frans. Arctic	SS	StatoilHydro	6407/1	Nor	270	08/11
Frans. John Shaw	SS	Petrofac	211/18a	UK	352	10/09
Trans. Leader	SS	StatoilHydro	6506/12-12S	Nor	377	02/12
Trans. Prospect	SS	Nexen DONG	20/1-10y 214/30a-2	UK	363	10/10 09/09
Frans. Rather Frans. Searcher	SS SS	StatoilHydro	36/7	UK Nor	517 408	12/11 + 6-month FPO
Trans. Winner	SS	StatoilHydro	25/5-6	Nor	364	09/09 then Lundin to 11/12
irans. willier	33	Statolinyuro	23/3-0	INOI	304	09/09 then Lundin to 11/12
Rigs in port & arriva	ls/departu	ıres				
Borgsten Dolphin	SS			UK		Off contract - available
Ensco 72	JU		Hartlepool	UK		Available
Ensco 100	JU		Gdansk	Poland		In yard until 10/09
Ensco 101	JU		Teesside	UK		Available
GSF Arctic II	SS		Invergordon	UK		For sale – stacked
GSF Galaxy II	JU		Dundee	UK		Warm stacked
GSF Magellan	JU			Holland		Stacked
N. Byron Welliver	JU		Esbjerg	Den		Yard to 09/09 then available
Ocean Guardian	SS			UK		Invergordon (survey) avail Oct.
Rowan Gorilla VI	JU	BG		UK/Nor	150	Being prepared for Norway
Sedco 704	SS			UK		Starts Shell contract 10/09
Sedco 712	SS		Invergordon	UK		Warm stacked

Mediterranean & Black Sea: Rig location & contract details								
Rig	Type	Operator	Location	Dayrate \$,000	Contract expiry			
ATWOOD								
Atwood Aurora	SS	RWE	Egypt	133	04/11 + 1 year option			
COSL								
COSLForce	JU	Total	Libya		n/k			
COSEI OICC	30	Total	Libya		11/ K			
DIAMOND								
Ocean King	JU	Crosco	Croatia	107-109	12/09 (bareboat charter)			
Ocean Lexington	SS	BP	Egypt	265	09/09 then Brazil			
Ocean Spur	JU	WEPCO	Egypt	110-113	08/10 + option			
ENSCO								
Ensco 105	JU	BG	Tunisia	200-203	05/10			
GSP								
GSP Prometeu	JU	Melrose	Bulgaria		09/09			
GSP Saturn	JU	Toreador	Turkey		10/09			
	10	Toreador	Turkey		10/09			
JAPAN DRILLING								
Hakuryu-10	JU	Eni	Tunisia		4-well + 2 options then Spain 2010			
KS ENERGY								
KS Medstar	JU	Petrobel	Egypt	118	04/11 + 1 year option			
MAERSK								
Maersk Endurer	JU	Petrobel	Egypt	150	06/10 + 1 year option			
Midel Sk Elluulei	10	Petrober	Egypt	150	00/10 + 1 year option			
NOBLE								
Homer Ferrington	SS	ExxonMobil	Libya	537-538	04/12			
PRIDE INT.								
Pride North America	SS	BP	Egypt	452	01/11			
SAIPEM								
Scarabeo 4	SS	IEOC	Egypt		01/10			
Scarabeo 6	SS	Burullus	Egypt		12/14			
	33	Baranas	-8166		12/17			
SONGA								
Songa Saturn	DS	Petrobras (Nippon) Libya	340	10/09 then Eq. Guinea			
TRANSOCEAN								
Comet	JU	GUPCO	Egypt	112	09/09 then yard			
D R Stewart	JU	Eni	Italy	168	03/10			
GSF Adriatic X	JU	Petrobel	Egypt	182	10/10			
GSF Rig 105	JU	Petrobel	Egypt	112	02/11			
GSF Rig 124	JU	PetroSA	Egypt	120	11/09			
GSF Rig 141	JU	PetroGulf	Egypt	120	10/09			
Mercury	JU	Petrobel	Egypt	110	01/10			
Rigs in port departures/	arrivals							
Energy Exerter	JU		Malta		Cold stacked			
Ensco 85	JU		Tunisia		Idle			
G H Galloway	JU		Croatia		Being stacked			
GSF Arctic III	SS		Sicily		Idle			
GSF Const. II	JU		Egypt		Stacked			
GSF Key Manhattan	JU		Egypt		Idle – 3-year Eni contract starts 02/10			
GSF Key Singapore	JU		Egypt		Stacked			
GSF Rig 103	JU		Egypt		Stacked			
Interocean III	JU		Egypt		Stacked			
JP Russell	JU	Shell	Egypt	180	Yard – Shell from 09/09			
Trans MG Hulme Jr	SS		Libya	495	08/10 after 250 days in yard			

West Africa: Rig loca			Location	Dayrata	Contract evning
Rig	Type	Operator	Location	Dayrate \$,000	Contract expiry
KCA Deutag					
Ben Avon	JU	CNR	Gabon	155	06/11
Ben Rinnes	JU	Chevron (CABGOC)	Angola	190	06/10
NOBLE					
Ed Noble	JU	ExxonMobil	Nigeria	114-116	02/10
Percy Johns	JU	ExxonMobil	Nigeria	182-184	03/10
		2.00.000.000.000.000		102 10 :	00, 20
OCEAN RIG					
Eirik Raude	SS	Tullow	Ghana	637	07/11 + 2x1 year options
PRIDE					
Pride Africa	DS	Total	Angola	191-192	12/11
Pride Angola	DS	Total	Angola	450	07/13
Pride Cabinda	JU	Perenco	Gabon	138-139	08/09 (one month in Cameroon)
Pride South Seas	SS	Petro	Sth. Africa	315	09/09
Pride South Pacific	SS	Murphy	Angola	320	09/09 then Noble Energy
. Hac Jouth Facilit	- 55	.νιαι ριτγ	/ ingola	320	03/03 then Noble Elicity
ROWAN					
Rowan Gorilla VII	JU	Cabinda Gulf	Angola	330-333	04/10
CEADDIII					
SEADRILL West Capella	DS	Total	Nigeria	546	03/14
West Capella West Setia	SS	Chevron (Cab.Gulf)	Angola	163	08/12
		, ,	, ,		
STENA					
Stena Tay	SS	Total	Nigeria	-	02/10
TRANSOCEAN					
Deepwater Pathfinder	DS	Shell/Chev/Ag/Pbs	Nigeria	395	07/09 then Addax to 11/09
GSF Adriatic VIII	JU	ExxonMobil	Nigeria	230	03/10
GSF Adriatic IX	JU	Afren	Nigeria	97	05/10
GSF Aleutian Key	SS	Premier	Congo	495	08/09 then Sonangol to 12/09
GSF Baltic	JU	ExxonMobil	Nigeria	213	05/10
GSF Explorer	DS	BP	Angola	426	11/09 then Indonesia
GSF High Island VII	JU	Total	Cameroon	170	01/10
GSF Jack Ryan	DS	Total	Nigeria	425	06/13
GSF Rig 135	SS	Total	Congo	325	04/10
Jim Cunningham	SS	ExxonMobil	Angola	450	03/12
M.G. Hulme Jr	SS	Eni	Nigeria	430	12/09 yard then Libya 08/10
Sedco Energy	SS	Chevron	Nigeria	487	01/11
Sedco Energy Sedco Express	SS	BP	Angola	188	07/10 then Noble Energy 455 days
Sedco 700 Sedco 702	SS	Total	Nigeria	410	08/09
	SS	Shell	Nigeria	350	03/11
Sedco 709	SS	Shell	Nigeria	205	10/09
Transocean Richardson	SS	Chevron	Angola	456	07/10
Trident XIV	JU	Chevron	Angola	98	05/10 (yard in July)
VENTURE DRILLING					
Deep Venture	DS	Maersk Oil	Angola	495	01/11
.	, .				
Rigs in port departure		S			
Aban Abraham	SS	W	Chara	(405)	Aurit 1 2 00 /00 for 1
Atwood Hunter	SS	Kosmos	Ghana	(495)	Arrives 09/09 from Israel

West Africa: Rig loca	West Africa: Rig location & contract details (continued)							
Rigs in port departures/arrivals								
Atwood Southern Cross	SS		Mauritania		Available			
Belford Dolphin	SS	Anadarko	Sierra Leone	(419)	En route from GoM			
GSF Adriatic I	JU		Gabon		Stacked			
GSF Adriatic II	JU		Angola		Stacked			
GSF Adriatic V	JU		Gabon		Stacked			
GSF Adriatic VI	JU		Gabon		Stacked			
GSF High Island V	JU		Congo		Stacked			
GSF High Island IX	JU		Ghana		Stacked			
GSF Rig 140	SS	ExxonMobil	Angola		05/11 (yard then Eq. Guinea)			
N. Don Walker	JU		Cameroon		Stacked			
N. Lloyd Noble	JU		Cameroon		Stacked			
N. Tommy Craighead	JU		Cameroon		Stacked			
Ocean Valiant	SS	Total	Angola	(620)	Arrives 09/09 from GoM for 2 years			
Pride Venezuela	SS		Angola		Preparing to move for repairs			
Sea Explorer	SS		Congo		En route to Brazil			
Sedneth 701	SS		Angola	(364)	Yard until 09/09 then Chevron to 12/09			
Songa Saturn	DS	CNOOC	Eq. Guinea		Arrives 12/09 from Malta			
Trans. Trident IV	JU		Gabon		Stacked			
Trans. Trident VIII	JU		Gabon		Stacked			
West Ceres	JU		Ghana		Stacked – sold			
West Menang	SS		Namibia		Stacked			

Drilling

Lundin finds separate structure in Greater Luno 16/1-12

Lundin Petroleum has completed Luno Extension exploration well 16/1-12 (PL338), in the Norwegian North Sea, after finding oil. However, the well did not encounter the pre-Cretaceous Luno reservoir, found in 2007, but a complex reservoir of fractured basement instead. Further work will be required to determine the reserves potential and commerciality of the discovery.

Well confirms area is geologically complex, says Heppenstall An extensive data acquisition programme was carried out in 16/1-12, including coring and three mini drillstem tests, with the successful recovery of hydrocarbon samples. Preliminary analysis confirms a gross oil-bearing column of about 40 metres and good flow characteristics. However, analyses also indicates an oil:water contact about 15 metres shallower than in Luno discovery 16/1-8, suggesting it is probably a separate structure. Lundin president and CEO Ashley Heppenstall says: "The well confirms the area is geologically complex and that the Luno Extension is most likely not connected to the Luno field."

Well 16/1-12, 4 km south of the 16/1-8 oil discovery and 15 km east of the 15/3-1S Gudrun discovery, was drilled with the *Songa Dee* to a total vertical depth of 2,030 metres, terminating in jointed bedrock rocks. It will be permanently plugged and abandoned. Partner interests in PL338 are Lundin (operator) 50%, Wintershall 30% and RWE Dea 20%. The *Dee* will next drill 24/9-9S (PL340), for Marathon.

NW European S	Shelf: Drilling Ac	tivity 3 Septembe	r 2009 – 9 Septem	ber 2009	
Well	Operator	Rig	Well Type	Spud	Status
UK sector					
3/9a-N42	Total	Alwyn platform	Ехр	20.08.09	Op @ 9,960ft
3/14d-18	Total	Sedco 714	Exp Balvenie	02.08.09	Drilling 12¼" hole
12/21c	Ithaca	Ensco 80	Dev Jacky		WoR
12/25-3	Petro-Canada	JW McLean	App Surprise	19.08.09	Drilling
13/22a-B19y	Chevron	Stena Spey	Dev Captain	16.08.09	Op @ TD 8,688ft
15/22-19	Nexen	GSF Arctic IV	Dev Telford	23.06.09	Completed
15/24a-9	Nippon	Ocean Guardian	App Bowmore	20.06.09	Suspended
16/22-9	Talisman	Ocean Princess	App Burghley		On location
20/1-10y	Nexen	Trans. Prospect	App Hobby South	18.08.09	Operating
20/6a-B19	Nexen	GSF Galaxy III	Dev Buzzard	12.06.09	Completing
21/25-T1	Shell	Sedco 711	Dev Teal	25.04.09	Well repair
22/20-A19	BP	GSF Galaxy I	Dev Mungo	04.06.09	Op @ TD 11,105ft
22/22a-7z	Talisman	Ocean Nomad	App Shaw	07.07.09	Operating
22/30c-G11	Total	Rowan Gorilla V	Dev Elgin	01.11.08	Testing TD 18,067ft
29/8a-6	Venture	N. Ton v Langveld	App Acorn	07.09.09	Drilling
30/7a-M9	ConocoPhillips	Ensco 102	Dev Joanne	19.08.09	Op @ 4,420ft
48/2a-B3	E.ON Ruhrgas	GSF Labrador			· ·
•			Dev Babbage	08.08.09	Operating in 12¼" hole
48/10a-15	Venture	N Julie Robertson	Exp Annabel East	30.07.09	P&A
48/10a-15z	Venture	N Julie Robertson	Exp Annabel East	05.09.09	Drilling C. TD 46 026%
49/26-D58	Shell	GSF Britannia	Dev Leman	21.05.09	Comp @ TD 16,026ft
110/15-L14	BHP	Ensco 92	Dev Lennox	26.08.09	Drilling
205/21a-4	Hurricane	Byford Dolphin	App Lancaster	08.08.09	Drilling
211/12	BP	Paul B Loyd Jr	Dev Magnus	17.07.09	Workover
211/18a-S4 (S3z)	Petrofac	Trans. John Shaw	Dev Don SW	2007.09	Completing injectors
213/27-4z	Chevron	Stena Carron	App Rosebank	30.07.09	P&A
213/27-4y	Chevron	Stena Carron	App Rosebank	05.09.09	Operating
214/30a-2	DONG	Trans. Rather	Exp Glenlivet	22.08.09	Drilling
Norwegian sector	0 01:111		5 5 6 6	40.00.00	
2/4-VA2	ConocoPhillips	Maersk Innovator	Dev Ekofisk	10.08.09	Operating
8/10-3	ConocoPhillips	Maersk Gallant	Exp Megaladon		WoR
9/2-D1	Talisman	Maersk Giant	Dev Yme	20.07.09	Drilling
9/2-D3H	Talisman	Maersk Guardian	Dev Yme	26.06.09	Suspended WI
15/9-F9A	StatoilHydro	Maersk Inspirer	Dev Volve	03.07.09	Suspended
16/1-12	Lundin	Songa Dee	Exp Luno	29.07.09	Drilling
25/2-17	StatoilHydro	Ocean Vanguard	Ехр	08.09.09	Drilling
25/5-6	Lundin	Trans Winner	Exp Mon	27.08.09	Drilling
25/8-17	ExxonMobil	Bredford Dolphin	Ехр	06.09.09	Drilling
25/9-3	Noreco	West Alpha	Exp Tasta	28.08.09	Drilling
30/4-D1AH	Total	West Phoenix	App Hild		WoR
30/9-24	StatoilHydro	Transocean Leader	Exp		Shortly
31/2-X22AY2H	StatoilHydro	West Venture	Dev	14.06.09	Suspended
31/5-H6BY2H	StatoilHydro	Songa Trym	Dev Troll West	31.05.05	Susp @ 5,133 metres
31/5-I21H	StatoilHydro	Polar Pioneer	Dev Troll		WoR
34/7-G4	StatoilHydro	Borgland Dolphin	App Vigdis	23.03.09	Susp oil @ 6,215m
34/10-52\$	StatoilHydro	Deepsea Atlantic	App Gullfaks South	11.08.09	Drilling in 171/2" hole
35/3-75	VNG	Bredford Dolphin	Ехр	28.06.09	Completed
25/11	StatoilHydro	Bideford Dolphin	Dev Vega		WoR
35/11	Statomiyuro	bideford bolphili	Dev vega		WOIL

NW European Shelf: Drilling Activity 3 September 2009 – 9 September 2009								
Well	Operator	Rig	Well Type	Spud	Status			
6305/5-3	Shell	Leiv Eiriksson	Арр	19.08.09	Drilling			
6305/8-A4	Shell	West Navigator	Dev Ormen Lange	25.01.09	Operating			
6306/6-2	Det norske	Aker Barents	Exp	22.08.09	Drilling			
6406/2	StatoilHydro	Scarabeo 5	Dev Kristin		Shortly			
6407/1-C2AY2H	StatoilHydro	Transocean Arctic	Dev Tyrihans	31.05.09	Suspended			
6506/12-P4AH	StatoilHydro	Stena Don	Dev Smørbukk S	26.06.09	Drilling			
6506/12-12A	StatoilHydro	Trans Leader	App Åsgard	06.08.09	Suspended			
6506/9-1	Total	West Phoenix	App Victoria	20.01.09	Plugging			
6609/10-2	Det norske	Songa Delta	Exp	06.09.09	Drilling			
Netherlands sector	r							
AME-205A	NAM	GSF Monarch	Dev re-entry	10.06.09	Op @ TD 4,443 metres			
E/17-A	GDF	N Piet van Ede	Dev	29.08.09	Drilling @ 2,050 metres			
K/5-CU2	Total	Noble Al White	Dev	02.08.09	Drilling in 16" hole			
K/8-FA109	NAM	Noble Hans Deul	Exp	15.08.09	Drilling @ 2,854 metres			
L/5-12	GDF	N Ronald Hoope	Exp	18.08.09	Drilling @ 2,450 metres			
M/7-A01	Cirrus	N Lynda Bossler	Dev	17.07.09	Preparing to perforate			
P/9-9	Wintershall	N G Sauvageau	Dev	05.08.09	Operating			
Danish sector								
Gorm-FN40B	Maersk Oil	Maersk Resolve	Dev	29.04.09	Redrilling			
Halfdan-HBB1,6,7	Maersk Oil	Energy Endeavour	Dev	19.03.09	Operating			
Halfdan-HCA1	Maersk Oil	Ensco 71	Dev	05.04.09	Drilling			
Nini-NA10	Maersk Oil	Maersk Resolute	Dev WI	12.07.09	Drilling			

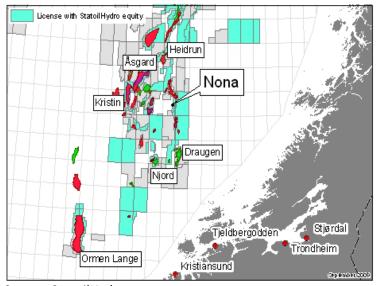
NW European Shelf: Planned Drilling								
UK sector								
Block	Operator	Rig	Type	Prospect	Spud			
3/15	Total		Exp	Laphroaig	2H 2009			
3/27a-3	Nautical		App	Hydra	2H 2009			
12/25-4	Petro-Canada	JW McLean	App	Nutmeg	September 2009			
14/28	Nexen	Transocean Prospect	Exp	Deacon	1Q 2010			
15/23b	Premier		App	Bugle	4Q 2009			
15/27	Endeavour		App	Renee	4Q 2009			
16/23s-AR1	ВР	Paul B Loyd Jr	App	Arundel	3Q 2009			
20/1	Nexen	Transocean Prospect	Exp	Lily	4Q 2009			
20/1	Nexen		App	Hobby NW	2H 2009			
20/2a	Nexen	GSF Arctic IV	App	Blackbird	1Q 2010			
20/4	Nexen	GSF Arctic IV	App	Polecat	2Q 2010			
21/17	Nexen	GSF Arctic IV	Exp	Crow's Nest	2Q 2010			
23/21-p	BG		App	Acorn	2009			
30/8-4	BG		App	Moth South	2H 2009			
30/12b	Talisman		App	Halley	4Q 2009			
42/19a	Sterling		Exp	Airidh	2009			
43/15a	EnCore	Ensco 80	Exp	Bennett	3Q 2009			
48/3a	Venture	N. Julie Robertson	Exp	Morpheus	4Q 2009			
113/27b	Centrica				2H 2009			
113/27c	Serica		Exp	Conan	2H 2009			
204/13	OMV		Exp	Tornado	4Q 2009			

NW European Shelf: Planned Drilling (continued)					
UK sector					
Block	Operator	Rig	Type	Prospect	Spud
204/18b	Valiant		Exp	Handcross	3Q-4Q 2009
211/17	Fox	Byford Dolphin	Exp	Bourbon	3Q 2009
213/28	Chevron	Stena Carron	Exp	Aberdour	2010
Norwegian sector					
15/9-B1	StatoilHydro	West Epsilon	Exp	Sleipner West	Q3 2009
24/9-9S	Marathon	Songa Dee	Exp		Sep/Oct 2009
25/1-11	Det norske	Aker Barents	Exp		October 2009
25/10	Aker/ExxonMobil	Aker Barents	Exp		Q4 2009
34/4-11	Petro-Canada	Songa Delta	Exp		2009
6407/12-2	GDF	Aker Barents	Exp		Mid-Sep 2009
6506/12-Y1H/Y2H	StatoilHydro	Scarabeo 5	Dev	Smørbukk	Q3 2009

StatoilHydro finds oil/gas in Nona well 6407/2-5S

StatoilHydro has found oil and gas in Nona prospect well 6407/2-5S (PL074), 10 km southeast of the Åsgard field, in the Norwegian Sea. The well had a primary target in Middle Jurassic Garn and Ile formations. Gas was proven in the Garn formation and oil in the Ile horizon. Based on preliminary calculations, the find has estimated recoverable reserves of 13-31 million barrels of oil and 1-2 Bcm of gas. The well, which will be permanently plugged and abandoned, was not formation tested, but extensive data gathering and sampling were carried out. A development of the discovery involving production via existing infrastructure will be considered.

Well 6407/2-5S was drilled with the *Ocean Vanguard* to a vertical depth of 3,289 metres, terminating in an Early Jurassic Åre rock formation. Partner interests in PL074, which also covers block 25/3, are StatoilHydro (operator) 40%, Altinex Oil 20%, Det norske oljeselskap 20% and Svenska Petroleum 20%. The *Vanguard* next drills exploration well 25/2-17 (PL442), in the North Sea, also for StatoilHydro.



Source: StatoilHydro

Exploration, appraisal, development activity update

BHP has the *Ensco 92* drilling ahead at an undisclosed depth in Lennox development well 110/15-L14. The operator is essentially keeping the well tight, although drilling could reach a measured TD of around 9,000 feet, similar to previous Lennox wells.

BP says the *GSF Galaxy I* is continuing with the completion of Mungo 22/20-A19, drilled to a measured TD of 11,105 feet. Meanwhile, the *Paul B Loyd Jr* is still in Magnus block 211/12 conducting workovers and will next move to Machar.

For *Chevron*, the *Stena Spey* is believed to be still operating at a measured TD of 8,688 feet in Captain development well 13/22a-B19y, while in the west of Shetland area on Rosebank, the *Stena Carron* on 5 September spudded new appraisal sidetrack section 213/27-4y. The previous 4z section reached TD on 27 August, but was not plugged until 5 September. The need to drill a further sidetrack could be an encouraging sign; however, Chevron is still keeping all well information tight.

ConocoPhillips says the *Ensco 102* is currently testing BOPs and will next run a formation interval test in Joanne 30/7a-M9, prior to drilling the 12¼-inch hole section; 13½-inch casing has been set at 4,220 feet.

For **DONG**, the *Transocean Rather* is drilling ahead in Glenlivet exploration well 214/30a-2, in the west of Shetland area. Operations have been in progress for over two weeks, but specific well detail remains tight.

E.ON Ruhrgas has the *GSF Labrador* operating within the 12½-inch hole section in Babbage 48/2a-B3 and will suspend the development well at the 9½-inch casing point. Wells B2 and B3 will be deepened later this year after platform topsides have been installed.

The *Byford Dolphin* is progressing with operations for *Hurricane* in Lancaster appraisal 205/21a-4, another tight hole in the west of Shetland region. The well is being managed by turnkey operator Senergy and is expected to take 40 days to drill, after which the *Byford* will be released off contract.

For *Nexen*, the *Transocean Prospect* is operating in Hobby South appraisal sidetrack 20/1-10y that is being operated as a tight hole. It is thought the *GSF Arctic IV* is still on location on Telford well 15/22-19; the well was completed on 26 August, but is due to be tied in to production facilities. On Buzzard, the *GSF Galaxy III* is progressing with the completion of 20/6a-B19.

The *Ocean Guardian* late last week finished suspending *Nippon's* Bowmore appraisal 15/24a-9 and, according to Diamond, the rig arrived in Invergordon on Monday (7 September). Nippon has yet to comment on the well's results; prime objective was a reservoir section within an Upper Jurassic sandstone.

For **Petro-Canada**, the JW McLean is operating at TD after running logs in Surprise well 12/25-3 that is appraising the western flank the prospect, discovered in neighbouring block 13/21b. The operator says the rig will move later this week to drill Nutmeg exploration well 12/25-4.

In the northern sector on Don SW, *Petrofac* says the *Transocean John Shaw* will take another week or so to complete injector wells 211/18a-S3z and S4. Thereafter the rig will move to Don SW producer (DR2) to conduct some intervention work which is scheduled to finish by early-October.

Shell reports no change in activity. The *Sedco 711* is still repairing Teal well 21/25-T1, while in the gas basin the *Britannia* is completing Leman 49/26-D58, drilled to a measured TD of 16,026 feet.

Talisman says the *Ocean Princess* remains operating in Shaw appraisal sidetrack 22/22a-7z; the rig is due to be released off contract after Shaw well operations have been completed. Meanwhile, the *Ocean Nomad* is on location in Burghley block 16/22, where it is preparing to re-enter the previously drilled 9y well to spud a new sidetrack appraisal.

Total says it has drilled the 17½-inch hole in exploration well 3/9a-N52 to a section TD of 9,960 feet; the well is being drilled from the Alwyn North platform facilities. In the adjacent block, the *Sedco 714* is drilling ahead within the 12¾-inch hole, at an undisclosed depth, in Balvenie exploration well 3/14d-18. Meanwhile, in the central area on Elgin, the *Rowan Gorilla V* perforated 22/30c-G11 and is currently flow testing the well.

For **Venture**, the *Noble Julie Robertson* encountered some downhole problems in Annabel East 48/10a-15 and plugged the exploration well on 3 September. A mechanical sidetrack (15z) spudded two days later in which drilling has reached 7,500 feet, within the 12¼-inch hole section. The operator received the *Noble Ton van Langeveld* from Maersk last week and on 7 September spudded HPHT Acorn appraisal well 29/8a-6 that is expected take up to 90 days to drill; 30-inch casing has already been set and drilling of the 26-inch hole is about to start. The new jack-up *Noble Scott Marks* is at a standby location near Chiswick and is expected to start batch-setting operations early next week.

In Norway, *Det norske oljeselskap* on 6 September spudded exploration well 6609/10-2 (PL483S), in the Norwegian Sea, with the *Songa Delta*. Partner interests in PL483S, which also covers blocks 6608/12 and 6609/11, are Det norske (operator) 40%, Dana 30% and Discover Petroleum 30%.

ExxonMobil on 6 September spudded well 25/8-17 (PL027D), in the North Sea, with the *Bredford Dolphin*. Partner interests in PL027D are ExxonMobil (operator) 50%, Dana 40% and Det norske 10%.

Marathon has been granted PSA approval to drill exploration well 24/9-9S (PL340), in the Northern North Sea, with the *Songa Dee*. The well, which has a planned duration of 36-53 days, is scheduled to spud this month or next.

For **StatoilHydro**, the *Ocean Vanguard* on 6 September spudded Frigg Delta well 25/2-17 and is waiting for cement to be cleared around the 30-inch hole. The *Transocean Leader* is on the location of Omega North well 30/9-24, but waiting for a new control cabin to be installed in the drilling derrick. The *Deepsea Atlantic* is drilling ahead in 171/2-inch hole in Gullfaks South appraisal 34/10-52S.

Meanwhile, StatoilHydro has been granted PSA approval to use the *Aker Spitsbergen* to plug permanently Smørbukk South well 6506/12-8 in the Åsgard field. StatoilHydro has a five-year contract with the newbuild rig. The operation has a planned duration of 26 days starting this month.



Aker Spitsbergen. Source: Aker

StatoilHydro has also won PSA approval to drill exploration well 6608/10-13 (PL437), in the Norwegian Sea, with the *Ocean Vanguard*. The well will be located 7.6 km southeast of 6608/10-4 (Norne) and 12.7 km south-southwest of 6608/11-6 (Hauk). Drilling is planned to start late this month, with operations scheduled to last 32 days.



Ocean Vanguard in Kristiansand. Source: Petroleum Safety Authority

In The Netherlands, for *Cirrus Energy*, the *Noble Lynda Bossler* is running tubing and preparing to perforate development well M/7-A01, which has been drilled to TD and cased. The rig is expected to move off the location this week. It will next drill well L/11-A07, also for Cirrus.

For *GDF*, the *Noble Piet van Ede* is drilling ahead in 12%-inch hole, at 2,050 metres, in development well E/17-A1. Elsewhere, the *Noble Ronald Hoope* is drilling ahead in 16-inch hole, at 2,450 metres, in exploration well L/5-12.

NAM this week reports the *Noble Hans Deul* is operating at a depth of 2,854 metres in exploration well K/8-FA109; 133/8—inch casing was installed at 1,086 metres. There is still no change in the status of Ameland development well sidetrack AME-205A, in which the *GSF Monarch* is still operating at TD.

For **Total**, the **Noble Al White** is still drilling ahead in 16-inch hole, below 20-inch casing, in development well K/5b-CU2.

Worldwide

BP has made what it claims is a giant oil discovery in the Tiber prospect, in deepwater Keathley Canyon block 102, in the Gulf of Mexico. The company says the well, drilled to a depth of more than 35,000 feet, making it one of the deepest wells drilled to date in the oil and gas industry, found oil in multiple Lower Tertiary reservoirs. Appraisal will be required to determine the size and commerciality of the find. Partner interests in Tiber are BP (operator) 62%, Petrobras 20% and ConocoPhillips 18%. Tiber is in the same area as the 2006 Kaskida discovery. Although still under appraisal, BP believes Kaskida has potential reserves of 3 billion barrels and Tiber may be of the same order.

Decommissioning

Ekofisk 37/4 booster platform arrives at AF Decom

The topsides from ConocoPhillips redundant Ekofisk 37/4 booster platform arrived last month at AF Decom's facility at Vats for dismantling and recycling. Heerema Marine Contractors' heavy-lift vessel *Hermod* finished working on 37/4 in mid-August and the plan is to remove the jacket next year. The *Hermod* will remove the topsides from the 36/22 booster platform by 11 September and then head to the Albuskjell F platform to undertake make-safe activities.

The *Thialf* has also been busy on Ekofisk this summer, carrying out final configuration activity at 2/4-T and removing bridges, bridge supports and topsides from 2/4-P and 2/4-R. In addition, the vessel participated in securing and removing bridges and the flare stack following an incident at 2/4-W.

AF Decom will work on disposal of installations from the Ekofisk area for the next five years. It has a contract with Heerema Marine Contractors, which in turn has a contract with ConocoPhillips for the removal of the Ekofisk installations and bringing them to shore. (continued on page 22)



Thialf on Ekofisk, lifting 2/4-P topsides

The remainder of the planned 2009 campaign, removal of the jackets for 2/4-P and the bridge support between 2/4-C and 2/4-P will be postponed as the *Thialf* is scheduled to depart shortly to work for other clients.

"We are currently discussing the timing for removal of these jackets with Heerema Marine Contractors," says Mark Miller, general project manager, cessation.

This year's planned lifting campaign began on 11 July and will continue for a few more weeks. In 2010 the topsides on 2/4-F and the 2/4-R, 37/4 and 36/22 jackets will be removed. The work to remove old Ekofisk installations will continue until 2013, with disposal activity ongoing into 2014.

Offshore decommissioning activity is only carried out during the summer months, although onshore scrapping continues throughout the year.

Companies

Taga sets sights on developing Falcon and Tern North

Taqa Bratani, following completion last week of the acquisition from Shell and ExxonMobil of four Northern North Sea blocks, is looking at developing the Falcon discovery together with the latest find on Tern North, managing director Leo Koot told a briefing in Aberdeen yesterday (Tuesday).

Koot said Taqa was at an advanced stage of field development planning for a subsea tieback to the existing Tern infrastructure and intended to take an investment decision in the first quarter of next year, ready for a drill start in the summer. It was preparing to go out to the market to see if a semi-submersible was available. Koot added the company was trying to establish the extent of the reserves, which could be between 5 million barrels and 25 million barrels. It hoped by next summer to have a firmer idea of the reserves.

Taqa plans to spend £500 million (\$825 million) in the coming three years on its UK asset hubs, improving integrity and drilling more wells. In the longer term, over the next two to three years, it would like to grow production from a current figure of 40,000-45,000 b/d (which includes its non-operated share of Brae) to 60,000-80,000 b/d.

Taqa, together with partners EBN, Dyas and Suncor, is developing a 4 Bcm gas storage facility at Bergermeer, in The Netherlands, Paul van Gelder, managing director of Dutch-based Taqa Energy, told the briefing. The plan was for the storage facility to be operational by 2013, with GazProm as a strategic customer. It would also be important to the UK because of its proximity to the BBL line.

Meanwhile, Taqa last Thursday (3 September) completed the acquisition from Shell and ExxonMobil of blocks 210/20f, 210/25a, 211/16c and 211/21a for an undisclosed sum. The acreage lies close to interests acquired by the company in 2008, including the Cormorant Alpha, Cormorant North, Tern and Eider platforms.

Last month, Taqa became operator of the North Sea Brent system pipeline and facilities (NSR 30/14). It took over operatorship from Shell Expro, which had held the position since the mid-1970s. Taqa gained its 16% stake in the Brent system late last year when it completed a £420 million (\$694 million) acquisition of interests in seven oilfields from Shell and ExxonMobil. The system is responsible for transporting about 100,000 b/d of oil from about 20 North Sea fields, accounting for 37% of the Sullom Voe terminal input and 8% of UK offshore oil production.

UK costs are unsustainable, says Shell Europe chief

"The current costs are unsustainable if the UK is to attract reasonable levels of investment over the coming years," Greg Guidry, newly appointed executive vice-president of Shell's upstream activity in Europe, told a breakfast briefing organised by the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce at Offshore Europe. Costs in the North Sea are four times higher than in the Middle East.

"We are taking steps to manage our cost base. Like others in the industry we have been discussing with our suppliers how they can help us manage the costs of their goods and services to us. Oil prices have dropped from historic highs. Yet costs are around double the 2005 level."

Guidry said that in North America he had spent a lot of time working on technologies to develop unconventional oil and gas. "It strikes me that Europe is less mature in the development of unconventional oil and gas. Shale oil and coalbed methane are just getting going and there are few projects with enhanced recovery." He said that Cambridge Energy Research Associates had projected that up to 50 Bcm, or one-third of indigenous production in Europe, could come from unconventional gas.

Guidry also said the current fiscal regime was unsustainable if the UK were to attract reasonable levels of investment. Existing and brownfield development might represent 60% of the remaining opportunity for oil and gas recovery in the North Sea, but the fiscal regime did not address brownfield opportunities.

Meanwhile, First Minister Alex Salmond says the new Scottish Energy Advisory Board that he is to chair will play a vital role in shaping the future of Scotland's energy sector. Speaking at Offshore Europe yesterday (Tuesday), he said: "The industry has at least another 40 years to look forward to. Optimism is returning to the oil and gas industry thanks to the recovering oil price and capital markets returning to something approaching normality. There is still a great deal of potential to be explored and developed."

Nexen puts Golden Eagle reserves at 150-275m boe

Nexen, in an operational update last Thursday (3 September), estimates recoverable reserves in the UK Central North Sea Golden Eagle discovery at 150-275 million barrels of oil equivalent, based on data from three exploration wells, nine appraisal wells, three drillstem tests, one injectivity test and extensive core data since the first well in 2007. The prospect, in block 20/1, is the largest oil find in the UK North Sea since the discovery of Buzzard in 2001, it says (NSR 28/13). Buzzard, in which Nexen acquired a 43.2% interest and operatorship from fellow Canadian company EnCana in 2004, has recoverable reserves estimated at 500 million boe.

Also in the Golden Eagle area are the Hobby and Pink discoveries. Nexen expects to continue appraisal drilling for the remainder of the year and is evaluating development options as it moves towards project sanction. President and CEO Marvin Romanow says: "The Golden Eagle area is shaping up to be a significant development." The economics are attractive at oil prices as low as \$40 a barrel, helped by the fact that Buzzard should produce at peak rates for the next five years or so, he adds. Buzzard is undergoing a four-week shutdown for installation of the jacket for the fourth platform, but is expected to be back on stream by mid-month. Topsides installation is scheduled for 2010.

Nexen also says that in the Scott/Telford development area it has completed drilling a new step-out development well which encountered 254 feet of high-quality net oil pay. The well, which will be tied into the Scott platform, is expected to add production of about 10,000-15,000 boed for the company by end-year. Ettrick, which began producing last month at an initial rate of 20,000 boed, has since then been producing at up to 30,000 boed. The nearby Blackbird discovery is a future tieback candidate to Ettrick.

CDA launches new seismic data management system

Common Data Access, which manages well data collected during drilling activity on the UKCS, launched the Seismic DataStore at Offshore Europe in Aberdeen yesterday (Tuesday). The new online service will increase the efficiency of retrieving and analysing the 4,500 2D and 3D seismic surveys.

Energy minister Lord Hunt said: "The wealth of knowledge contained in the seismic surveys carried out around our coasts over the last 40 years, at a cost of billions of pounds, is stored on millions of tapes on the shelves of companies or their record management contractors. The Seismic DataStore will transfer and preserve an important element of this collection, relieving the burden on companies which come under pressure to meet their obligation to provide this data to other companies while trying to locate information for their own licensing applications. This development comes at an important time for the UK oil and gas industry; by helping to reduce duplication of work and improve efficiency, it will help to increase recovery of the UK's oil and gas reserves."

CDA CEO Malcolm Fleming says: "Under the conventional system, geophysicists can spend up to half their time looking for or managing data when they could be searching for oil and gas. At a time of high costs and a 57% fall in exploration activity, they should be doing what they are skilled in - interpreting data."

The surveys most in demand are being loaded on to the system first and by the end of this year more than 750 of the most relevant will be available. Surveys which are too big to download immediately will be on members' desktops within three days.

Briefs

Aberdeen City and Shire (ACSEF) has teamed up with Oil & Gas UK, Opito, ITF and Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group to promote the region's energy credentials and capabilities. ACSEF's flagship project, Energetica, will form the bedrock for the campaign, along with the promotion of new developments and improved infrastructure. Energetica is a 30-mile development corridor that stretches from Aberdeen Airport and the Bridge of Don to Peterhead. The aim is to create a high energy, low carbon lifestyle destination offering residential, leisure, business and education facilities that will attract people and businesses from around the world.

Bergen Oilfield Services said this week the *BOS Angler* had started a frontier 3D seismic survey for Cairn Energy in the Adriatic. The survey will cover around 400 sq km over Cairn's Joni-5 permit in southern Albania.

BP has postponed plans for cost-cutting on its North Sea platforms. The company denies union claims, however, that it has performed a U-turn on the pay of contractor employees following strong opposition to the plans. It says a revised payment model will still be introduced in the future, although not before next year. Jake Molloy, regional organiser for the RMT union in Aberdeen, warned BP there might be industrial action if it did not rethink.

Containental Offshore has completed a significant expansion of its yard and offices in Dyce, Aberdeen, at a cost of £1.5 million (\$2.5 million). Yard space has increased 50% and office accommodation has grown more than three times to 3,500 sq feet.

Fugro has acquired General Robotics for an undisclosed sum. The deal sees GR become Fugro GRL, part of Fugro Subsea Services, and the company will continue to operate from offices in Milton Keynes and Aberdeen.

The *National Subsea Research Institute* has recruited Lloyds Register, Shell and Acergy, which join BP, Subsea 7, Chevron, Technip, Total, Nexen and Talisman, bringing the total to 10 and moving NSRI towards its target of 20 company members by end-year. NSRI was established by Subsea UK and Aberdeen, Dundee and the Robert Gordon universities to provide a focus for the development of subsea technology and expertise. It is supported by Scottish Enterprise. Newcastle University has also joined as an academic partner.

Petroleum Geo-Services subsidiary Arrow Seismic Invest III said on Friday (4 September) it had received formal notification from the Factorias Vulcano shipyard in Spain that arbitration proceedings against its cancellation of newbuild vessel 553 had been started. Arrow cancelled a contract for the vessel last month and is demanding a refund of €39 million (\$56.5 million) plus interest from the shipyard. Arrow says the shipbuilding contract is governed by Norwegian law and, as such, the parties will, according to the contract, meet for arbitration in Norway. "Arrow strongly believes that its termination is rightful and will pursue its claim for refund of the installed amounts."

Suncor Energy expects to lose about 1,000 jobs by mid-October as it consolidates operations and reduces costs after the C\$22.7 billion (\$21.1 billion) acquisition of Petro-Canada last month. The company says it is on track to meet or exceed operating and capital efficiency targets following the merger, with annual reductions of \$300 million in operating expenditures and \$1 billion in capital expenditures. President and CEO Rick George says: "We are already seeing significant savings through integration of our product marketing logistics and economies of scale in our supply chain." Suncor also plans to shift management of the international and offshore operations from London to its Calgary, Alberta, headquarters following a 90-day consultation period as required under UK law.

TSMarine Subsea is a new Aberdeen-based subsea company, formed after a management buyout from TSMarine (Contracting) and Norwegian oil and gas service company Marine Subsea. The buyout, for an undisclosed sum, was led by Alasdair Cowie, formerly TSMarine CEO, and covers the European and West African trade and assets of TSMarine (Contracting). It will focus on rigless intervention, decommissioning and subsea construction. Rigless intervention activities will be further strengthened by support from well intervention specialist Lewis, a whollyowned subsidiary of Marine Subsea.

Wellstream Holdings, of Aberdeen, is selling to US-based Prime Natural Resources its onshore FlexsteelTM pipeline technology business for \$30 million in cash. The business accounted for only 4% of group revenue in 2008. The divestment will allow Wellstream to focus on further growing its core offshore business.

Financial results

ATR Group, the Aberdeen-based oil service company, reported an increase of more than 20% in turnover to £17 million (\$28.1 million) in the first full year following a management buy-in. Pretax profits in the 12 months to last October were static at around £400,000 as a result of heavy investment in the business, which has five divisions: ATR Tool Rental, ATR Plant Services, ATR Lifting Services, ATR Engineering and ATR Caspian.

PricewaterhouseCoopers' Scottish division, which has offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen, on Monday posted a 5% increase in annual revenue to £111 million (\$183.3 million) in the year to 30 June, compared with £107 million a year earlier. PwC said the strong performance by the 100-strong team in Aberdeen was driven by resilience in the oil and gas industry despite the recession.

Ramco Energy, which is selling its oil and gas operations to focus solely on its offshore wind energy activities, posted pretax losses of £2.453 million (\$4.048 million) for the six months to 30 June, compared with a deficit of £1.181 million in first-half 2008 (see also Renewables).

Safety

Helicopter surveillance system boosts flight safety

A new surveillance system to make it easier to track helicopters over the North Sea has been described as a "huge safety enhancement". Launched on Monday (7 September) by Oil and Gas UK and air navigation service provider Nats, the system will help air traffic controllers pinpoint the specific location of any helicopter that runs into difficulty while transporting workers to and from oil and gas platforms.

The development comes after two Super Puma helicopters ditched into the North Sea earlier this year. All 18 people on board survived the first accident in February, but six weeks later another Super Puma crashed, killing all 16 crew and passengers.

The new system, which uses multiple position points to determine the exact location of a helicopter, will help reduce the risk of near-miss incidents with other aircraft and allow air traffic controllers to cover a significantly greater area.

As soon as a helicopter goes beyond the 80-mile zone covered by land-based radar, its signal will be picked up by 16 platforms, in clusters, and the data sent to Aberdeen Airport. John Mayhew, general manager of Nats, said controllers would receive a report about a helicopter's location every 20 miles, or 10 minutes, and this would improve response times should an emergency unfold.

Bob Keiller, chairman of the Helicopter Task Project, a group set up to look at safety after the fatal crash in April, described the technology as a breakthrough in helicopter safety. He said: "Previously, helicopters were lost to land-based radar at about 80 miles from the coast, because radar coverage does not extend that distance. The new system uses multi-lateration to allow flight paths to be tracked all the way to an installation in real time. It is designed to detect aircraft down to 500 feet above sea level or better, depending on the helicopter position."

The system has cost about £3.5 million (\$5.8 million), including an upgrade of the voice communication system used by air traffic controllers to speak directly to helicopter crews. Three of the four clusters are now completed and flight trials have started to ensure the coverage is complete from the three clusters and that the system accuracy is within the expected limits. Phase two of the flight trials is due to start in January 2010, with all four clusters expected to be fully operational by June 2010.

The platforms involved in the four clusters are: cluster 1 (Northerly) Beryl (ExxonMobil), Heimdal (StatoilHydro), Bruce (BP), Harding (BP); cluster 2 Claymore (Talisman), Piper (Talisman), Tartan (Talisman), Scott (Nexen); cluster 3 Forties (Apache), Gannet (Shell), Nelson (Shell), Montrose (Talisman); cluster 4 (Southerly) Judy (ConocoPhillips), Janice (Maersk), Elgin (Total), Ramform Banff (CNR/Teekay).

Brief

Norway's **Petroleum Safety Authority** has issued orders to StatoilHydro, Aibel and the StS Group following a fatal accident on Oseberg B on 7 May. During the dismantling of scaffolding on the platform, a scaffolder was fatally injured when he

fell 14 metres from the scaffolding and down to the cellar deck. In its investigation of the incident, the PSA identified regulatory breaches relating to risk assessment, planning, competence, clarification of management and roles, documentation and compliance with the supervisory duty. The companies have been instructed to comply with the orders by 1 February 2010.

Renewables

Ramco plans winds of change from oil and gas

Ramco Energy plans to sell its oil and gas interests and focus wholly on offshore wind power. Ramco says the move into renewables, creating the first publicly quoted company focused entirely on offshore wind, stems from a reluctance by green-focused investment funds to invest in businesses with significant oil and gas interests. Once it has established the value of its oil and gas interests, Ramco will seek to acquire the minority stake in its SeaEnergy Renewables unit and rename the whole group SeaEnergy.

SeaEnergy Renewables has already secured a net 456 MW of offshore wind farm acreage alongside large utility partners. To date it has a 25% interest in two joint ventures to develop offshore wind farms with a total capacity of over 1800 MW with partners Airtricity and npower. Together with EDP Renewables it is also applying for sites to be awarded through the UK Offshore Round 3 process.

Ramco executive chairman Steve Remp says the time is right for the company to exit from its traditional market and concentrate fully on the opening up of renewable energy globally. The company has secured £7.5 million of funding from institutional investor Lanstead, which will become a 22% shareholder in the group. Lanstead is committed to investing £5 million at 55p per share, while an additional £2.55 million is subject to shareholder approval at its AGM. Ramco aims to have acreage for a gigawatt of offshore generation capacity within five years.

Conferences, exhibitions

Piracy and offshore security - practical solutions and responses, 15-16 September, Portsmouth. Inquiries: phone +44 (0)20 7382 2636; email events@imarest.org; www.imarest.org.

Subsea Rio, 15-17 September, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Inquiries: Quest Offshore, 1600 Highway 6, Suite 300, Sugar Land, Texas, TX 77478, USA; phone 00 1 281 491 5900; fax 00 1 281 491 5902; www.QuestOffshore.com.

IADC drilling HSE Europe, conference and exhibition, 23-24 September, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Inquiries: email info@iadc.org.

24th world gas conference, 5-9 October, Bueons Aires, Argentina. Inquiries: International Gas Union, Office of the Secretary General, c/o StatoilHydro, 0246 Oslo, Norway; phone +47 22 9720 00; fax +47 22 53 63 18; email secrigu@statoilhydro.com.

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