

CONTRACTOR NEWS

Santa Fe plans 2 new semis, up to 4 jackups

Santa Fe International Corp has announced it will build two deepwater semisubmersibles and as many as four high performance jackup rigs, contingent on the successful negotiation of construction contracts.

Definitive construction schedules have not been set, but both the semi program and the jackup program will have about the same start dates. The two programs will proceed simultaneously with jackup construction starting at 12-month intervals and the second semi about 18 months after the first. Santa Fe expects

the first jackup to be delivered in late 2002 and the first semi in late 2003.

The new rigs will be outfitted for efficient, cost effective performance in multiwell deepwater development programs.

"We are very enthusiastic about the value that will be created by the new-build program," said **Sted Garber**, Santa Fe President and CEO. "We believe we are in the early stages of an upturn which will support demand for additional premium offshore rigs in the world fleet."

NDSC Rig 32 drills a record horizontal well

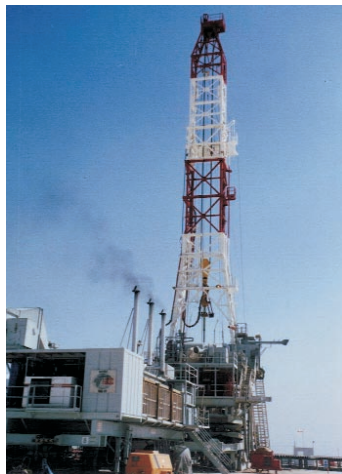
National Drilling & Services Company (NDSC) set a new Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) record in November by drilling the longest horizontal well in Oman.

L-334 was the third of four "Drilling the Limit" long-reach wells being drilled by PDO in the northern Lekhwair field.

The well reached a measured depth of 18,285 ft with a lateral section of 13,272 ft. It came in 14 days ahead of the target AFE.

Rig 32 recorded no LTI while drilling this well

and went on to achieve 1,000 injury-free days on the fourth well.



NDSC Rig 32 and its sister Rig 31 have drilled 335 wells for PDO.

Rig 32 is an SCR powered, National 80UE, mobile desert rig capable of moving "mast up" between in-field locations in 8-12 hours.

The rig was first commissioned with PDO for the Lekhwair turnkey project and, with its sister Rig 31, has drilled 335 wells for PDO.

NDSC Chairman, **Mohamed Rashid Al-Araimi**, cites teamwork and planning between PDO, NDSC and **Sperry Sun** as key reasons for this achievement.

New Scandrill land rig is #11 in the fleet

Scandrill Inc recently completed construction of Scan Spirit, the 11th rig in the company's fleet. The unit is a 1,000-hp diesel-electric rig capable of drilling to depths of 15,000 ft. It incorporates innovative safety designs and can move between locations in minimum time.

The rig began drilling for **Samson Lonestar Limited Partners** in the Reklaw Field in Texas.

Samson expects to have an active drilling program in the area and has contracted two other Scandrill rigs.

Safety award to ENSCO

The Lake Jackson, Tex District of the US Minerals Management Service recently presented its Safety Award for Excellence to **ENSCO Offshore Company**. The award was for "the outstanding manner in which (ENSCO) conducted drilling, completion and workover operations in the Lake Jackson District" during 1999.

During the period, ENSCO had 6 drilling rigs in the District that had 32 complete drilling operations inspections with zero Incidents of Noncompliance.

"ENSCO's rigs and equipment are well maintained and their housekeeping is excellent," said MMS in its citation.

Parker sells last land rig

Parker Drilling Company has sold its Rig 245 to **Nabors Alaska Drilling Co**. Proceeds of the sale will be used in Gulf of Mexico and international markets. After more than 30 years in the Alaska market, Parker exited US land drilling two years ago to pursue Gulf of Mexico and international drilling markets.

"With last year's sale of the Lower 48 land fleet, it makes strategic sense to sell this one remaining US land rig asset," said **Robert L Parker Jr**, President and CEO.

SerDrilco Inc chairman is honored by three groups

Sherman E Smith, Chairman and President, **SerDrilco Inc**, has received three honors.

He has been named the first Living Legend of the Millennium by Panhandle Producers & Royalty Owners Association. He also accepted honors for "The



Sherman E Smith

Smith Family Tribute" by The International Society of Energy Advocates in December. Mr Smith has also been named to the OSU College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology Hall of Fame.

He began his career at **Service Drilling Co** in 1949, became chief operating officer in 1962 and chairman in 1982.