

## PEOPLE & COMPANIES

**Bardex gets 2 contracts.** Bardex Corp has received two contracts for rig skidding systems. An ABS approved hydraulic drill floor skidding system will be installed on the **EnSCO Rig 85** being refurbished for service in the North Sea. **Aker Maritime** has also contracted with Bardex for the hydraulic rig skidding and locking system for **BP Amoco's** new Valhall field platform water injection project. Bardex invented the combined hydraulic friction lock/double acting jacking cylinder assembly.

**Boots & Coots signs Texaco.** Texaco has signed an agreement designating **Boots & Coots International Well Control Inc** as its first responder to provide global prevention and emergency response services. Boots & Coots will be responsible for prevention activities including contingency planning, well plan reviews and site audits; and will provide training and emergency procedure testing.

**TSF announces promotions.** Transocean Sedco Forex Inc has named **Jon C Cole** Executive Vice President, Shallow and Inland Water Operations. He will oversee the company's presence in the shallow and inland waters of the US drilling market. Other promotions include: **Donald R Ray**, Executive Vice President, Technical Services; **Eric B Brown**, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary; **Jeffrey L Chastain**, Vice President, Investor Relations and Communications; **Robert J Scott**, Vice President, Operations Support; and **Michael I Unsworth**, Vice President, Marketing.

**Weatherford gets contract.** Weatherford International Inc's Well Installation Services group has been awarded a 3+2+2 year contract by Statoil for 7 drilling units with an option to extend the contract for additional units within the North Sea. The package will include mechanized tubular services and project planning.

**Baker names VP.** Baker Oil Tools has named **Steve Thorness** Vice President, Human Resources. Mr Thorness has extensive experience in sales, operations and marketing. He serves on numerous divisional and enterprise councils covering knowledge management, data management, e-commerce, communications, and quality issues.



Steve Thorness

Mr Thorness will develop and implement the company's global human resources strategy.

**Statoil selects BJ Tubular Services.** A 3-year contract to provide services in Saudi Arabia has been awarded to **BJ Tubular Services** by Saudi Aramco. The contract provides for well services, including casing and tubing running, and pickup and laydown services throughout Saudi Aramco's operating areas.

## PRODUCTS

**Crane video system.** Outland Technology Inc has introduced its newest video system, CraneCam. It monitors crane loads that are not in the direct view of the crane operator. The gravity stabilized mounting system always keeps the color video camera looking down the lift cable. CraneCam is available in stainless steel or explosion proof systems.

**Wireline BOP ram.** Elmar Services Ltd has introduced the Q-Guide, a new ram design capable of shutting off well pressure by guiding and sealing wireline typically entering the BOP at a non-parallel angle. It can use Elmar's new Multiline Inner Seal to allow switching between slickline, electric-line and fishing without changing rams.

**Balmoral appoints director.** Balmoral Group Ltd, Aberdeen-based buoyancy, design and manufacturing company, has named **Mike Aitkenhead** business development director. He returned to Balmoral after 5 years as business development manager for **Bredero-Shaw**. Mr Aitkenhead will identify global opportunities for the company's products, including buoyancy and elastomer products. Initially, his efforts will concentrate on the international deepwater market for thermal insulation/buoyancy.

**Nutec appoints execs.** Nutec Sciences Inc's Energy Services Division has named two top executives. **Thomas M LaHouse** has joined the division as President and **Scott C Key** has joined as Vice President, Business Develop-



Thomas M LaHouse



Scott C Key

ment. Mr LaHouse most recently served as Chief Geophysicist for Vastar Resources. Before joining Nutec, Mr Key served as deepwater reservoir development manager for Vastar. ■

**Cesium formate fluid.** Cabot Corp has used its high-density cesium formate drilling and completion fluid to successfully drill and complete a reservoir section in a North Sea well. The fluid is suited to high-temperature, high-pressure environments and has been proved to be compatible with all major elements of the drilling and completion system under HTHP conditions.

**Well drawing software.** AnTech Oilfield Software has introduced StringView Online Limited Edition, a free online computer graphics software program for creating well diagrams. It is the only online package to feature multilateral well diagram capabilities in addition to deviated and traditional well diagrams. ■