

# North Sea Chapter Safety Awards presented

**KCA DEUTAG, NOBLE DRILLING** and **Transocean** were recently honored with Gold Awards for innovations aimed at reducing the need for manriding aboard offshore rigs.

The awards were bestowed at the Annual IADC North Sea Chapter Safety Award Presentation Ceremony and Dinner on 26 April in Aberdeen.

Several other companies were also recognized for new designs to improve or eliminate manriding at the event.

In addition, **Maersk Contractors**, Noble and KCA Deutag were named the overall Safety Performance Winners for 2001 for jackups, semisubmersibles and platform rigs, respectively.

"The most important feature of this evening's activities is that we are recognizing people," said IADC Chairman and GlobalSantaFe President/CEO **C Stedman Garber Jr**, speaking at the event.

"We are not recognizing systems or rules or paper" Mr Garber continued, "and that is a good thing because it recognizes that all of these are secondary to the importance of the attitudes of people in a strong safety culture."

The runners up for jackups, semis and platforms were Noble, Transocean and **GlobalSantaFe Corp**. Finally, In addition, a Merit Award for Outstanding Safety Performance over 4 years was awarded to the Noble Piet van Ede.

For the Gold Awards, each rig was asked to submit their top three best practices for avoiding manriding. In all, 41 submissions were received.

Entries were judged by an independent panel comprising operators, academics, HSE and other experts.

Observed Mr Garber, "Here in the North Sea Chapter, I can't help but be impressed by important initiatives, such as the present focus on avoiding manriding, new recruit training, and last year's drilling and well services safety workshop."

Details for the Gold Awards for avoiding manriding innovations are:

- Transocean Leader: Designing and installing fixed and drop down access

platforms in derrick for equipment maintenance; extending grease lines for easy access from access platforms; replacing window in racking cab with swivel type to facilitate easy cleaning. For each of these innovations, the crew member uses the work platform, thereby avoiding a manriding operation.

- Noble Ton van Langeveld: Fabricating a new access area, the "elephant hole", to allow safe placement of surface tree for maintenance and rig up of flow and control hoses under dolly tracks. With the tree at rig floor level, there is no need for manriding.

Drive Cement Head (RTDCH) in which the valve is hydraulically operated from the rig floor, eliminating manriding.

KCA Deutag received a commendation for its Azeri Chirag Gunashli Full Field Development Project Phase 1- innovative rig design by designing a rig that can operate without necessity of manriding.

KCA Deutag/Snap on Tools received a commendation for a toolkit for working at height. The tools are carried in a bag, attached by lanyards so they will not be dropped from height.



Accepting the North Sea Chapter Safety Awards on behalf of their companies are, standing from left, **Brian Taylor**, KCA Deutag Drilling; **Gerrut Schurink**, Noble Drilling; **Jackie Bird**, presenter; **Gordon Hart**, Maersk Contractors; **Danny McAleese**, GlobalSantaFe; **Chris Remahl**, Noble Drilling; and **Steve Ogston**, Noble Drilling. Front row from left are **Bob Mankin**, Maersk Contractors, and Chairman of the IADC North Sea Chapter; **Vic Richmond**, Noble Drilling; and **Bob Blacklaw**, Noble Drilling.

- **Beryl Bravo**, KCA Deutag Drilling Ltd: Fitting a cement stand pipe with long hose to remove chocksan reconnection operations. The hose is long enough to connect at the rig floor instead of in the derrick.

Weatherford received a special commendation and KCA Deutag received two commendations.

**Weatherford UK Ltd** received a commendation for its Remote Operation Top

**Tom Botts**, Managing Director, **Shell Expro**, was the keynote speaker, and participated on the judging panel for the Gold Awards.

In his address, he mentioned he was "... very impressed with the quality of the entries and felt they were all winners since they all help make our industry a safer place to work." ■