

2003 IADC Annual Meeting looks toward future

THE 2003 IADC Annual Meeting 24-26 September in Houston looks toward the future of the industry with such topics as drilling advances, future challenges of expandable tubulars and the worldwide outlook for oil and gas.

The meeting will also feature more down to earth topics including an oil-field perspective of Iraq and opportunities offshore Vietnam.

Wednesday, 24 September, begins at 1:30 pm when the Government Affairs Committee will present two speakers who will discuss the natural gas situation in the US.

The session will be moderated by **Brian T Petty**, Senior Vice President-Government Affairs, IADC. Featured speakers are **Michelle Michot Foss**, Executive Director, **Institute for Energy Law & Enterprise**, University of Houston, and **Obie O'Brien**, Director-Government Affairs, **Apache Corporation**.

Persistent high US natural gas prices are creating political pressures for government intervention. US Speaker of the House of Representatives **Dennis Hastert** launched a Congressional task force in July to study supply and demand, in which IADC has been intimately involved.

A formal report is expected 30 September. Dr Foss and Mr O'Brien will present their unique views of the problems and promise of US natural gas pricing and production.

Dr Foss has analyzed US and international energy and non-fuel resource development and environmental issues for nearly 20 years. She has written extensively on energy issues in Mexico, North America and around the world.

Mr O'Brien joined Apache Corp. in 1992 and represents the company on legislative and regulatory matters at both the federal and state levels. His extensive



Michelle Michot Foss

government experience in both the public and private sectors spans more than 20 years.

The keynote address follows the Government Affairs presentation with keynote speaker **Scott Milliren**, Chairman, IADC Information Technology Solutions Committee; Vice President, Performance Solutions, **Helmerich & Payne IDC**. Mr Milliren will speak about *Information Technology for the Drilling Industry*.

Following the keynote, additional presentations will feature a review of critical issues and initiatives being pursued by IADC's operating committees in regulation, training, well control, technology and more.

A welcoming reception will be held from 6-8 pm Wednesday evening.

Thursday opens with a keynote breakfast at 8 am featuring **Professor Ronald Oligney**, Director, **Texas Energy Center**, who will discuss *Energy is a Colorful Business in 2003*.

The Texas Energy Center, a major new public-private sector effort established in Sugar Land, Texas, to address long term US energy needs.

He has served in numerous capacities in industry and academia, and written for many newspapers and specialized publications. He is the co-author of the best selling book, *The Color Of Oil*.



Professor Ronald Oligney

Prof Oligney will argue that the national energy debate is persistently off base, colored with outdated images that are just plain wrong. Energy consumption is no luxury, but is the most striking national trait separating rich nations from poor.

Prof Oligney will delve extensively into the "unassailable basics" of the situation and quickly dismiss highly touted solutions unlikely to live up to their hype. He will then focus on real solu-

tions likely to have a huge impact—LNG imports, market driven solutions that will bring Alaska's natural gas to market, research to accelerate production from the ultra-deepwater Gulf of Mexico and adroit use of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The Drillers Outlook session begins at 9:45 am featuring **Dennis A Smith**, Director, Corporate Development, **Nabors Industries**, and **John O'Leary**, Vice President, Worldwide Marketing, **Pride International, Inc**.

The two seasoned drilling contractors with a shrewd eye for the rig and commodity markets will share their views on the key trends and events most likely to impact the land and offshore drilling markets, both in the US and around the world.

At 10:45 **Dennis Wright**, Vice President, Strategy & Marketing, **Kellogg Brown & Root**, will provide an informative overview of the post-war damage to Iraq's energy infrastructure, and the challenges and opportunities in the years to come.

At 11:15 **Richard W. Weekley**, **Texans for Lawsuit Reform**, will discuss *Toward Truly Civil Justice in Texas*.

The Texas legislature passed what has been described by **Gov Rick Perry** as the "most sweeping and comprehensive tort reform ever enacted in the United States."

Behind the effort to dethrone Texas as the "Lawsuit Capital of the World" is **Texans for Lawsuit Reform** founder and chairman, **Richard W Weekley**, a Houston developer determined to change the political reality that had enabled widespread lawsuit abuse.

At 11:45, **Phillip R West**, Deputy Director of Education, **NASA Johnson Space Center**, will examine the difficulty of dancing in space-suits.

It's Hard to Dance in a



Phillip R West

Spacesuit will feature a close up look at the suits and tools astronauts have used to construct the International Space Station as well as those they may use some day to return to the moon, mine the asteroids or search for water on Mars.



Robert L. Bradley

The presentation is followed by lunch at 12:30 pm that will include an address by **Robert L. Bradley, Jr., President, Institute for Energy Research.** Mr Bradley's topic will be *The*

Changing Energy Sustainability Debate: What is the Greatest Environmental Threat?

Energy and climate realities have swung the intellectual debate on energy away

from doom-and-gloom environmentalism regarding depletion, pollution, reliability, and climate change, a development that the Bush Administration and other governments are watching closely. Meanwhile, a here-and-now sustainability problem has come to the forefront—energy poverty for an estimated 1.6 billion people.

Dr Bradley will examine these new developments and what they mean for the classroom, industry, and policymakers.

Following lunch at 2:15, a delegation of Vietnamese government and industry officials, led by Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment **Nguyen Bich Dat** will discuss the considerable potential of the country's Outer Continental Shelf and new opportunities there for Western drilling and production companies.

The next session will be *US Oceans Commission: An Epic Undertaking Nears Completion* and features IADC Chairman **Lawrence R. Dickerson,**

President and COO of **Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.**

Mr Dickerson will discuss the work of the US Commission on Ocean Policy, a governmental body tasked by the US President with reviewing and recommending ocean policy, whose work is nearing completion. Mr Dickerson and **Rowan Company's Paul Kelly** are the only two petroleum industry representatives to serve on the Commission.



Lawrence R. Dickerson

Following Mr Dickerson's presentation will be the IADC Board of Directors Meeting for directors only.

The Annual Meeting's traditional reception and banquet will be held from 6:30-

10:00 pm. The Houston Masterworks Chorus, Houston's largest volunteer chorus, will perform some favorites from their repertoire of classical to contemporary songs. Additionally, the versatile Kit Reid Band will provide instrumental entertainment throughout the evening.

The Annual Meeting continues Friday 26 September, with the Operators' Outlook Breakfast at 8:00 am. **Kevin D. Lacy**, Well Engineering & Operations Advisor, **ChevronTexaco Corporation**, is the featured speaker, who will discuss *Leadership and Partnership: Achieving a Sustainable Step Change*. Mr Lacy will cite examples and case histories related to safety performance, operational performance for wells and rigs, and technology applications.

Friday morning's session, beginning at 9:15 is *Technology: Advancing Drilling Into the Future*. Two presentations will be featured during the session.

Technical advances continue to trim costs and improve efficiency. Some enhancements, including drilling with casing and expandable tubular, could result in quantum leaps in performance and economics.

During the first presentation, **Kyle Fontenot**, Well Operations Coordinator for **ConocoPhillips**, will discuss *Casing Drilling: Where We Are and Where We're Going*.

Mr Fontenot is a drilling veteran with 22 years of experience on all types of rigs, from fifth generation deepwater drillships to purpose-built casing drilling rigs.

Kevin Waddell, Vice President, Engineering for **Enventure Global Technology** will present *Expandable Tubulars: Advances and Future Challenges*.

Mr Waddell, a 22-year oilfield veteran, joined Enventure in 1999 from Halliburton Energy Services. He has authored and co-authored numerous papers on multilateral technology and solid expandable tubular technology.

The second session of the morning is a panel on the *World Outlook for Oil & Gas*. The direction of commodity prices is always difficult to cipher, but recently the level of drilling activity seems at a disconnect with the price of oil and gas.

Two renowned energy analysts will shed some light on the past performance and future trends.

The panelists include **James K Wicklund**, Managing Director of **America Securities**; and **George S Littell**, Partner, **Groppe Long & Littell**.

Mr Wicklund was recognized in 2002 as the number one ranked analyst in oilfield services by Institutional Investor, as well as a top stock picker in The Wall Street Journals' Annual "Best on the Street" Survey.

In addition to analyzing the industry for more than a decade, Mr Wicklund also has more than a dozen years under his belt in geophysics and reservoir engineering.

Mr Littell and his partners have a history of early on-target forecasts. Mr Littell joined the firm in 1975 after nine years of service with **Mobil Oil Corporation**.

Lunch follows the World Outlook panel at 12:15 with featured speaker **John**

Deane, President, **ReedHycalog**. Mr Deane will present the results of the 2003 ReedHycalog Rig Census.

Mr Dickerson will make closing remarks and adjourn the Annual Meeting following the rig census.

Sponsors of the 2003 IADC Annual Meeting are **Caterpillar**; **Grant Prideco**; **Halliburton**; **Hughes Christensen**; **HydriL**; **ReedHycalog**; **Smith International**; **Tesco Corporation**; **Varco**; and **Wilson Supply**.

Exhibiting companies include **Access Oil Tools**; **Action Specialties**; **Anson Flowline Equipment**; **Derrick Equipment Company**; **IADC Publications**; **Kennedy Wire Rope & Sling Company**; **LeTourneau Ellis Williams Company**; **LHR Services & Equipment**; **MSI Products**; **Petroleum Extension Service (PETEX)**; **PetrEx International**; **Randy Smith Training Solutions**; **Total Safety Inc**; **Tuboscope**; **Varco International**; and **Vortex Ventures**. ■