



DRILLING AHEAD

IADC, OOC to receive OTC award for deepwater well control guide

Mike Killalea, Editor & Publisher

IN OUR INDUSTRY, doing the right thing is a way of life. When it comes to providing for the safety of our employees, safeguarding the environment and protecting our assets, drillers are second to none in stepping up to the plate.

Sometimes someone even notices!

Last week, the Offshore Technology Conference announced it would present a Special Citation to IADC and the Offshore Operators Committee for developing the IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines.

The award will be presented at the 2004 OTC Awards Luncheon on 4 May in Houston.

"In naming you recipient of a Special Citation, the OTC Awards Committee and the OTC Board cited your foresight, initiative and leadership in the development of the guidelines," wrote OTC Chairman **Roderick J Allan** in a letter to IADC President Dr Lee Hunt.

The landmark guidelines represented a concerted, industry-led effort in which drilling contractors, oil-producing firms, oilfield service companies, academics and government officials worked side by side.

IADC and OOC formed the Deepwater Well Control Task Force in 1997 to identify critical well-control issues as the industry moved into the deepwater frontier. On top of that, the task force determined to complete its work within one year—hardly a leisurely time table!

The 54 volunteers who participated represented 36 IADC and OOC member companies, as well as government and academia. They are shining examples of our industry's tradition of stepping up to the plate on the tough problems. Their generosity, and that of their organizations, in providing time and talent cannot be overstated. I'd like to cite **Diamond Offshore**

Drilling Inc in particular, for contributing a whopping 10 people to the effort.

The task force was chaired by Moe Plaisance, Vice President-Operations Support, Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.

The original guidelines, published in 1998, cover well planning, well control procedures, equipment, emergency response and training. In 2000, at the request of MMS, the task force was reassembled to produce a special supplement dealing with preventing unplanned riser disconnects on floating rigs.

The IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines are often cited as an example of industry-government cooperation in ensuring safety and environmental protection offshore. In 1999, IADC received a commendation from the US Coast Guard, US Minerals Management Service and the National Research Council that specifically cited the IADC/OOC Deepwater Well Control Guidelines.

Please join me in saluting the more than 3 dozen individuals who made a real difference to our industry:

Steering Committee: Morrison "Moe" Plaisance, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Stan Christman, Exxon Upstream Development Co.; Curtis Weddle, BP Exploration Company; Earl Robinson, BHP Petroleum Americas; Jim Metcalf, Newfield Exploration; Allen Kelly, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Donald Howard, Minerals Management Service; Adam T Bourgoyne, Louisiana State University; Steve Kropla, IADC;

Web Planning Subcommittee: Marcel Robichaux (Chairman), Conoco Inc.; John Barker, Vastar Resources, Inc.; Forrest Estep, Transocean Inc.; Connie Goers, J. Connor Consulting; Jim Metcalf, Newfield Exploration; John Shaughnessy, Amoco; Charlie Theriot, Marathon Oil Company;

Well Control Procedures Subcommittee:

Mike Briggs (Chairman), Noble Drilling (U.S) Inc.; Stan Christman, Exxon Upstream Development Company; Larry Flak, Boots & Coots IWC; Allen Gault, Conoco, Inc.; Kerry Girlinghouse, Chevron USA; Allen Kelly, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Colin Leach, Well Control and Systems Design, Inc.; Benny Mason, Unocal; Steve Moore, Conoco, Inc.; Shiniti Ohara, Petrobras; Steve Ramsey, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Alan Wittry, Phillips Petroleum Co.;

Equipment Subcommittee: David Bruce (Chairman), Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Bryce Dickinson, Marine Drilling; Hugh Elkins, Varco Shaffer; Richard Frisbee, Oceaneering International; Earl Robinson, BHP Petroleum (Americas), Inc.; Joe Roche, Brissoneau & Lotz Marine;

Emergency Response Subcommittee: Don Shackelford (Chairman), Halliburton Company; David Barnett, Wild Well Control; Larry Flak, Boots & Coots IWC; A. J. Heikamp, Marine Spill Response Corporation; John Knowlton, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Greg Navarre, Global Marine Drilling Company; Steve Pulkowski, Murphy E&P Company; Todd Regalado, Cudd Pressure Control;

Well Control Training Subcommittee: Richard DeBuys (Chairman), WCS, Well Control School; Kerry Girlinghouse, Chevron USA; Richard Grayson, R&B Falcon Drilling, Inc.; Allen Kelly, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.; Rogers Louviere, Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.; J.D. (Dado) Matkins, Transocean Offshore Drilling, Inc.; Otto Luiz Santos, Petrobras; Mickey Welch, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc.;

SUPPLEMENT 2000, Additional members

Prevention and Interlock Subcommittee: Mike Rogers, RB Falcon, Co-Chairman;

Acoustic Subcommittee: Ronald James, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc., Co-Chairman; Doug Foster, Diamond Offshore Drilling Inc., Co-Chairman;

ROV Subcommittee: Chris Nelson, Newfield Exploration, Chairman.

Gentlemen, here's to you! ■

Correction: In "Deepwater Success Results in Higher Drilling Activity" (November/December 2003 DRILLING CONTRACTOR), John O'Leary, Vice President-Worldwide Marketing for Pride International, was misquoted as saying that OPEC maintained stability with a price range of \$20-\$22/bbl. The article should have said \$22-\$28/bbl. DRILLING CONTRACTOR regrets the error. ■