

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

- **Noble Denton** is funding a 3-year research program at the **University of Cambridge** to consider effective modeling for ultradeepwater mooring and riser developments. The move by the E&P sector toward water depths often greater than 1500 m creates significant difficulties for the integrated modeling of the floaters, moorings, and risers. This research will consider methods for overcoming these difficulties.

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

- **Southern Pacific** entered into a definitive agreement to acquire **Saxony Petroleum**, a private Alberta, Canada-based oil and gas company. The acquisition is designed to provide Southern Pacific with additional cash flow from conventional production as the corporation continues to focus on the potential of its Alberta oil sands assets.
- **National Oilwell Varco** announced the acquisition of two European oilfield equipment manufacturers for undisclosed amounts. Houston-based National Oilwell Varco bought Dutch manufacturer **ASEP Group Holding** to bolster its well intervention and stimulation equipment product line. The company has 555 employees, four factories, and operations in nine countries. The second acquisition, UK-based **Anson**, will complement and extend the international reach of National Oilwell Varco's mission pump and fluid expendables products. The company has one manufacturing facility and operations in five countries.
- **M-I SWACO** acquired Broussard, Louisiana-based **Chemtech**. Chemtech supplies oilfield production chemicals and supporting services. It has products in production-treating application segments including emulsion control, corrosion inhibition, scale prevention, paraffin control, gas-hydrate inhibition, and solids dispersion. Chemtech also has a software package called WellTrack and a patented chemical-injection pump system called Eco-Pump.

CORPORATE MOVES

- **Maverick Technologies**, a global engineering, systems integration, and operational consulting firm, started operations in Singapore. The business will operate as Maverick Technologies (Singapore). The operation allows Maverick to support US-based companies with locations in Singapore and throughout the Asia Pacific market.
- **Enventure Global Technology**, provider of SET systems used for solid expandable solutions, announced that its subsidiary, **Enventure Global Technology Trading (Beijing)**, opened its first office in Beijing to support China's demand for drilling and production technology.
- **TAM International** opened a subsidiary office in Poza Rica, Mexico. The facility will support projects in the region and will serve as TAM International's headquarters in Mexico.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

- **Pemex** awarded a USD 646-million drilling contract to **Weatherford**, expanding the oil service company's workload in Mexico. The contract is for 500 wells in the Chicotepec region in northern Mexico.
- **Petroceltic** awarded **Sahara Well Construction Services** a contract for the provision of all wellsite services, including wireline evaluation, testing, and cementing services, and civil works for the company's upcoming drilling program on the Isarene permit in Algeria.
- **StatoilHydro** awarded **Aker Solutions** an engineering, procurement, construction, and installation contract for upgrading the drilling facilities on the Oseberg B platform. The project is expected to extend the productive lifetime of Oseberg B. The project will drive considerable health, safety, and environmental improvements as well as improvements to the work environment on the platform. The upgrading will also secure future production revenues from the Oseberg field.
- **Technip** was awarded by **Conoco-Phillips Skandinavia** a lump-sum

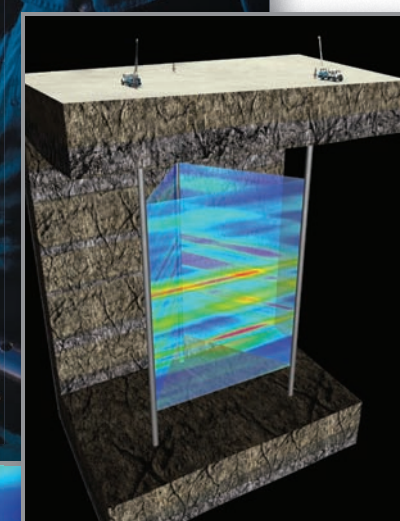
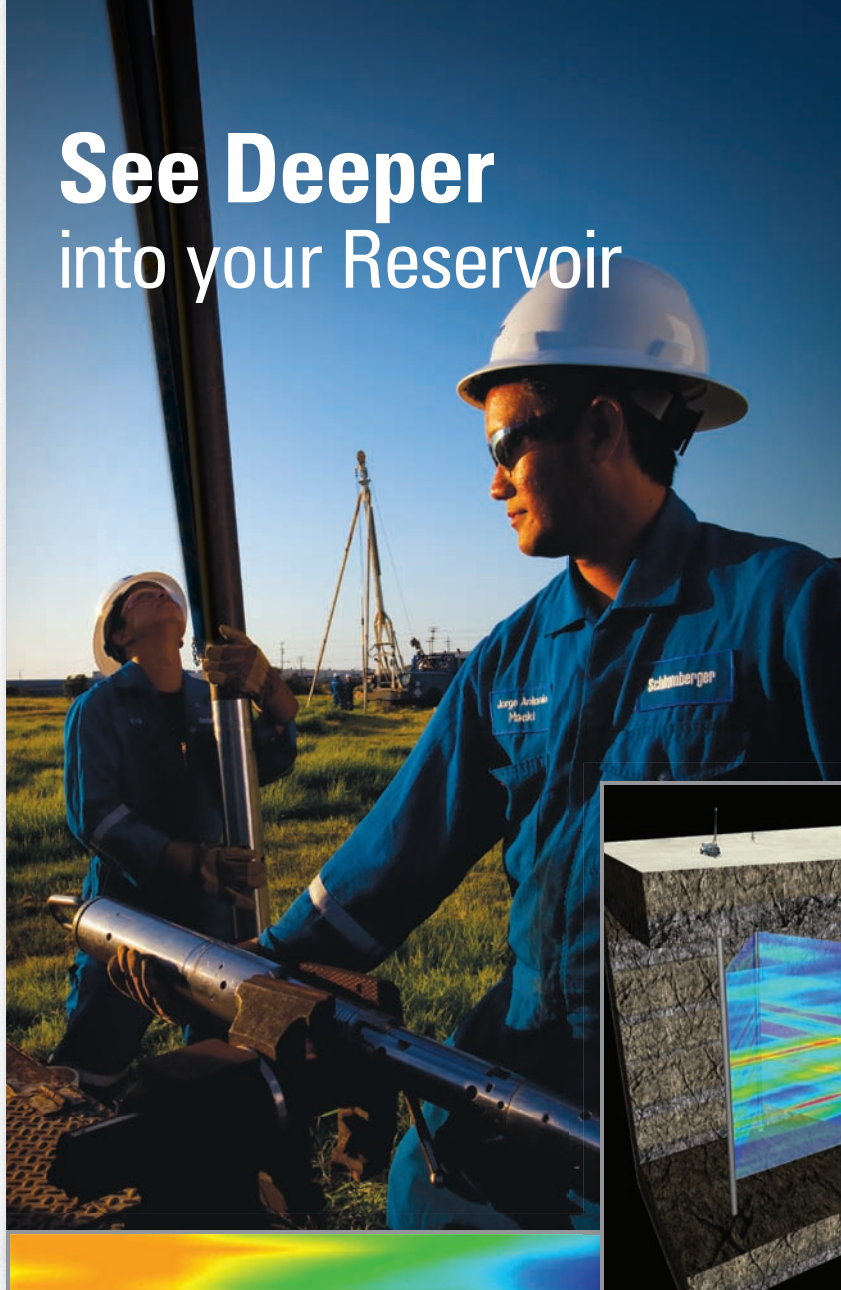
contract for the Ekofisk VA subsea water-injection project located in Block 2/4 on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. This contract provides for the installation, tie-in, and commissioning of subsea facilities between the existing Ekofisk facilities and a new eight-well subsea injection template.

- **Total E&P Vietnam** signed a production-sharing contract with **Vietnam Oil and Gas Group (PetroVietnam)** for the exploration blocks DBSCL-02 and DBSCL-03. The blocks, located in the Mekong delta area onshore Vietnam, will be operated by **Total** with a 75% interest, **PetroVietnam Exploration Production** holding a 25% interest.
- **Expro** was awarded a multiyear contract from **BP** for the provision of equipment and services in Block 31, offshore Angola. As part of the contract, Expro will deliver completion landing string technology which uses a reliable, innovative, and novel design to aid completion installation. The contract covers the delivery of landing strings for use on Plutao, Saturno, and Venus Matre (PSVM). PSVM is the first of up to four planned developments covering a program of work to develop Block 31.
- **Halliburton** was awarded a contract extension by **Salym Petroleum Development** for E&P services in Western Siberia, Russia. Valued at approximately USD 100 million, the 4-year contract calls for the provision of directional-drilling, measurement-while-drilling, and logging-while-drilling, along with drilling fluids and cementing services.
- **BJ Services** was awarded a contract to provide well services in India by **Eni**. The contract provides for casing-running and hammer-conductor-driving services, as well as the supply of cold-cutting equipment. Exploration block RJ-ONN-2003/1 is located onshore Rajasthan approximately 500 km from Jaipur in the northwest of India.

JPT

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