

INSPECT

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“World first for Aberdeen Drilling Consultants”

That was the headline of a newspaper article following the very successful launch of ADC’s Virtual Academy and its first online e-learning training course *‘Understanding Drilling Equipment.’*

The launch took place in the Marcliffe Hotel and Spa at Pitfodels, Aberdeen and was attended by senior personnel from the oil and gas industry, and representatives of a number of training organisations.

Douglas Hay, Managing Director of Aberdeen Drilling Consultants told **INSPECT** “This subject has never been taught and illustrated like this before. *‘Understanding Drilling Equipment’* is a foundation course that will help participants achieve a greater understanding of the equipment used on offshore or land based drilling rigs.”

“As the first ever online training of its type, the course can be accessed anywhere in the world where there is a broadband internet connection.”

He continued “The course has been developed over two years, with a lot of planning initially and a nine month production period culminating in our public launch.”

‘Understanding Drilling Equipment’ has been implemented using the ABSORB (Learning Management System) from Omniplex. Managing Director Matthew Lloyd attended the launch and presented ABSORB to the audience, demonstrating how easy it is to manage the training of personnel anywhere in the world over the internet.

Ian Cowieson, Senior Engineer with ADC, is the voice behind the course and the person who has pulled it all together at ADC’s Aberdeen office.

Ian explains “The 30 hour *‘Understanding Drilling Equipment’* course has eight modules including health and safety, drilling equipment, well control, mechanical equipment, electrical equipment deck equipment and audit. It is very comprehensive and superbly illustrated through computer graphics very kindly donated by major oil and gas companies. We are sure that participants will learn a great deal whilst enjoying the experience.”

Two of the guests at the launch were Phil Stratford, a Regional Drilling Manager with Premier Oil and Jonathan Lilley, a Well Operations Manager with Centrica. Phil told **INSPECT** “I thought that the evening was very informative and that the course is very interesting, perhaps with particular application for our overseas operations.”

Jonathan agreed “I think the course has wide application both for the trainee engineers and for those not directly involved in drilling but who would benefit from some understanding of drilling. Also the web based nature of the training makes it a compelling alternative to classroom based training.”

Early reaction to the course has been very positive as Douglas Hay explains “We are already in negotiation with one international organisation which has 1000 students each year and they are talking about our course becoming a regular feature in their curriculum.”

For further details of the ADC Virtual Academy visit www.adcacademy.com



Above: ADC engineer Sandy West demonstrates a module at the launch.

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Comment from Douglas Hay Managing Director of ADC

Welcome to our Summer edition of Inspect. There has been so much happening since the turn of the year which has affected the oil and gas industry that it is difficult to know exactly what the future holds.

There is a great deal of turmoil in the Middle East which is causing much uncertainty for oil production and prices. One of our engineers, Billy Dewar, was caught up in the Libyan crisis, you can read his very personal account of his hurried exit from the country in this issue.

Yet despite such stories there is a lot of very positive activity happening at ADC, as you will read. The ADC Virtual Academy is launched and is attracting a lot of interest and our high standards of Rig Inspections are continuing to win us work.

This is an area in which ADC would like to help to improve the safety and reputation of the UK oil and gas industry with regard to

1. Rig inspections
2. The outcomes and findings of rig inspections
3. The close out by the rig operator and owner
4. The issuing of a drilling permit or license once this is closed out.

If these actions were fully implemented, supported by the Government, they would go a long way towards ensuring our offshore drilling fleets and facilities are 'fit for purpose', thus avoiding the possibility of having our own GOM incident in the North Sea. Our experience around the world would enable ADC to play a leading role in this important safety initiative and we would welcome such an opportunity.

On a very positive note for the company, we are delighted to announce the appointment of Austin Hay to a Director of Aberdeen Drilling Consultants and welcome him into his new role.

Best wishes and safe drilling.

**Douglas Hay
Managing Director**

Well examination services

Douglas Hay has been a Senior Drilling Engineer for over 35 years - ideal qualifications for his role as a Well Examiner - an independent third party expert contracted to examine oil and gas well basic design.

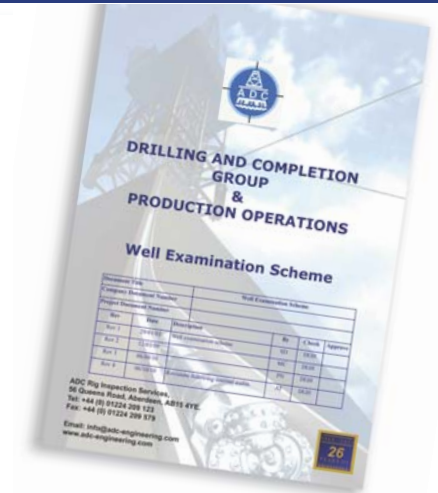
Well Examination is an independent design review process that is put in place by a well operator to provide assurance that the pressure boundary of the well is controlled throughout its life and the pressure containing equipment that forms part of the well is fit for purpose.

Requirement

In the UK there is a statutory requirement for independent well examination [Offshore Installations and Wells (Design and Construction etc) Regulations 1996], a service which is offered by ADC.

Well Examiners become involved in the process at the basic design stage which is followed by examination of the design and drilling programme to ensure that they comply with the Design and Construction Regulations 913.

The well examination process then continues throughout the lifespan of a well until it is finally decommissioned. Experience in well design and



operation are excellent qualifications for being a Well Examiner. Douglas has the additional benefit of his experience in rig and asset inspection and the associated focus on safety and everything being 'fit for purpose'.

To discuss Aberdeen Drilling Consultant's Well examination services contact **Douglas Hay on +44 (0) 1224 209123, or email info@adc-engineering.com**

'WilPhoenix' reactivated in Gdansk



ADC Rig Inspection Services has been working in the Gdansk shipyards in Poland overseeing the reactivation of the semi submersible rig 'WilPhoenix' on behalf of client AGR. The rig was being taken through its Special Periodic Survey (SPS) and enhancement programme with project management by Awilco Drilling's project team.

There were four ADC engineers at the yard for the month long project in the capacity of 'Third Party Monitors' of the work. Once the reactivation work was completed the ADC engineers then carried out acceptance testing prior to the rig departing to its next drilling operation.

During the inspection process ADC checks all the safety critical documentation to ensure that it is all correct and fit for purpose whilst also checking all the rig's safety systems with an 'operational survey'.

Austin Hay, Director of ADC, outlined the importance of this contract. "AGR contracted ADC Rig Inspection Services to oversee this reactivation programme because of our track record using our TRAMS 2 inspection software.

"With the work at Gdansk carried out to high standards to start with, the necessity for later remedial work is greatly reduced and the whole operation is both safer and more cost effective."

Rigs for Greenland summer drilling inspected



Above: Ocean Rig drill ship Corcovado.

Left: Ocean Rig semi submersible Leiv Eiriksson passes under a suspension bridge in the Bosphorus Strait.

Cairn Energy has again commissioned ADC Rig Inspection Services to carry out Acceptance Testing, including the DP system, on Ocean Rig drill ship Corcovado and Ocean Rig semi submersible Leiv Eiriksson prior to both rigs travelling to locations in the environmentally sensitive waters offshore Greenland for this summer's drilling campaign.

The Corcovado is a new build drill ship and Acceptance Testing was carried out offshore Korea.

The Leiv Eiriksson is a semi submersible rig which had been operating in the Black Sea. To travel to Greenland the rig had to navigate the Bosphorus Strait which is over 16nmi long and has two suspension bridges across it. The Bosphorus connects the Black Sea to the Marmara Sea and the Aegean Sea, and on to the Mediterranean. However, in order to clear the two bridges the derrick had to be dismantled. Once the derrick was reassembled ADC Rig Inspection Services carried out its inspection to meet the strict acceptance criteria as laid down by Cairn Energy Greenland. ADC MD Douglas Hay commented "This contract has covered very different rigs, a new build drill

ship and a rig with a partial dismantle and re-assembly. Our role is to check that in both cases these rigs are fully fit for purpose for these drilling operations in a very sensitive area. This is achieved by using our unique TRAMS 2 rig inspection programme which ensures that everything is checked, monitored and recorded for a fully transparent competence report."

Craig McGregor, Drilling Manager Leiv Eiriksson Operations for Cairn Energy told **INSPECT** "We are very pleased with the highly professional way in which ADC carries out these inspections. Once inspected to their rigorous criteria we are assured of the high standards of both rigs."

ADC appoint new agent in Jordan

The appointment of AGOS Jordan to act as agents for ADC Rig Inspection Services has opened up the opportunity to tender for work in Jordan, Iraq and Kurdistan.



AGOS Jordan is run by ex Schlumberger engineer Hassouneh Banihani (pictured) from their offices in Amman, the capital of Jordan, where they are helping to shape Jordan's oilfield structure.

Al Ghawar Oilfield Services & Trading (AGOS) is one of the first Jordanian companies specializing in oilfield services and supplies. It is committed to providing the highest quality services to international standards to operating companies in Jordan and the neighbouring areas.

Hassouneh Banihani, General Manager of AGOS, has an MSc in Mechanical Engineering, and has experience as a field engineer, field service manager and petroleum engineer for companies including Schlumberger, GeoServices-Marjan (Abu Dhabi) and ZADCO, before establishing AGOS in 2010.

Douglas Hay, MD of ADC welcomes the new association. "We are very pleased to be represented by a company which operates to the same high standards as ADC. With our team of highly competent experienced engineers and our unique TRAMS 2 rig inspection software we look forward to bringing these standards to rig inspection contracts in Jordan, Iraq and Kurdistan working with Hassouneh and AGOS."

AN ON THE SPOT ACCOUNT OF EVACUATION FROM LIBYA AT THE START OF THE REBELLION

"Dancing on the ceiling"

During week commencing Monday February 21st 2011 the people's rebellion in Libya began and suddenly the oil and gas fields in the Libyan desert became a very dangerous place to be. As the rebels made progress towards Tripoli the main evacuation routes were quickly closing. ADC Rig Inspection Principal Specialist Engineer William (Billy) Dewar was in the country carrying out rig inspections at the time and was caught up in the evacuation of foreign nationals through an ever narrowing window of opportunity. This is an account directly from Billy's email to his colleagues the day after he returned safely home.



TimeLine: Saturday 26th February 2011 in the Libyan Desert...

"Gazprom had planned to extract personnel from the desert by small plane on Saturday, 12-15 passengers per trip into Tripoli. Myself, other international personnel and Gazprom French representatives were due into Tripoli on the 2nd flight at around 1 or 2 o'clock in the afternoon. (There was no mention of onward flight at that time).

"On Saturday the first flight was due at 10:00 hours but arrived at 12:00 hours. We eventually took off on the second flight at 16:30 hours heading for Tripoli, but as the flight was scheduled for 1 hour 20 mins we were all resigned to staying overnight in Tripoli and hoping to fly out on Sunday by whomever and wherever.

"When we landed in Tripoli at 17:50 hours and we were getting off the airport bus we noticed a Republique French Airbus A340 sitting at the edge of the buildings in Mitiga Airport (the military airport in Tripoli).

"What followed was fast and furious footwork by the French to get the French and other European passports stamped and cleared by the Libyan authorities and we were all onboard that jet within 20/30 minutes maximum and at 18:45 hours we lifted off for Paris. (As Lionel Ritchie sings - Oh what a feeling when you're dancing on the ceiling!).

"It was not until we were in the air that we really believed we had missed the (dangerous) run to Tripoli International Airport, which we had all been dreading, and we were really on our way home.

"The French Gazprom representatives said later that they knew the plane was going to be there but thought we had missed it as it was scheduled to leave at 17:00 hours. That meant that the French Government had a plane with 200 people on board waiting for 5 more passengers (us) for 2 hours. Great guys those French".

ADC Rig Inspections Services would like to add its own grateful thanks to Gazprom and the French authorities and everybody involved in achieving a happy ending to a very difficult and dangerous situation. We are glad to have Billy back and in action again.

INTRODUCING... PAUL STEIN



Virtual Academy

Understanding Drilling Equipment

A comprehensive e-learning course explaining the function, operation and key safety and maintenance indicators of offshore and onshore and gas drilling equipment



There is a new face at ADC at a very exciting time in the company's history. Paul Stein (*above*) joins as Commercial Manager with an initial remit to promote the newly launched ADC Virtual Academy and its first e-learning course 'Understanding Drilling Equipment'.

Paul joins us from the pharmaceutical industry and has a BSc (Hons) degree in Pharmacology from Aberdeen University. Married with four children Paul's interests include most sports, but especially football (he plays and coaches Culter Boys under 12's), running and golf.

Young engineers achieve high standards in Plymouth



Left: Cameron undertaking an NDT infra-red check of an electrical system.

Three of ADC's young engineers have recently undertaken training in Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) and Thermal Imaging techniques. They are Dayle Hadden, Ross Gray (both introduced in the last edition of *Inspect*) and Cameron Laing.

The training took place at iRed in Emsworth to the British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing syllabus, and the engineers each achieved the standard of PCN (Personal Certification in NDT) condition monitoring exam in infra-red thermography. This qualifies the engineers to carry out infra-red testing of electrical and mechanical systems.

Douglas Hay, MD of ADC, was delighted with the results "This quality of training gives our engineers a high level of competency in checking electrical and mechanical systems during rig inspections using highly skilled NDT techniques."

New Director of ADC

The Board of Aberdeen Drilling Consultants has been expanded with the appointment of Austin Hay as a Director from his previous role of Operations Manager.

Austin (33), son of ADC founders Douglas and Faye Hay, graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Pharmacology from the University of Aberdeen in 2000 and worked initially in the pharmaceutical industry prior to joining the family firm in 2007. Since that time he has developed the commercial and operational activities of ADC, a role he will continue as Director.

Married to Sarah, they are both proud parents of baby Noah, born in October 2010.



in THE COMMUNITY

Setting tongues WAG-ing for charity

Thursday 12th May was a record breaking evening at Mercure Ardoe House Hotel, Aberdeen. It was the 18th annual fundraising dinner in aid of the Quarriers Epilepsy field workers service.

The theme of the evening was 'Twelfth Night' (of May) and after an excellent dinner four speakers (WAGS) had to speak for 12 minutes each on a Shakespearian theme, with the most humorous being awarded a quaiich.

Each of the speakers was sponsored, one of them Craig Pike, by Aberdeen Drilling Consultants.

The first record broken was the turnout, with 433 seats sold for the dinner. The second record was the amount raised - £49,200! All of the money goes directly to funding Quarriers field workers who are an invaluable help to families who may be experiencing epilepsy for the first time, and to long term sufferers.



Quarriers

Left: A Quarriers Epilepsy field worker at work.

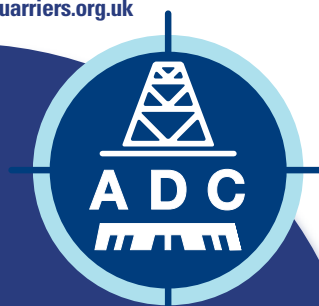
The Chairman of the organising committee, Norman Esslemont, splendidly dressed as Shakespeare himself, thanked all the sponsors "without whose generous help we would not be able to offer this service."

How did ADC sponsored Craig fare? An honourable second equal with the other two WAGS who didn't win! To learn more about the work of Quarriers or to give on-line visit www.quarriers.org.uk

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