NDC orders nearly $300m worth of rigs

The NDC-CPTDC rig order signing in Abu Dhabi

ADNOC subsidiary National Drilling Company (NDC) is set to substantially increase its rig fleet through a recent agreement signed with China Petroleum Technology & Development Corporation (CPTDC).

The deal for nine land rigs worth some 1 billion Dirhams (US$272 million) is seen as part of ADNOC's effort to maximise economic and social benefits from UAE oil and gas resources.

The new rigs which will join the NDC fleet during 2015 are additional to the 11 land rigs manufactured earlier by CPTDC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) and were received by NDC over the last three years.

The agreement allows for the option to obtain another $272 million worth of additional rigs.

United Safety launches vehicle gas protection system

United Safety launched the oil and gas industry's first Vehicle Gas Protection System, the Air Qruise at ADIPEC 2013.

The AirQruise integrates gas detection electronics, a highly compact air supply system and rapid deployment breathing masks. This combination ensures that the vehicle's occupants are immediately alerted to a gas leak while being supplied with breathing air and transported out of the toxic release site.

The launch was led by Al Hosn Gas CEO Saif Ahmed Al Ghafli, the first company to make use of the Air Qruise for its Shah Gas Field. United Safety intends to launch the Air Qruise in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE, and Kuwait.

Dr. Elie Daher, EVP and chief marketing officer for United Safety said: "Today, in both industrial and upstream facilities, there are a range of solutions available to ensure the safety of personnel in the event of a toxic gas release. There is a gap however, in ensuring that personnel stay safe while in transit. This is the gap that the Air Qruise is designed to close and in the near future, we expect it to become the norm for every company that takes its employees' safety and evacuation needs seriously."

An Air Qruise vehicle

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rockwell acquires vMonitor

Rockwell Automation annoucned during ADIPEC 2013, it is to purchase Abu Dhabi based global oil and gas wireless technology solutions provider, vMonitor. VMonitor is said to be a pioneer in Digital Oilfield implementation and remote operations worldwide. It delivers monitoring and control solutions for wellhead and upstream applications that combine wireless instrumentation and communication with visualisation software to help customers make more informed decisions and improve production. The company claims to have the world's largest installed base of wireless wellhead monitoring systems for natural and artificially lifted wells with more than 6,000 well sites for major oil and gas companies around the world.

Gas flaring reduced by 20% as improvements continue

Global gas flaring has been reduced by 20 per cent over the past six years, helping to reduce wastage of the energy resource and a drop in global CO2 emissions, according to a representative of the international body responsible for advocating flare reduction. Fabrice Mosneron Dupin, Global Gas Flaring Reduction (GGFR) Advisor said that this is the equivalent of taking some 52 million cars off the road. He mentioned how there is broad increased awareness in industry and the public on the issue.

Oryx-Stork enter Qatar JV

Stork Technical Services and Oryx Energy Products & Services LLC announced at a press conference during ADIPEC 2013 a joint venture in Ras Laffan Industrial City in Qatar to serve the MENA market. It will be based on the Oryx Engineering Solutions Centre in Ras Laffan providing engineering, manufacturing, repair, overhaul, maintenance, upgrade, testing and field service facilities for a wide range of equipment to customers in Qatar and the rest of the MENA region.