Guidelines for Surface BOP Drilling from Floating MODUs

International Association of Drilling Contractors

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Suggested revisions to the guidance are invited and will be considered along with future changes to this document. Suggestions should be submitted to Steve Kropla, International Association of Drilling Contractors, 10370 Richmond Avenue, Suite 760, Houston, TX 77042.

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Letter of Introduction from the Co-Chairmen

As Co-Chairmen of the *IADC Surface BOP Guidelines for Floating MODUs* Task Force, we would like to use the opening comments of this document to thank the International Association of Drilling Contractors for sponsoring this project. This project has resulted in the successful completion of this best practices document for using Surface BOP systems from a Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit, the first for our industry. IADC plays an important role in our global business and we would like to recognize their foresight in sponsoring this project and having the diligence and energy to keep the many technical professionals that contributed to it focused on delivering these guidelines.

We would also like to thank our colleagues on the Steering Committee for their untiring work, organization and patience while seeing this project through to completion. Many technical professionals from a very broad cross-section of our industry contributed to this document. It was the function of the Steering Committee to ensure that all opinions and ideas were represented in a document that could be used by experts and novices alike to apply the technique of using a Surface BOP system from a MODU. The members of the Steering Committee are listed in the pages that follow. Thank you to all involved; it was a pleasure to work with you all.

In addition, special thanks go out to the Task Force sub-committees and especially the chairmen of those sub-committees. These groups contributed the vast majority of the ideas, opinions and comments that make up this document. The sub-committee chairmen had the unenviable task to capture the relevant data and ensure that each sub-committee stayed within the boundaries of their scope of work. The sub-committee chairmen also had the major task of reviewing their sections and ensuring that all the present industry best practices relating to this technique were adequately captured in the final document. Again many thanks to everyone that contributed in the subcommittees, our industry is very lucky to have technical professionals of your quality.

We feel it is also appropriate to share some special recognition to a number of individuals who went beyond the call of duty and gave up a lot of their free time as well as being allowed to give up some of their work time to prepare and review this finished document. The following individuals should be recognized for their diligence and hard work in helping to complete this documentation. Many thanks to Steve Actis of ConocoPhilips, Eric Magne of Shell International E & P Inc, Ken Dupal of Expert E & P, Bill Hunter of Katy Drilling, and Barry Harding of Harding Resources.

Finally, we hope that you will find the material presented in this document valuable, should your company consider making use of an SBOP concept from a floating MODU. Although the technique has been used for several years in various parts of the world, we believe there has never been a previous attempt to capture such a broad range of technical expertise. Again, we thank IADC for the opportunity to engage and work with such a diverse group of technical experts through sponsorship of this project.

Regards,

Graham Brander (Co-Chairman) Earl Shanks (Co-Chairman)

Table of Contents

Refer to detailed table of contents in each section of the document.

List of Appendices

Forward

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. IADC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

1 Introduction

Terms and Definitions Used in Chapter 1

BOP	Blowout Preventer
HSE	Health Safety & Environment
IADC	International Association of Drilling Contractors
LMRP	Lower Marine Riser Package
MMS	Minerals Management Service
MODU	Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit
psi	Pounds per Square Inch
ROV	Remote Operated Vehicle
SBOP	Surface BOP
SID	Seabed Isolation Device
TLP	Tension Leg Platform
WP	Working Pressure

Table of Contents – Chapter 1

List of Figures – Chapter 1