

Welcome to our first **Gripping News** of the new year. All our newspapers and television news seem to be full of the global recession but I am pleased to say that at Bardex we are starting this year with a larger backlog than at any time in our more than 45 years history. The number of new proposals we are quoting is also very high so we are all hoping that we might be able to miss the worst of the recession. But we are not complacent and are still listening to and visiting as many customers as we can - and are keen to receive more enquiries and orders.

2009 Exhibitions



The next MCEDD will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark's capital city, 31 March – 2 April. See Bardex on Stand 531.



OTC is the main global offshore oil/gas industry event and will take place at The Reliant Park in Houston from Monday, 4th to Thursday 7th May. Bardex has booked Booth 2163 and we will have a strong team of representatives from Sales/Marketing, Engineering and Service Support Departments to discuss systems/equipment and answer your queries.



Bardex will be present on Stand 876 at Offshore Europe which will take place in Scotland's oil capital Aberdeen, in the UK during the period 8th – 11th September.

Total USAN FPSO:

In our last Gripping News we made a very brief "stop press" announcement of a major contract and now we can provide full details.



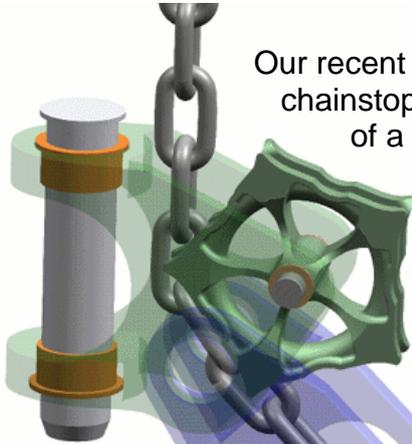
Hyundai Heavy Industries of Korea have awarded Bardex a contract to design, manufacture and supply a mooring system for use on Total's USAN FPSO destined for operation offshore Nigeria.

The photograph (left) is by courtesy of Total and shows their Dalia FPSO which is of a similar size and storage capacity to USAN.

The USAN field is located 100 km south east of Bonny Island and the FPSO, which will be moored in 750m water depth, will be operated by Elf Petroleum Nigeria. The specially designed mooring system includes sixteen BarLatch™ fairlead stoppers sized to hold the 1,770 tonnes break strength of the system's 147 mm R3 studless chain, four moveable linear chain jacks rated for a stall pull of 382 tonnes, two 255 tonnes pull-in messenger winches and two hydraulic power units each of which can provide up to 480 kW. Deck equipment and other associated system components complete the contract.

Bardex has already started manufacturing with phased deliveries commencing in the third quarter 2009 and continuing into the first quarter of 2010.

BarLatch™ fairlead stopper



Our recent contract for the USAN FPSO mooring system includes special chainstoppers mounted on a vertically swivelling latch housing outboard of a horizontally swivelling hull-mounted fairlead. This is a patented system of securing mooring chain on permanently and passive-moored vessels in such a manner as to minimise inter-link chain wear and both in-plane and out-of-plane bending of the chain in order to provide for an extended dependable integrity of the mooring system.

Bardex invented and pioneered this system in the 1990's and we have since greatly developed the original product. Bardex now offers two styles of underwater BarLatch™ fairlead stoppers as well as a deck-mounted version.

Our unique design allows the chainstopper to freely rotate about two perpendicular axes so that all motion change between mooring line and vessel occurs on proper bearing surfaces and not between adjacent chain links.

The chainwheel is a compact 5-pocket design since the maximum chain tension around the chainwheel is solely the mooring line pre-tension and even this tension is removed when the chainstopper is engaged.

All bearings are specified as offshore proven self lubricating bronze bearings to ensure longevity of operation and Bardex provides rugged redundant load measuring devices not in the load path so that they can be changed out if ever the need were to arise. In spite of a 30-year design life, the hull mounted fairlead stopper has been designed so that it can be retrieved to the surface for maintenance / repair.

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For past issues of *Gripping News* please look under "news" on our website at www.bardex.com

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