

Gripping News



*A regular quarterly newsletter
Informing and Entertaining !*

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In our planet's geological past, what is now Brazil, West Africa and the Gulf of Mexico were all part of the same land mass and were adjacent to each other. Over millions of years the huge super-continent of that pre-Cambrian time was forced apart and eventually the continents that we know today were formed. Vast hydrocarbon deposits found in South America, offshore Brazil and in North America in the Gulf of Mexico, are mirrored by huge deposits along the West African coast particularly offshore Nigeria and Angola. In the oilfield industry, these three hydrocarbon-rich areas are known collectively as the "Golden Triangle".

Bardex systems and equipment are already hard at work in all three of the Golden Triangle areas. We are working to build on this success in the new deepwater projects being developed in the coming years so that the Golden Triangle will remain an important and growing part of our company's future.

Personnel

It is with great sadness that we announce that on 21st July, after a short hospitalisation, our Controller, Chuck Leininger passed away. Kusnadi ("Kus") Sidikpramana has been appointed as the new Bardex Controller.

2009 Exhibitions

This year's Offshore Europe was the largest ever with more than 1,500 companies from around the world exhibiting their products and services. Visitor attendance was over 49,000 – this is more than a 20% increase on the last show in 2007. No wonder, then, that on the Bardex Stand the Bardex personnel were kept very busy discussing equipment design and the latest projects with customers, suppliers and other show visitors.



The next exhibition and conference in which Bardex will participate, will be "Deepwater Development 2010" to be held in Amsterdam in 23-25th March 2010. Formerly this event was named "Marine Construction Europe, Deepwater Development", but from next year the event will be broadened to attract global participation.

Pride Tennessee

We are pleased to announce that Bardex has been awarded an order for the Hydraulic Power Unit destined for the Pride "Tennessee" rig skidding system. The Tennessee is an ABS Class A1 cantilever jack up rig rated for drilling 20,000 ft in nominal 300 ft water depths. The HPU being supplied is rated for a Zone 1 hazardous area. The skid contains a 100 gallon reservoir, 40 HP electric motor driven pump and starter box for the 460 VAC, 60 Hz, 3-phase rig supply and is designed to provide 11 gallons/minute at 5000 psi working pressure.

Factory Acceptance Testing

Bardex is approaching a very demanding period for our manufacturing, engineering and quality teams. Over the next 3 months two major skidding system programmes conclude their manufacturing phase in our main plant in Goleta, California at which time the equipment will be fully checked and tested. Preparations are now being made for pressure, functional and load testing of individual equipment assemblies and the complete system where appropriate. For both programmes, customer representatives will be attending to witness the testing.

In addition to these, we are also preparing the first part of our order for the Usan FPSO mooring system equipment for assembly and testing at our sub-contractor facilities in Korea prior to final shipment to our customer, HHI. The Usan FPSO will be installed offshore Nigeria in the West African part of the Golden Triangle where, close by, numerous other Bardex systems including rig skidding have been successfully operating, for many years.

Hydraulic Power:

We specialise in designing solutions for specific heavy load handling applications in the offshore oil/gas and shipyard industries. Although these industries and the applications served are diverse, what they all share in common is hydraulic power. Our load handling equipment has gained a reputation for being robust and dependable and so it makes sense to specify Bardex as well for its source of power - the Hydraulic Power Unit ("HPU") - to ensure the whole system will reliably be ready when it is needed.



From small 10 hp single HPUs to multiple-HPU systems totalling 1,200 hp and larger, whether the pumps are electrically powered or integral diesel-engine powered HPUs, Bardex has the experience and capability to design and supply what is needed for the job.

The two photographs here show Bardex engineers checking specifications and display layout of a dual 60 hp pump/motor HPU for a Bardex chain jack mooring tensioning system and two diesel powered HPUs in our manufacturing plant prepared and ready for shipping.

So long as the correct pressure and flow rate of properly filtered and clean hydraulic oil is delivered to our equipment, our equipment and systems will perform properly. Hydraulic oil is at the heart of our system. It must be incompressible, lubricate the equipment and act as a heat transfer medium and hence its selection is also critical to attaining the best performance from our systems/equipment. The Bardex Engineering Department monitors current developments in hydraulic oil technology and is ready to advise customers on selection whether it is for environmentally friendly oil, non-oil base or bio-degradable fluids, normal mineral based hydraulic fluids or other fluids chosen for special properties.

Suction filters or strainers are designed to remove debris before it enters and damages the pump, whereas the main filtration on the discharge side of the pump and in the cooling loops, is designed to remove very small particles that over time would degrade the system seals and wettable parts. Our minimum filtration requirements are NAS 7 or ISO 18/16/13 which define the frequency of allowable particle sizes of 4 microns, 6 microns and 14 microns.

Keeping hydraulic oil clean, in good condition and following a programme for periodic replacement to maintain oxidation below a recommended standard are essential steps to maintain a long life of hydraulic equipment in excellent condition. Our Engineering Department stands ready to answer your technical questions.

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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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