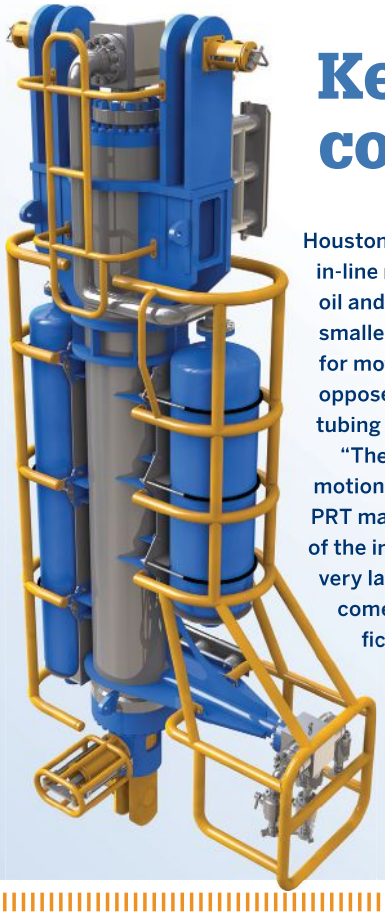
Solutions



Keeping compensation in-line

By Audrey Leon

Houston-based PRT is bringing to market an in-line motion compensator for the deepwater oil and gas industry. The tool aims to provide a smaller, lighter and more versatile alternative for motion compensation on floating rigs as opposed to larger motion compensating coiled tubing lift frames (MCCTLF).

"These MCCTLFs have become the norm for motion compensation," says Patrick Placer, PRT manager responsible for the development of the in-line motion compensator. "They are very large, about 130,000lbs+. Most MCCTLFs come in multiple pieces, making them difficult to install and time consuming for rigging up."

PRT saw the opportunity to bring a new piece of equipment to market. "The in-line motion compensator is about one-third of the weight and footprint of MCCTLFs," Placer says, "which allows operators to put the tool on the rig ahead of time as opposed to having to wait until it is time to rig up and go directly to a derrick with it."

Because of the compact size of the compensator, operators' risk of delay due to weather conditions is reduced. "If they were using a MCCTLF, they would be dealing with larger bulky lifts that are more difficult and potentially unsafe," he says.

PRT was chosen through a competitive bid to help a Gulf of Mexico-based operator come up with a solution for an in-line motion compensation type system to take advantage of efficiencies for its rig operations. "Both drillships working the project had a need for compensation," Placer says. "We worked with the operator to come up with the operating parameters/limitations of the system in accordance with their project needs. We collaborated on the stroke requirements of the compensating system and the tensile requirements, to make the system unique to the deepwater market." www.prorentaltools.com

HAL offers GRIP well control services

Boots & Coots Services, a Halliburton (HAL) business, has developed the Global Rapid Intervention Package (GRIP), a suite of services to help reduce costs and deployment time in the event of subsea well control events.

GRIP provides well planning and well kill capabilities facilitated by HAL's global logistics infrastructure and existing product service lines. This includes both an inventory of well test packages, coiled tubing units and relief well ranging tools.

In addition, due to their size and weight, capping stack systems currently available can take weeks to deploy, and are expensive to transport and reassemble on a job site. To address these issues, GRIP features the new high temperature, 15,000 psi RapidCap Air-Mobile Capping Stack, which incorporates a specially designed gate valve-based system to make the system lighter. This allows RapidCap to be air transported on a Boeing 747-400F and lifted by a 110-ton or lighter crane, rather than requiring specialized infrastructure.
www.halliburton.com

Archer's Point system locates leaks

Archer's new Point system, a well integrity resource, is designed to provide a proactive and systematic approach to integrity management, which integrates surface and downhole measurements, evaluates barrier sealing performance, and locates leaks and flowpaths. Ultrasound energy, generated by the turbulent flow of fluids through leaks and flowpaths in wells, can pass through fluids, steel and cement, which allows detection behind tubing and casing. The Point system uses seven diagnostic programs underpinned by Archer's proprietary ultrasound technology to investigate or locate a range of failure types from the surface or downhole: CheckPoint, with three program options, is deployed at surface routinely to validate integrity or investigate a known integrity issue; LeakPoint, with two program options, is designed to expose leaks in the primary tubular, surrounding casings or completion equipment, and beyond the A-annulus—even while a well is flowing; FlowPoint, with two program options, is designed to diagnose complex failure scenarios by capturing the ultrasound energy and temperature anomalies created by turbulent fluid flow through barrier leaks and annular flowpaths.
www.archerwell.com

PCB releases new accelerometers

PCB Piezotronics has launched two new hazardous area approved differential output charge accelerometers from IMI