

Hands-on BOP Training in Middenmeer in the Netherlands at the Drilling Service Center facility

During three weeks in May-June 2106 the LRED Training Academy performed three training workshops at the facility of the Drilling Service Center in Middenmeer in the Netherlands to conduct the three days Hands-on BOP workshop, training 16 candidates from Swift Drilling, which are all working on the Swift Jack-up drilling rig and four candidates from the Deep Drill Supply Group, which work in their workshop as mechanics.

The LRED HBOP workshop was recently updated allowing more emphasis on the practical time spend with the BOP equipment and the total length of the workshop was reduced from 3-1/2 day to 3-days to reduce cost for the client.

Included in the new HBOP course is the training of the safe use of the hydraulic torque tools which is required when the bonnets of the U-type BOPs have to be made up. The theoretical training and practical training of using the torque tools in a safe manner is complementing the new LRED HBOP course. The candidates receive an IADC accredited certificate when they pass the Final Exam of the HBOP workshop and additionally receive a certificate after completing their training of the safe use of the torque tools.



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The Entry test results proved that the HBOP training LRED is providing is really necessary, but the Final Test results showed how quickly the candidates can improve their knowledge levels, which could contribute to improve the rigs down-time figures with regards to the well control equipment. The big difference with some of our training competitors is the LRED HBOP training is not using computer simulations, 3D-models or 3D-images, but the candidates are actually trained with the **real size BOPs**, while guided by the well control expert trainer.

The HBO training starts with one day theoretical lectures to ensure the candidates understand what and why they are doing something, which is followed by the second day in the workshop where a special designed booklet is used which guides the candidates through the process of opening and closing ram bonnets, inspect and measure the ram BOP components, the safe removal of the annular preventer packers and the disassembly and assembly of the Cameron style gate valves.



The Deep Drill Supply Group is renting out and overhauling a wide range of BOP equipment and the advantage for the LRED HBOP training is the large amount of new and older BOP and well control related equipment present in their facility. This gives the LRED trainer ample opportunities to explain a wide range of well control equipment to the candidates while facing the real equipment. The Deep Drill Supply Group delivered a senior mechanic to assist the practical sessions and with the workshop foreman Frank we assure that all training is performed in a safe and structured manner.

The classroom is well designed and the support from the Drilling Service Center hospitality coordinator Annewil is excellent, she ensures the organisation of the catering and the class room beverages is operating flawless. The feedback of the candidates towards the LRED HBOP workshop and the Drilling Service Center facility was very positive and I would like to thank Jan Veldman of the Deep Drill Supply Group for their professionalism and support making these three HBOP training workshops an impressive success.

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