Providing coverage of the oilfield service and supply industry in Alaska and northern Canada

# Detroleum Directory

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2nd Quarter 2007

## Service companies involved in Alaska and northern Canada's oil and gas industry

#### A

Ace Transport Acuren USA (formerly Canspec Group) Aeromed ACE Air Cargo ACS Agrium Air Liquide Air Logistics of Alaska Alaska Air Cargo Alaska Anvil Alaska Coverall Alaska Dreams **Alaska Frontier Constructors Alaska Marine Lines** Alaska Railroad Corp. Alaska Rubber & Supply Alaska Steel Co. Alaska Telecom Alaska Tent & Tarp **Alaska Textiles** Alaska West Express Alliance, The **American Marine** Arctic Controls **Arctic Foundations** Arctic Slope Telephone Assoc. Co-op. Arctic Wire Rope & Supply **ASRC Energy Services Engineering & Technology Operations & Maintenance Pipeline Power & Communications Avalon Development** 

### **B-F**

**Badger Productions Baker Hughes Bombay Deluxe Restaurant BP Exploration (Alaska) Broadway Signs Brooks Range Supply Canadian Mat Systems (Alaska) Capital Office Systems Carlile Transportation Services CGG Veritas Chiulista Camp Services Computing Alternatives CN** Aquatrain **Coldwell Bankers** Colville **CONAM** Construction **ConocoPhillips Alaska Construction Machinery Industrial** Contract Consultants Coremonaers **Crowley Alaska Cruz Construction** 

Dowland-Bach Corp. **Doyon Drilling Doyon LTD Doyon Universal Services** Egli Air Haul **Engineered Fire and Safety ENSR** Alaska **Epoch Well Services ESS Support Services Worldwide Evergreen Helicopters of Alaska** Equipment Source Inc. F. Robert Bell and Associates Fairweather Companies, The **Flint Hills Resources Flowline Alaska** Foundex **Friends of Pets Frontier Flying Service** 

## G-M

**Great Northern Engineering Great Northwest GPS Environmental GX** Technology Hawk Consultants H.C. Price **Hilton Anchorage Holaday-Parks** Horizon Well Logging **Hotel Captain Cook** Hunter 3-D **Industrial Project Services** Inspirations Jackovich Industrial & Construction Supply Judy Patrick Photography **Kenai** Aviation **Kenworth Alaska** King Street Storage Kuukpik - LCMF LaBodega Last Frontier Air Ventures Lounsbury & Associates Lynden Air Cargo Lynden Air Freight Lynden Inc. Lynden International Lynden Logistics Lynden Transport Mapmakers of Alaska **Marathon Oil Marketing Solutions Mayflower Catering MI Swaco MRO** Sales

## N-P

Nabors Alaska Drilling NANA/Colt Engineering Natco Canada Nature Conservancy, The **NEI Fluid Technology NMS Employee Leasing** Nordic Calista North Slope Telecom Northern Air Cargo Northern Transportation Co. Northland Wood Products **Northwest Technical Services Offshore Divers Oilfield Improvements Oilfield Transport Opti Staffing Group** P.A. Lawrence Panalpina PDC Harris Group Peak Oilfield Service Co. Penco Petroleum Equipment & Services Petrotechnical Resources of Alaska PGS Onshore Prudhoe Bay Shop & Storage PTI Group

## Q-Z

OUADCO **Rain for Rent** Salt + Light Creative Schlumberger **Seekins Ford** Shaw Alaska **Spenard Builders Supply** STEELFAB **3M Alaska** Tire Distribution Systems (TDS) Total Safety U.S. Inc. TOTE **Totem Equipment & Supply Tubular Solutions Alaska Udelhoven Oilfield Systems Services** Unique Machine Univar USA Usibelli **U.S. Bearings and Drives** VECO Welding Services WesternGeco **Xtel International XTO Energy** 

## CONTENTS



## **COMPANY NEWS**

- **43** Acuren recognizes significant personnel changes • Alaska Railroad Corporation posts earnings of \$10.4 million • John Dittrich named Arctic Structures GM in Alaska • NAC begins regular service with new Boeing freighters
- 44 Cellular One announces wireless Samaritans • NACLink adds Shiloh MacCabe to operations Team • NACLink adds Roslyn Mitchell as GM
   • Northwest Technical Services celebrates milestones



- **45** Anchorage photographer launches new Web site Rain for Rent introduces new high-flow pump
- 46 Schlumberger announces latest release of Petrel Unique Machine obtains dual certifications for quality
  WesternGeco releases new onshore/offshore technologies



### **COMPANY FEATURES**

- **37** Steelfab honors a lifelong employee
- **38** New computerized simulator enhances Carlile's training program



**40** Lounsbury takes off with high-definition surveying

## **Q&A COMPANY PROFILES**



- 4 Marine service work done right in extreme weather conditions by American Marine divers
- **6** CMI gains customer loyalty with top-quality equipment, systems and tools
  - F. Robert Bell introduces new three-dimensional digital laser scanning to company clients

8

- **10** Worley Parsons acquires Colt Engineering, half owner of NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC
- **12** Innovation, hard work and good planning saves North Slope Telecom customers time, money





#### **PETROLEUM DIRECTORY**

Second quarter 2007

The Petroleum Directory is a special quarterly marketing publication of Petroleum News, which is owned by Petroleum Newspapers of Alaska LLC. The directory is devoted to promoting the organizations that advertise on a regular basis in Petroleum News. If you do business in Alaska and/or northern Canada's oil and gas industry and would like to be part of Petroleum News' quarterly Petroleum Directory, please call or e-mail Amy Spittler for details at: 907 770-3506 or aspittler@PetroleumNews.com

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Cover photo: Rob Moore, survey technician, out on a typical job site where high-definition surveying could be implemented.

Courtesy Lounsbury & Associates

# Marine service work done right in extreme weather conditions by American Marine divers

American Marine's retrofitted, state-of-the-art dive support vessel, 'The Shamrock,' was designed for safe, effective diving operations in Alaska's harsh waters

#### Q:Where is your company located? More than one location?

A:American Marine Corp. has offices in Alaska (Anchorage and Deadhorse) as well as Los Angeles, California and Honolulu, Hawaii.

Q:When was the company founded, who founded it, and what was its original name?

A:American Marine Corp. was founded in 1973 under the name "American Divers." The company was started by three college friends - Scott Vuillemot, Robert Shahnazarian and Pat Wolter. Today, Scott

Vuillemot oversees the Alaska and Hawaii regions and Robert Shahnazarian provides oversight for the California Region. Mr. Pat Wolter was killed in 1987.

Q:Who heads up your company, and who is on its senior management team?

A:The Alaska Region of American Marine Corp. is headed up by Thomas



Paula Dawson Lowther, Contracts Administrator and Safety and Compliance Manager, answered questions for this profile.

Ulrich, vice president. The senior management team is composed of five people:

Thomas Ulrich, vice president/Alaska regional manager;

Paula Lowther, contracts and compliance manager;

Steve Stuart, senior diving projects manager;

Rick Wilson, vessel operations manager; Arthur Canilao, accounting

manager.



By Paula Easley

Q:What is the company's primary business sector? What services does the company offer?

A:American Marine Corp. is primarily a specialty marine contractor assisting companies with their marine service work. This can include oil companies doing routine



A diver prepares to dive at North Star Island off Prudhoe Bay.

maintenance and repair on their oil rigs and exploration and production facilities, communications companies that need underwater cable installed, or cities and boroughs needing port upgrades or dredging services.

#### Q:Who are the company's main clients?

A: In Alaska, American Marine's main clients are BP Exploration, ConocoPhillips, Forest Oil, XTO Energy, Tesoro, Shell, Pioneer Natural Resources and Teck Cominco.

> Q: How many employees does your company have? How many in each of its locations? A:American Marine employs about 40-50 people

in each region and, during its peak seasons, 200-300 total.

Q: Does American Marine have subsidiaries? If so, what services do they provide?

A:American Marine Corp. has sister com-

panies, Pacific Environmental Corp. and American Hyperbaric Centers. Pacific Environmental provides oil field and spill response services throughout the Pacific Basin and American Hyperbaric Centers provide hyperbaric medicine services in Anchorage, Wasilla, Honolulu and Maui.

#### Q: Describe your essential equipment in general terms.

A:American Marine uses cutting-edge technology in all of its fields of work, but is especially pleased with the recent retrofit of its state-of-the-art dive support vessel, "The Shamrock." This vessel is specifically designed for safe and effective diving operations in the harsh Cook Inlet waters.

#### Q: Is your company expanding any of its operations and/or locations?

A:American Marine, in the last year, has opened a support office in Deadhorse, Alaska. This facility will help us accommodate our North Slope operators with their commercial diving and vessel crewing needs.

## *Q*: *Is the company changing any of its services?*

A:American Marine Corp. is expanding by providing more crew boat services on the North Slope. Last summer, crew boat operations began with providing transportation between West Dock, Oliktok Dock and Oooguruk Island on "the American Pioneer" for Pioneer Natural Resources.

## Q:What is your company's main strength, i.e. its edge over the competition?

A:American Marine's greatest strength is the quality of its personnel and its commitment to safety, although truly we do not believe there is anybody else in Alaska who operates with the same standard of excellence in operations that American Marine does.

#### Q:What new markets, clients and/or projects did your company attract in the last year?

A:American Marine was able to showcase its ability to respond to any marine emergency any time of the year on Jan. 1, 2007.We received a call from a worried client who needed an underwater cable inspected and repaired near Kodiak Island. Battling extreme weather, the talented American Marine dive crew was able to inspect the cable, identify the problem and replace the damaged components in less than six weeks onsite.

## Q:What is the most challenging job the company has undertaken?

A: By the nature of our work, American Marine tackles many challenging projects, but by far, the most complicated involve projects affected by extreme weather conditions. In 2006, American Marine worked on the Sitka Blue Lake dredging project where temperatures reached 9 degrees below zero in March — a usually seasonable time in Sitka — making it difficult to keep boat motors and equipment running in the constantly freezing water.

Early this year, American Marine was again down in the Southeast, in Haines, working on a dock maintenance project. Large, unexpected amounts of snowfall and frigid temperatures threatened to hamper completion of the project, but with perseverance and some luck, diligence and professional commitment, the project was completed on time.

## Q:What are the biggest obstacles to completing work the company undertakes?

A:The biggest obstacles American



Personnel transfer from Cook Inlet Platform to DSV Shamrock.

Marine faces are nearly always weather related — whether it is unseasonably cold conditions or the minimal operations windows that come with working in Cook Inlet: Often, slack water windows only last 30 minutes at a time, three to four times per day. With zero underwater visibility in Cook Inlet, it's like working blindfolded and having only a few minutes to complete the required tasks.

#### Q:What do you see as American Marine's biggest challenge in the next five years?

A:We see our biggest challenges as (1) attracting and maintaining a qualified work force committed to the goals of the company, and (2) as a company, committing to the goals of our valued personnel. Industrywide, we are facing an aging work force, and revitalizing this work force with skilled, experienced individuals with the same high work ethics we employ will be our greatest challenge.

#### Q:What do you see as future trends or opportunities for your company from, say, political events or long-term weather fluctuations?

A:Weather fluctuations have to be the biggest negative trend we are fighting. However, on the positive side, we see many business opportunities with the Anchorage Port Expansion project as well as the eventual natural gas pipeline.

*Q: Does your company have an anniversary or other landmark event coming up?* 

A: In 2008, American Marine will be celebrating its 35th anniversary in business. Twenty years in Alaska will be celebrated in the year 2009.

## *Q:What is the average length of time employees work for the company?*

A: Many of our senior staff members have been with the company for many, many years. We have a senior dive supervisor who has worked with American Marine since the office was opened in Alaska. Along with the original two founders of the company, our regional corporate compliance officer has worked for the company for over 30 years in the Hawaii region. Although turnover is a problem every company faces, American Marine has kept some of the best skilled Cook Inlet divers on its payroll for almost two decades.

## Q:What is your company's safety record?

A:American Marine has an excellent safety record and believes that success with this program is due in large part to the senior project managers who handle safety issues in the field as well as the medical surveillance program that ensures we put healthy people on the job who are capable of performing the specified work.

*Q: Does your company or its partners or subsidiaries maintain websites?* 

A:American Marine Corp. www.amarinecorp.com; and

Pacific Environmental Corp.

www.penco.org.

COURTESY AMERICAN MARINE



Underwater mining operation in Southeast Alaska.

# CMI gains customer loyalty with top-quality equipment, systems and tools

Construction Machinery Industrial's heavy equipment lines - Volvo, Atlas Copco, Hitachi and more - keep Alaska businesses humming the way they should

Q:When was Construction Machinery founded, who founded it, and what was its original name?

A: Our company was founded in 1985 by Kenneth Gerondale Jr., Billy J.Allen and Robert Elliot as Construction Machinery Inc. It was reorganized as Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC, in April, 2002.

Q:Where is CMI located? A:We have four branches to serve our customers - Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan. All

the necessary contact information is available on line at: www.cmiak.com.

#### Q:Who heads up Construction Machinery Industrial LLC and who is on its senior management team?

A: Kenneth L. Gerondale Jr. is president. The senior management team consists of: Chee Kong Toh, director of finance and credit; Robert Gerondale, corporate operations manager; Ron Allen, sales manager; Dale Carlson, Fairbanks branch manager; and Chris Gerondale, Southeast region manager.

Q: What is the company's primary business sector? What services does the company offer?

A:We don't have just one.

tors are petroleum and min-

ing; private and government

civil projects; general con-

struction and logging. We

sell and service heavy

equipment for the con-

Our primary business sec-

By Paula Easley **CMI President Ken Gerondale** answered questions for this company profile.

struction, logging, aggregate, mining, oilfield and agricultural industries throughout Alaska. CMI represents more than 40 vendors, including Volvo, Hitachi, Atlas Copco, mentioned above, and Ingersoll-Rand.

#### Q: Who are the company's main clients?

A: Companies involved in the oil, gas, mining, construction and timber sectors.

Q: How many employees does Construction Machinery bave?

A:We have about 100 employees, with most working out of the Anchorage branch.

#### Q: Describe your essential equipment in general terms. Purchases planned?

A: CMI is a full-service dealer and distributor of first-choice heavy equipment. We are the full-line representative for Atlas Copco, Volvo, Hitachi, Ingersoll-Rand, Link Belt Cranes, Genie Manlifts, Almand Brothers, Gorman Rupp, and Fleetguard Filters; we also handle a full line of stationary air systems and pneumatic tools.

Q: Is CMI expanding any of its operations and/or locations?

A: In Ketchikan we renovated the fire station building we had acquired in late 2005, and it is now open. Our Juneau Branch is also in the process of renovation with a new building purchased in early 2007.

*Q:What is CMI's main strength, i.e., its edge over the competition? Main competitors?* 

A:As a "people-oriented" business, our biggest asset is our company's human resources. CMI is committed to continuous training and development of our employees, all through the ranks. We strive to be regarded as the "employer of choice" in the marketplace.

A team of employees and manufacturers committed to customers' needs and satisfaction is a winning team, especially when we have the locations best able to fulfill those needs. With every heavy equipment dealer in Alaska as our competitor, we have to be good to protect and grow our market share.

#### Q:What new markets, clients and/or projects did Construction Machinery Industrial attract in the last year?

A:That would have to be the crane market, through our Linkbelt Crane line. We have also generated underground mining clients with equipment and drilling accessories manufactured by Atlas Copco.

## Q: Has the company invested in any new technology in the last two years?

A:Acquiring, implementing and training our employees in state-of-the-art manufacturers' software systems that allow us to be more efficient, streamlined, productive and proactive in diagnosing and doing preventive maintenance has been a major investment. This has allowed us to optimize our customers' productivity and profitability. The latest technology has also helped improve our inventory management system to ensure we maintain and manage our parts inventory to have the right part in the right place at the right time.

## *Q:What is the biggest challenge the company faces?*

A: I'd have to say recruiting and developing our human resources to be able to present the most knowledgeable person for each customer's needs is a big challenge, one we're meeting more efficiently every day. We're always looking to find enough industry-specific, skilled service technicians to facilitate company growth.

Q:What are the biggest obstacles to completing work the company undertakes?

A:The huge, expansive geographical Alaska marketplace that demands intense logistical management and control has to Q:What do you see as future trends or

Volvo dredge used by Clearwater Mining, Valdez, Alaska.

opportunities for CMI from events such as long-term weather fluctuations?

be the biggest obstacle.

A:The focus for the future will be in cutting emissions and greenhouse gases, and that will become a major factor in peoples' purchase decisions. We're pleased to represent Volvo, which is the leader in engine technology and fuel efficiency.

## *Q: Do you have an anniversary or other landmark event coming up?*

A: Not this year, but we do celebrate a customer appreciation day every year in June.

Q:What is the average length of time employees work for the company? Are you biring for any positions?

A:The average length of employment is 4.9 years.We are currently looking for more sales staff in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau as well as additional service techs to better serve our clientele in those branches.

Q: What is Construction Machinery's safety record?

A: Excellent. I'm happy to say it has been wholly uneventful.

Q: Do you have a Web site?

A: Construction Machinery Industrial's Web site is: www.cmiak.com.

We also invite readers to visit these Web sites of manufacturers we represent.

- Allmand Brothers http://www.allmand.com
- Atlas Copco AC Connect www.atlascopco.com
- Genie Industries http://www.gogenielift.com/
- Gorman-Rupp Dealer Net
- http://www.gormanrupp.com/ Ingersoll-Rand
- www.ingersollrand.com
- Hitachi www.hitachiconstruction.com Link-Belt www.linkbelt.com Metso Minerals
- www.metsominerals.com
- Multiquip https://www.multiquipparts.com
  - SPX Powerteam http://www.pow-
- erteam.com/
- Volvo Construction Equipment http://www.volvoce.com/
- Weldco-Beales http://www.weldcobeales.com/
- Fleetguard Filters www.cumminsfiltration.com
  - BTI www.rockbreaker.com/ Ingersoll-Rand Stationary Air
- http://air.irco.com/
- Ingersoll-Rand pneumatic Tools www.irtools.com/
- PSM www.psmcorp.com/ ESCO www.escocorp.com



# F. Robert Bell introduces new three-dimensional digital laser scanning to company clients

Longtime Alaska engineering and surveying firm, F. Robert Bell and Associates, tackles new projects anywhere, any time with latest technology

Q:When was the company founded, who founded it, and what was its original name?

A:The company was founded in 1974 by Bob Bell and John H. Herring as Bell Herring and Associates. John retired in 1980 and we became F. Robert Bell and Associates.

*Q:Where is F. Robert Bell and Associates located?* 

A: Our main office is 801 West Fireweed Lane Anchorage, AlaskA: We also have offices in Wasilla, Prudhoe Bay, Fairbanks, and Valdez.

*Q:Who heads up your company and who is on its senior management team?* A: Bob Bell P.E., P.L.S., is president and CEO. Gordon Brinker P.L.S., is Bell's chief of surveys, in charge of Bell's survey activities. Dave Calderone P.E., heads up our mechanical engineering department. And Craig Shavlik heads up the civil engineering department.

*Q: Describe any partnership arrangements and when they became effective.* 

A:We have a joint venture with Chugach Corp. to provide surveying services to Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.; the Joint Venture is called CSMI-Bell J.V. Inc.

Q:What is the company's primary business sector?

A:We operate statewide, providing services to hundreds of clients large and small; clients in the private sector, in governments and not-for-profits.We also work internationally and just completed a project in Korea and one in Russia.We provide civil and mechanical engineering services as well as land and construction surveying.

Q:Who are the company's main clients?

A: Our largest clients are the oil companies and government.



Company surveyor at work on Alaska's North Slope.

Q: How many employees does your company have? How many in each of its locations?

A:We peak each summer at about 120 total employees.We have about 30 in

> Anchorage, three in Wasilla, 25 in Prudhoe Bay and 50 to 60 on Alyeska Pipeline projects (through CMSI/Bell, J.V.).

*Q: Does your company have subsidiaries?* A:The only subsidiary is CSMI-Bell J.V. Inc.

## *Q: Describe your essential equipment in general terms. Purchases planned?*

A: Most of our equipment is state-of-theart survey equipment and computer workstations. We purchase equipment as client projects call for it, or if new technology demonstrates a clear advantage for our clients and the new technology can be readily applied to a project to save time, money or manpower.

Q: Is your company expanding any of its operations and/or locations?

A:We are expanding our Wasilla office to keep up with residential and commercial

growth in the Mat-Su Valley. We are also staffing up at Prudhoe Bay due to increased demand for services. We recently hired two more civil engineers in our Anchorage office.

*Q: Is the company changing any of its services?* 

A:We are now providing a new service in three-dimensional digital laser scanning. This is a new technology that will strengthen our surveying capacity and provide our clients with accurate data that often will exceed their expectations. We are also expanding into providing water and wastewater certification and inspection services in the Mat-Su area.

## Q:What is your company's main strength, i.e., its edge over the competition?

A:We have a very professional staff that has been with the firm for many years. Most of our management people have been here 15 to 30 years.We also buy and train on the latest technology in engineering and surveying.We have clients who have used our services consistently for many years.

*Q: What new markets, clients and/or projects did your company attract in the last year?* 

A: ENI oil company on their Prudhoe



By Paula Easley

Bob Bell, President and CEO, responded to questions for this profile.



Scanner work being done for Hyundai Shipyard, Ulsan, Korea.

Bay project, Marsh Creek with their hanger project in Deadhorse, State of Alaska Department of Transportation on the Hug a Bolder Bend project, Dean Architects, Rohde and Associates, Architects, and a basket of land development and land surveying work out in the Mat-Su area.

## *Q: Has the company invested in any new technology in the last two years?*

A:We have invested in the 3-D digital laser scanner, the latest GPS equipment, and are in the process of installing a Virtual Reference System for Alyeska. Each of these technologies will reduce the amount of time needed to complete a project or increase the quantity and/or quality of the data provided to the client.

*Q:What is the most challenging job the company has undertaken?* 

A: Taking over the surveying for the Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.

*Q:What are the biggest obstacles to completing work the company under-takes?* 

A: Currently it is finding good professional staff to keep up with the work.

Q: What do you see as your company's biggest challenge in the next five years? A: If the gas pipeline project starts up it will be an exciting challenge to gear up for that work.

Q:What do you see as future trends or opportunities for your company from, say, political events or long-term weather fluctuations?

A: Once again the gas pipeline. Also, there is a lot of work at Prudhoe Bay for the next few years. If the warming Arctic weather continues, a lot of facilities built on permafrost will have to be replaced or modified. That could be a big issue for Alaska.

#### *Q:What is the most humorous story from your company's years in business in Alaska?*

A:We did a two-year project in Ulsan, Korea.At the end of the first year our project manager, who was Canadian, left our survey equipment in "storage." Before we remobilized to Korea for the second year the manager quit. Our new manager arrived in Korea and no one knew where the equipment was located.

After considerable investigation the new manager learned the equipment had been left with a bartender in a Canadian gay sports bar in downtown Ulsan. The manager went to the bar and contacted the bartender who demanded he prove the equipment was ours. After considerable discussion he managed to "prove" it was our equipment with a \$20 bill. He then gathered up the \$20,000 worth of equipment and fled back to our office.

*Q: Does your company have an anniversary or other landmark event coming up?* 

A: 2009 will be our 35th year in business.

#### Q: What is the average length of time employees work for the company? Are you hiring for any positions?

A: Most of our employees have been here more than a decade, and we have four who've been with us more than 25 years. We are looking for both civil engineers and surveyors.

## *Q:What is your company's safety record?*

A: We have not had a lost time accident in more than 10 years and only five recordable accidents in the same period.

## *Q: Do your company or its partners or subsidiaries maintain Web sites?*

A: Our Web site is www.frbcmh.com. By all means, check us out.

# Worley Parsons acquires Colt Engineering, half owner of NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC

With 20,000 employees, international firm Worley Parsons gives NANA/Colt access to worldwide capabilities and resources in the oil and gas, energy, and mining industries

Q:Where is your company located?

A: NANA/Colt Engineering's main office is located in downtown Anchorage, Alaska. We also have a fire & gas team branch office in midtown Anchorage, a plant engineering branch office in Kenai, Alaska, and 150 staff located in client facilities on the North Slope of Alaska.

Q:When was the company founded, who founded it, and what was its original name?

A:The company began engineering in 1992 with the creation of NANATest. This small, multidiscipline engineering firm with aUL-listed electrical-panel shop focused on serving the oil and gas industry. From NANATest came NANA Technical Services in 1996, which contin-



Stuart Parks, manager of business development and planning, provided information for this profile.

ued to grow and provide multi-discipline engineering support to the oil and gas industry.

On November 1, 1997, NANA Technical Services joined forces with Colt Engineering of Canada to become NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC. This company was formed to provide a broader range of engineering capabilities serving Alaska's petroleum, mining, government and utility industries. NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC has a 50/50 ownership between NANA Development Corporation and Colt Engineering, a Worley Parsons company.

Q:Who beads up your company and who is on its senior management team?

A: NANA/Colt Engineering's president and general manager is John Minier and his senior management team consists of Craig Morrison, manager of projects; Jim Steward, engineering manager; Dianna McDowell, manager of business services; Mike Irmen,



The latest engineering technology enhances arctic cold region engineering and construction management.

manager of plant engineering; Stuart Parks, manager of business development and strategic planning, and Bryan Clemenz, manager of project services.

*Q*: Describe any partnership arrangements and when they became effective.

A: NANA/Colt Engineering has excellent partnership arrangements including work/resource sharing and high-value engineering services with many of our Colt Engineering and Worley

Parsons sister companies in Canada, in the lower 48, and at other worldwide locations. Resource sharing has been ongoing with Colt Engineering since

NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC was founded. It is difficult to find enough skilled engineering resources in Alaska, and we find that this work and resource sharing has been key in helping us supplement our workforce.

Q:What is the company's primary business sector? What services does the company offer?

A: NANA/Colt Engineering is a multi-discipline firm providing engineering, procurement and construction management services across a spectrum of markets, primarily in the arctic and sub-arctic regions. Projects are managed from conception through construction, project startup and operations support.

Significant engineering services are provided for major and smaller oil and gas pro-

> ducers in Alaska. We have provided engineering support to all producing fields on the North Slope and several in the Cook Inlet area. Our oil & gas expertise includes feasibility and conceptual engineering

studies, oil and gas transportation and distribution systems, project/facility development, procurement and construction management and facility engineering.

NANA/Colt Engineering also provides traditional multidiscipline design services and EPCM services to the utility and mining industries. Markets served include power generation, transmission and distribution,



By Paula Easley

cross-country pipelines, water and wastewater distribution, firegas detection and suppression systems and industrial process control systems.

#### While NANA/Colt

Engineering strives to provide the highest-quality services with best value in meeting our customers' needs, we continue to live by our core values. Our core values are: "Honesty and integrity shall govern our activities, commitments made will be fulfilled, and all individuals will be treated with dignity and respect."

## Q: How many employees does your company have?

A: NANA/Colt Engineering is in a significant growth period and currently employs over 450 engineers, designers, and support personnel.

## *Q: Describe your essential equipment in general terms.*

A:To meet our client needs and to be a premier engineering contractor within Alaska, we continue to invest in capital, maintenance and upgrade costs for business and engineering tools and software.These systems include a Deltek Enterprise System, PrimaVera Project Management System, AutoCAD, Bentley Auto Plant, and many other discipline-specific design software.

## *Q:* Is your company expanding any of its operations and/or locations?

A:The simple answer is "yes." Colt Engineering, Inc., a 50% owner in NANA/Colt Engineering, LLC was recently purchased by Worley Parsons, an international corporation that is a leading provider of professional services to the energy, resource and complex process industries. Worley Parsons currently has over 20,000 employees. This recent acquisition provides NANA/Colt Engineering with access to worldwide capabilities and resources in the oil and gas, energy, and mining industries.

## Q: Is NANA/Colt changing any of its services?

A:We aren't changing services, but we are expanding both services and markets. We will continue to focus on our strengths and capabilities in the engineering sector,



NANA/Colt specializes in providing facility and field engineering and design support in remote locations.

and look forward to expanding our activity in the utility related industries.

## Q:What is your company's main strength, i.e., its edge over the competition?

A: NANA/Colt Engineering believes it is our employees who give us the edge over our competition. Our employees provide the high-quality skills and expertise required for NANA/Colt Engineering to provide the highest-quality products, excellent service and best value to meet our customer needs.

## *Q: Has the company invested in any new technology in the last two years?*

A: Over the last year, NANA/Colt Engineering has implemented a new Deltek ERP system, which positions us for future expansion and growth.Additional investments have been made in software that utilizes the Deltek platform, thus enhancing our cost recording, reporting, and earnedvalue management approach.

Additionally we have invested significant resources in our IT infrastructure and collaborative tools like SharePoint.

## Q:What are the biggest obstacles to completing work the company undertakes?

A: Currently, our biggest obstacle is attracting enough high-quality, skilled employees who want to live in Alaska. With the predicted work in Alaska over the next 10 years, this will be a long-term problem for many Alaska employers.

Q:What do you see as your company's biggest challenge in the next five years?

A:The same as the previous question – attracting the people we need.

*Q: Does your company have an anniversary or other landmark event coming up?* 

A: In November 2007, NANA/Colt will celebrate its tenth anniversary.

Q:What is the average length of time employees work for the company? Are you hiring for any positions?

A:We focus on making NANA/Colt Engineering a place that our employees want to work.This shows in that we have several employees who

have remained since inception and many others who have returned. NANA/Colt Engineering has been fortunate to see recent growth. We continue to recruit for all of our designer and engineering disciplines including civil/structural, electrical/instrumentation, fire and gas, mechanical and process (chemical) engineering. Additionally, we are recruiting for key roles in project management, project controls, records information management, material procurement, information and communication technology, travel coordination, health, safety and environmental, and business development.

## *Q:What is your company's safety record?*

A: In today's industry, safety is a key element to being a successful company. At NANA/Colt, we are committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for our employees, our customer and our contractors' personnel. NANA/Colt has a comprehensive safety program with active participation by all members of our staff. We foster a culture of immediate reporting and an open door policy for reporting any and all safety and health-related nearmisses, observations and incidents.

Currently, NANA/Colt has maintained an incident rate of less than .8 over the past 4 years and has achieved over 2 million man-hours without a lost-time injury.

## *Q: Does your company or its partners or subsidiaries maintain websites?*

A:We do, and we encourage people to check us out at:www.nana-colt.com, www.nanA:com, www.colteng.com or www.worleyparsons.com.

# Innovation, hard work and good planning saves North Slope Telecom customers time, money

From Anchorage garage to major telecommunications engineering and construction company, NSTI serves remote oil and mining projects

## *Q:Where is North Slope Telecom Inc. located?*

A: Our main office is at 2020 East Dowling, Suite 3, Anchorage, Alaska 99507. We also have customer-provided facilities on the North Slope of Alaska.

Q:When was the company founded, who founded it, and what was its original name?

A: NSTI was founded in 1980 by William "Bill" Laxson. He started the company in his East Anchorage garage after recognizing a need for a telecommunications company that specialized in supporting remote oil exploration drilling projects. It has maintained the same name since.



Bill Laxson, NSTI president, provided answers to these questions.

*Q:Who beads up NSTI and who is on its senior management team?* 

A: Bill Laxson is the sole proprietor, president and primary engineer. Dave Smith is vice president and manager of operations. His primary responsibilities are coordination of the company's work efforts in the field and Anchorage, marketing and customer development. Jim Peterson is the manager of the projects and engineering group. His group is responsible for providing project budgets, schedules, cost tracking, customer reporting and systems designs.

Jim is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Sharon Kazem is administration and finance manager. Her group handles finances, human resources, IT support and administrative support.

*Q:What is the company's primary business sector?* 

A: It has traditionally been the oil and gas industry. We have recently developed a number of clients in the mining industry and have also successfully entered the



**By Paula Easley** 

Helicopter taking off from a mountaintop radio site.

world of government contracting.

*Q: How many employees does NSTI have?* 

A: NSTI currently has 53 employees. All are based out of Anchorage.

## *Q: Describe your essential equipment in general terms. Purchases planned?*

A: NSTI has the latest in electronics test equipment, communications tower safety equipment and an onsite electronics labo-

ratory for systems design, configuration and testing. Our radio repair shop can handle most models of all major manufacturers.

Custom designs require us to have a complete fabrica-

tion shop for metals, plastics and other common materials. We continue to expand our custom fabrication and equipment repair capabilities. We also are planning purchases of new radio, fiber optic and communications circuit testing equip-



## *Q:* Is your company expanding any of its operations and/or locations?

A:Yes, we plan an expansion into other states as requested by several customers. We are regularly approached about performing work internationally.

*Q*: Is the company changing any of its services?

A: No, we are a complete "one stop shop" and plan to remain one. My boss said it best when he told me, "Dave, find something you do well and stick to it." In the 10 years I've worked here this

advice has served me well.

*Q:What is your company's main strength, i.e., its edge over the competition?* 

A:A primary strength is our well-round-

ed technical staff. For instance, most companies have one guy that does only telephones, another that does only radio and still another that does only cable or tower work. We have a training program that uses both in-house and formal training to expand our technicians' capabilities. This allows us to shift an onsite technician "on the fly" to perform just-in-time work for our customers, thus maximizing the customer's dollar and our flexibility. It also reduces the need for larger crews to perform the same work. Our procurement and shipping departments are amazing. They can get almost anything to almost any place in Alaska or the world with little notice.A lot of our customers use this to their advantage in time-sensitive situations.

## *Q:What new markets, clients and/or projects did your company attract in the last year?*

A:We built two transportable communications packages for the State of Alaska and the federal government in partnership with Motorola Inc. It can be flown, trucked or transported by ship to any location in the state. The package includes a trunked radio system, satellite terminal, power generation, telescoping tower and a dispatch module. It is a part of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) system intended for use in emergency situations or as a temporary solution for outages and areas outside the ALMR System's normal coverage. We were also selected construction contractor for the Oooguruk oil field on the North Slope and continue to develop agreements with several new independents.

## *Q: Has the company invested in any new technology in the last two years?*

A: In the telecommunications industry investment in new technologies is a requirement. Voice over IP technology is one of the newer ones we have been investing in. Additionally, recent advancements in fiber optic technology have required a large amount of investment capital.

## *Q:What is the most challenging job the company has undertaken?*

A: Construction of the Alpine oil field. It was the first project of this size and complexity that NSTI had attempted since its support of the Exxon Valdez oil spill cleanup effort. To compound this was the fact that an oil field this large had not been built in the state since the Kuparuk



Installing a microwave radio antenna during the Alpine project.

field was developed in the 1980s. This left us with a situation where very few people with an institutional memory of that effort were available for hire.

NSTI at the time had only 15 or 16 employees and the amount of work and manpower required to finish this project was incredible. We made up for the limited qualified technical manpower available by hiring the best we could find and using them to train lesser qualified but highly intelligent and highly motivated people.

We also used an innovative approach of prebuilding and configuring systems into packages in our Anchorage shops and shipping them to crews on the project for final assembly and testing. This ability to maximize the use of our technical staff and adjust to very fluid situations gave us the edge we needed to complete the project on time.

## Q: What are the biggest obstacles to completing work the company undertakes?

A: Effectively managing resources. Technical staffing issues continue to be the biggest single challenge. Alaska's geographic location and a basic ignorance of the advantages to relocating to Alaska make recruiting difficult. I will say that once we bring somebody here they are usually happy they came. Q: What do you see as your company's biggest challenge in the next five years?

A: Managing growth. We are constantly being offered projects and it can be a challenge to sort through them and pursue only that which complements our plans for the future. Another challenge is keeping with our corporate philosophy of being a family friendly company and continuing to satisfy our customers' needs. Another is to develop a strategy for continued expansion into markets outside Alaska. We have some great ideas for doing work that will allow us to be very competitive with telecommunications construction companies in the Lower 48 and elsewhere.

Q: What do you see as future trends or opportunities for your company from, say, political events or long-term weather fluctuations?

A: In Alaska the most obvious is the gas pipeline, but I see the continued influx of smaller independents as an important development. Also, the renewed interest in minerals and other resources besides oil and gas is great for Alaska. This is fueled by the rising costs of metals, coal, and probably a little by political churn in foreign countries.

## *Q:What is the average length of time employees work for the company?*

A:The average employee works at NSTI for 5-7 years. Several have been with us more than 10 years. Some who leave return to work for us later, and most credit the great working environment for their return. We are always looking for talent, especially in the technical area. We need engineers, project managers, procurement specialists, telecommunications installers and technicians.

## *Q: What is your company's safety record?*

A: NSTI has an excellent safety record. Our last lost time accident was six years and 400,000 hours ago. We credit this to having a high awareness of the need to work both smart and safe. We hold regular training and safety meetings and also note and learn from mistakes other contractors make.

## *Q: Does your company maintain a Web site?*

A:Yes, NSTI can be found at www.nstiak.com.



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#### Air Logistics of Alaska

1915 Donald Ave. Fairbanks, AK 99701 Phone: (907) 452-1197 Fax: (907) 452-4539 Contact: Dave Scarbrough Phone: Anchorage: (907) 248-3335 E-mail: dave.scarbrough@bristowgroup.com Helicopter contract and charter services.

#### Alaska Air Cargo

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#### **Frontier Flying Service**

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#### **Kenai** Aviation

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## **Categories in this directory**

Air Passenger/Charter & Support14
Architecture
Arctic Engineering15
Arctic Gear
Aviation Fuel Sales/ Bulk Diesel15
Bearings
Buildings – Lease Space
Buildings – Modular16
Camps, Catering & Lodging16
Cellular Communications16
Chemical Analytical Lab16
Chemicals
Civil & Hazardous Waste16
Commercial Diving17
Communications17
Construction Equipment & Materials
Construction Project Management
Consulting
Contractor – General19
Contractor – Pipeline19
Control Systems
Corrosion Analysis20
Drilling & Well Services
Electrical
Employee Services
Employment Services21
Energy Services
Engineering Services22
Environmental Engineering23
Environmental Response & Cleanup23
Environmental Supplies23
Equipment & Heavy Hauling23
Equipment Sales/Rental24
Expeditor/Clerk Services24

Fertilizer
Freight/Shipping & Cargo25
Fueling Services
General Oilfield Supplies
Geophysical & Geological Services
Health Care Professionals
Helicopter Contract/Charter Services
Hoses, Hydraulic & Industrial
Industrial Gases
Industrial Parts & Supply
Information Technology Consulting
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Space Design/Planning	
Steel Fabrication	
Steel Sales	
Surveying & Mapping34	
Telephone Equipment & Sales	
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Vehicle Sales/Rental/Repair	
Welding	
Weld Repairs/Manufacturing	
Wire Rope	

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#### Web site: www.lfav.com

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#### **Arctic Gear**

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#### **PGS Onshore**

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375 West Riverview Soldotna, AK 99669 Contact: Clifton M. Posey Phone: 907-953-2361 E-mail: clif@posey.org Website: CoreMongers.com CoreMongers specializes in high-resolution core photography and other whole core services including core slabbing and core plugging. CoreMongers is based locally in Anchorage.

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351 E. 92nd Ave, Ste. A Anchorage, AK 99515 Contact: Bernie Leas, AK operations mgr. Phone: (907) 563-7002 Fax: (907) 563-7005 E-mail: bleas@mudloggers.com California office 711 St. Andrews Way Lompoc, CA 93436 Phone: (805) 733-0972 Website: www.horizon-well-logging.com Wellsite geologists and mudlogging services. Experienced veterans with proven success steering horizontal wells, determining stratigraphic horizons, and evaluating shows. Independent, insightful data handling, reporting and communication.

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A subsidiary of Sumitomo Corp. 5839 Old Seward Hwy Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Pat Hanley, general mgr. Phone: (907) 563-3012 Fax: (907) 562-1376 E-mail: pat.hanley@umalaska.com Website: www.umalaska.com Website: www.umalaska.com Connections; API 5CT, API 7B, Grant Prideco H-Series, Hydril, Hunting, Atlas Bradford, NS Technology Co. Inc. Vallourec and Vam PTS proprietary connections.

#### **Pipeline Maintenance**

American Marine Corp. 6000 A St. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Tom Ulrich, vice president Phone: (907) 562-5420 Fax: (907) 562-5426 E-mail: Alaska@amarinecorp.com Website: www.amarinecorp.com American Marine Corporation specializes in marine construction, commercial diving, pipeline and platform inspection, repair and maintenance, underwater welding, dredging, vessel support, crew boat services and vessel inspection and repairs.

## ASRC Energy Services – Pipeline, Power & Communications

3900 C St., Ste. 602 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Pat Egger Phone: (907) 339-6400 Fax: (907) 339-6445 E-mail: pat.egger@asrcenergy.com Website: www.asrcenergy.com Pipeline construction and maintenance, electrical and fiber optic cable installation.

#### **Flowline Alaska**

1881 Livengood Fairbanks, AK 99701 Contact: Richard Schok Phone: (907) 456-4911 Fax: (907) 456-1194 Flowline has three-pipe insulation, fabrication, and coating facilities encompassing over 45,000 ft of enclosed production area, on a 22acre site in Fairbanks that offers substantial area for material handling and staging, and a dedicated rail spur.

#### Peak Oilfield Service Co.

2525 C St., Ste. 201 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Mike O'Connor, president Phone: (907) 263-7000 Fax: (907) 263-7070 E-Mail: moconnor@peakalaska.com Website: www.peakalaska.com Alaska based general contractors.

#### VECO

949 E. 36th Ave., Ste. 500 Anchorage, AK 99508 Contact: Tom Maloney Phone: (907) 762-1505 Fax: (907) 762-1600 E-mail: Tom.Maloney@veco.com Website: www.VECO.com VECO is a multi-national corporation that provides services, project management, engineering, procurement, construction, operations and maintenance – to the energy, resource and process industries and the public sector.

#### Plumbing

#### **Udelhoven Oilfield Service Co.**

184 E. 53rd Ave. Anchorage, AK 99518 Phone: (907) 344-1577 Fax: (907) 522-2541 Nikiski office P.O. Box 8349 Nikiski, AK 99635 Phone: (907) 776-5185 Fax: (907) 776-8105 Prudhoe Bay office Pouch 340103 Prudhoe Bay, AK 99734 Phone: (907) 659-8093 Fax: (907) 659-8489 *Serving Alaska for more than 35 years.* 

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#### H.C. Price Co.

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Pacific Power Products 8001 Petersburg St. Anchorage, AK 99507 Contact: Sales, service & parts Phone: (907) 522-3434 Fax: (907) 522-1198 Website: www.pacificdda.com Fairbanks office 3177 N. Van Horn Rd. Fairbanks, AK 99709 Phone: (907) 479-1235 Fax: (907) 479-1237 We are distributors for Detroit Diesel, Allison and Kohler. We have served Alaska for over 30 years with quality products for the petroleum industry.

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#### Arctic Controls

1120 E. 5th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Scott Stewart, president Phone: (907) 277-7555 Fax: (907) 277-9295 E-mail: sstewart@arcticcontrols.com Website: www.arcticcontrols.com An Alaskan owned and operated company since 1985, Arctic Controls, Inc. has been highly successful as manufacturer representatives for the state of Alaska in the Process Control and Instrumentation field. Selling equipment to the oil and gas markets, mining and water wastewater/municipal markets.

#### Natco Group

P.O. Box 850, Stn. T Calgary, Alberta T2H2H3 Contact: Terry Murtagh, mgr. business development Phone: (403) 203-2138 Fax: (403) 236-0488 E-mail: sales@natco-ca.com Website: www.natcogroup.com Natco Group engineers, designs and manufactures process, wellhead and water treatment equipment and systems used in the production of oil and gas worldwide.

#### Procurement Services

Alaska Anvil 509 W. 3rd Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501–2237 Contact: Frank Weiss Phone: (907) 276-2747 Fax: (907) 279-4088 Website: anvilcorp.com Kenai office 50720 Kenai Spur Hwy, Mile 24.5 Kenai, AK 99611 Phone: (907) 776-5870 Fax: (907) 770-5871 Multi-discipline engineering and design services including construction management for petro-chemical and heavy industrial client projects.

#### **MRO Sales**

5631 Silverado Way, Unit G Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Don Powell Phone: (907) 248-8808 Fax: (907) 248-8878 E-mail: Sales1@mrosalesinc.com Website: www.mrosalesinc.com Kenai: Al Hull (907) 335-2782 Prudhoe Bay: Joe Bob Bruster (907) 659-2868 We provide Professional Procurement Service for hard-to-find supplies, parts and equipment. Regardless of your location, you will receive service that is guaranteed to meet your requirements. From Anchorage to Siberia, from shipping to communications, you receive service from the experts that have 'Been There, Done That'.

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700 G St., 5th floor Anchorage, AK 99501 Contract: John Minier Phone: (907) 273-3900 Fax: (907) 273-3990 NANA/Colt offers project management, engineering, design, construction management, and procurement services to the oil industry.

#### **Tubular Solutions Alaska, LLC**

310 K St., Ste. 402 Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: John Harris, general mgr. Phone: (907) 770-8700 Fax: (907) 222-1203 E-mail: tsaoctgsales@tsalaska.com *TSA is a fully integrated supply chain service company providing forecasting, procurement and coordination services aimed at reducing total cost of ownership for OCTG product.* 

#### **Production Equipment**

#### **Oilfield Improvements**

1902 North Yellowood Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74145 Contact: Hughes Coston Sr. Phone: (918) 250-5584 Phone: (800) 537-9327 Fax: (918) 250-4666 E-mail: info@rodguides.com Website: www.rodguides.com Sucker rod guides – The Ultra Flow field installed guide, The Wheeled Rod Guide.

#### **Public Relations**

#### **Marketing Solutions**

Anchorage, AK 99503 Soft Denali St., Ste. 202 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Laurie Fagnani, president/owner Phone: (907) 569-7070 Fax: (907) 569-7090 E-mail: laurie@marketingsol.net Website: www.marketingsol.net Marketing Solutions is a full-service awardwinning advertising and public relations firm that promotes clients in the industries statewide.

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#### Alaska Railroad Corp.

P.O. Box 107500 Anchorage, AK 99510 Contact: Amber Dyson, marketing and logistics tech Phone: (907) 265-2485 Fax: (907) 265-2597 E-mail: dysona@akrr.com The Alaska Railroad Corporation offers real estate, passenger and freight services – including complete services to move your freight between Alaska, the Lower 48 and Canada.

#### Forbes & Associates

Coldwell Bankers Fortune 2525 C St., Ste. 100 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Jami Forbes Phone: (907) 952-5378 E-mail: dreamhomes@youralaskaagent.com www.YourAlaskaAgent.com

#### **Prudhoe Bay Shop & Storage**

Deadhorse Airport Deadhorse, AK 99734 Contact: J. Harper Gaston, president P.O. Box 670 Greenville, GA 30222 Phone: (706) 672-0999 Fax: (706) 672-1188 E-mail: jcrlcr@numail.org Space designed for oilfield services. Located one-half mile north of Deadhorse airport. 800 of.-1,200 sf. individual or combined units. Rent includes heat, snow removal, maintenance and repairs.

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#### **NEI Fluid Technology**

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301 East 92nd Ave., Ste. 2 Anchorage, AK 99515 Contact: Jim Carson, AK division mgr. Phone: (907) 561-2465 Fax: (907) 561-2474 E-mail: james.carson@epochwellservices.com Website: www.epochwellservices.com, www.myWells.com *RIGREPORT provides contractors with an electronic tour sheet for morning reports and payroll reporting*.

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6407 Arctic Spur Rd. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Jill Reeves Phone: (907) 562-0707 Fax: (907) 562-2426 E-mail: awrs@customcpu.com Website: www.arcticwirerope.com Arctic Wire Rope & Supply is Alaska's largest and most complete rigging supply source. We specialize in custom sling fabrication (wire rope, web, chain, and polyester round.)

#### Jackovich Industrial

& Construction Supply 1600 Wells St. Fairbanks, AK 99707 Contact: Buz Jackovich Phone: (907) 456-4414 Fax: (907) 452-4846 Anchorage office 1716 Post Rd. Phone: (907) 277-1406 Fax: (907) 278-1700 24-hour emergency service. With 30 years of experience, we're experts on arctic conditions and extreme weather.

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43784 Kenai Spur Hwy. Kenai, AK 99611 Contact: Randy Harris, branch mgr. Phone: (907) 283-4487 Fax: (907) 283-4528 E-mail: rharris@rainforrent.com Website: www.rainforrent.com Other office 1642 Bannister Dr. Anchorage, AK 99508 Phone: (907) 440-2299 Rain for Rent combines rental tanks and filtration systems for solutions to temporary liquidhandling needs. We offer engineering and onsite personnel – 24/7, 365 days a year.

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HC04 Box 9323 Palmer, AK 99645 Contact: Dave or Dana Cruz Phone: (907) 746-3144 Fax: (907) 746-5557 E-mail: info@cruzconstruct.com General contractor specializing in heavy civil construction, rig support and tundra travel to remote locations. Ice road and ice bridge construction throughout Alaska in support of resource development.

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#### Alaska Textiles

620 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Clif Burnette, vice president Phone: (907) 265-4880 Fax: (907) 265-4850 E-mail: clif@alaskatextiles.com Website: www.alaskatextiles.com Alaska Textiles Inc. is Alaska's leader FR Apparel suppliers to the oil industry.

#### **Arctic Controls**

1120 E. 5th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Scott Stewart, president Phone: (907) 277-7555 Fax: (907) 277-9295 E-mail: sstewart@arcticcontrols.com Website: www.arcticcontrols.com An Alaskan owned and operated company since 1985, Arctic Controls, Inc. has been highly successful as manufacturer representatives for the state of Alaska in the Process Control and Instrumentation field. Selling equipment to the oil and gas markets, mining and water wastewater/municipal markets.

#### **Arctic Wire Rope & Supply**

6407 Arctic Spur Rd. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Jill Reeves Phone: (907) 562-0707 Fax: (907) 562-2426 E-mail: awrs@customcpu.com Website: www.arcticwirerope.com Arctic Wire Rope & Supply is Alaska's largest and most complete rigging supply source. We specialize in custom sling fabrication (wire rope, web, chain, and polyester round.)

#### Brooks Range Supply

Pouch 340008 1 Old Spine Rd. Prudhoe Bay, AK 99734 Contact: Rob Peterson, Mike Kunkel Phone: (907) 659-2550 Toll Free: (866) 659-2550 Fax: (907) 659-2650 E-mail: robp@brooksrangesupply.com, mikek@brooksrangesupply.com Website: www.brooksrangesupply.com Your source on the Slope for safety supplies, welding supplies, automotive and truck parts, hardware, tools, steel, building materials, glass, propane, hydraulic hoses and fittings, paint and chemicals. Napa and True Value Hardware distribution. Own Prudhoe Bay General Store that carries various sundries and is home to the Prudhoe Bay Post Office.

Jackovich Industrial & Construction Supply 1600 Wells St. Fairbanks, AK 99707 Contact: Buz Jackovich Phone: (907) 456-4414 Fax: (907) 452-4846 Anchorage office 1716 Post Rd. Phone: (907) 277-1406 Fax: (907) 258-1700 24-hour emergency service. With 30 years of experience, we're experts on arctic conditions and extreme weather.

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Deadhorse Airport Deadhorse, AK 99734 Contact: J. Harper Gaston, president P.O. Box 670 Greenville, GA 30222 Phone: (706) 672-0999 Fax: (706) 672-1188 E-mail: jcrlcr@numail.org Space designed for oilfield services. Located one-half mile north of Deadhorse airport. 800 sf.-1,200 sf. individual or combined units. Rent includes heat, snow removal, maintenance and repairs.

#### Signs & Promotional Material

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620 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Clif Burnette, vice president Phone: (907) 265-4880 Fax: (907) 265-4850 E-mail: clif@alaskatextiles.com Website: www.alaskatextiles.com Alaska Textiles, Inc. offers uniform (corporate identity) programs for all industries. We have an in house, full service embroidery department that make adding your logo a breeze. We also offer safety award and employee recognition programs.

#### **Broadway Signs**

5941 Arctic Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Michele Shockley Phone: (907) 562-0404 Fax: (907) 561-5545 E-mail: broadwaysigns@alaska.com Since 1969. Window decals & Privacy Coverings, Vehicle decals & Magnetics, Banners, Routed Wood signs. Interior & Exterior signage - Lobby signage, Sign faces, Sign Displays, Electric signs, Custom Design Neon signage, Message Centers, Time & Temperature signs. Service, Install, & Lighting Maintenance.

#### Soil Stabilization

#### Arctic Foundations

5621 Arctic Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99518-1667 Contact: Ed Yarmak Phone: (907) 562-2741 Fax: (907) 562-0153 E-mail: eyarmak@arcticfoundations.com Website: www.arcticfoundations.com Soil stabilization – frozen barrier and frozen core dams to control hazardous waste and water movement. Foundations – maintain permafrost for durable high capacity foundations.

#### **Northland Wood Products**

1510 E. 68th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99507 Contact: Kevin Passa, manager Phone: (907) 563-1610 Fax: (907) 563-1611 E-mail: northlandwood@acsalaska.net Website: www.northlandwood.com Fairbanks office 4000 S. Cushman St. Fairbanks, AK Forty years of utilizing Alaska's resources, serving the North Slope and now South Central too, providing heavy timbers, pipe skids, treated timbers, and fire retardant lumber.

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#### Alaska Steel Co.

1200 W. Dowling Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Joe Lombardo, vice president Phone: (907) 561-1188 Toll free: (800) 770-0969 (AK only) Fax: (907) 561-2935 E-mail: j.lombardo@alaskasteel.com **Fairbanks Office** Contact: Dan Socha, branch mgr. Phone: (907) 456-2719 Kenai Office Contact: Will Bolz, branch mgr. Phone: (907) 283-3880 **Rebar Division** Contact: Mike Galyon, rebar mgr. Phone: (907) 561-1188 Full-service rebar fabrication with in house estimating and detailing.

#### Dowland-Bach Corp.

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#### Holaday - Parks, Inc.

1820 Marika St. Fairbanks, AK 99709 Contact: Jerry Freel, VP operations AK Phone: (907) 452-7151 Fax: (907) 452-3800 E-mail: jfreel@holaday-parks.alaska.com Website: www.holaday-parks.com Holaday-Parks is a sheet metal fabrication that involves welding. We also do heating ventilation and air conditioning. Northern Transportation Co. Alaska: 3015 Madison Way Anchorage, AK 99508 Contact: Laurie Gray, agent Phone: (907) 279-3131 Cell: (907) 229-0656 Phone: (800) 999-0541 E-mail: lag@alaska.net Canada: 42003 McKenzie Hwy. Hay River, NWT X0E0R9 Contact: John Marshall Phone: (867) 874-5167 Cell: (867) 875-7600 Fax: (867) 874-5179 E-mail: jmarshall@ntcl.com Contact: Sunny Munroe Phone: (867) 874-5134 Cell: (867) 444-2441; (403) 829-9707 E-mail: smunroe@ntcl.com Website: www.ntcl.com NTCL, Canada's largest and oldest northern marine transportation company, ships dry cargo and fuel to communities and resource exploration projects along the Mackenzie River, the Beaufort Sea coast and Alaska's North Slope.

#### Peak Oilfield Service Co.

2525 C St., Ste. 201 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Mike O'Connor, president Phone: (907) 263-7000 Fax: (907) 263-7070 E-Mail: moconnor@peakalaska.com Website: www.peakalaska.com Alaska based general contractors.

#### STEELFAB

2132 Railroad Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Janet Faulkner, vice president Phone: (907) 264-2819 Fax: (907) 276-3448 E-mail: jfaulkner@steelfabak.com STEELFAB is the largest Alaskan-owned steel service center in the state. It provides pressure vessels, modules, special design items and raw steel products.

#### **Totem Equipment & Supply**

2536 Commercial Dr. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Mike Huston, vice president Phone: (907) 276-2858 Fax: (907) 258-4623 E-Mail: sales@toteminc.com Website: www.toteminc.com Totem Equipment & Supply Inc. locally owned and operated since 1961. Supplies light, medium and heavy equipment. Specializing in temporary and permanent heating solutions.

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P.O. Box 7248 Nikiski, AK 99635 Mile 20.5 Kenai Spur Hwy. North Kenai, AK Contact: Keith T. Raham Phone: (907) 776-8279 Fax: (907) 776-3311 Cell Phone: (907) 252-5466 General Contractor #27005. Oilfield and general welding fabrication and repair services including aluminum, stainless steel and carbon steel.

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#### ASTAC/fm, a division of ASTAC

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#### F. Robert Bell and Associates

801 W. Fireweed Lane Suite 201 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Chris Foster – marketing manager Phone: (907) 274-5257 Fax: (907) 743-3480 E-mail: cfoster@frbcmh.com *Civil Engineering and Land Surveying on the North Slope since 1974. Experience, technology and safety for your project.* 

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615 E. 82nd Ave., Ste. 200 Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Steve Chronic, general mgr. Contact: Richard Rearick, architectural mgr. Contact: Ken Pinard, survey mgr. Contact: Wiley Wilhelm, engineering mgr. Phone: (907) 273-1830 Fax: (907) 273-1831 E-mail: receptionist@lcmf.com Barrow: (907) 852-8212 E-mail: ktoovak@ukpik.com Alpine: (907) 670-4739 E-mail: alp1035@ppco.com Statewide contractor project design surveys; remote site land and hydrographic surveys for government and private; oil and gas development surveying, mapping, and permitting.

#### Lounsbury and Associates

Nunamiut/Lounsbury, LLC an Alaskan Native owned firm 5300 A St.

Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Ken Ayers E-mail: k.ayers@lounsburyinc.com Contact: Jim Sawhill E-mail: j.sawhill@lounsburyinc.com Phone: (907) 272-5451 Fax: (907) 272-9065 Toll Free: (800) 478-5451 Website: www.lounsburyinc.com Specializing in surveying for Alaska oil and gas exploration, oilfield development and transportation systems, conventional and GPS surveying, and mapping.

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600 Telephone Ave, Anchorage AK 99503 Anchorage: 563-8000 Outside Anchorage: 800-808-8083 www.acsalaska.com *Full Service Telecommunications Company.* 

#### North Slope Telecom

2020 E. Dowling, Ste. 3 Anchorage, AK 99507 Contact: Bill Laxson, president Phone: (907) 562-4693 Fax: (907) 562-0818 E-mail: info@nstiak.com Website: www.nstiak.com Design, installation and maintenance of telephone, cable plant, fiber optics, data network, VOIP, paging and cellular systems. Twenty years of arctic experience.

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4401 Business Park Blvd. Bldg N, Ste. 26 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Mary Shields, general mgr. Phone: (907) 562-1633 Fax: (907) 562-5875 E-mail: mshields@pdstech.com Website: www.pdstech.com Computer software training on state-of-theart programs and employability coaching.

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6000 A St. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Tom Ulrich, vice president Phone: (907) 562-5420 Fax: (907) 562-5426 E-mail: Alaska@amarinecorp.com Website: www.amarinecorp.com American Marine Corporation specializes in marine construction, commercial diving, pipeline and platform inspection, repair and maintenance, underwater welding, dredging, vessel support, crew boat services and vessel inspection and repairs.

#### **Offshore Divers**

5400 Eielson St. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Don Ingraham, owner/mgr. Contact: Leif Simcox, owner/oper. mgr. Phone: (907) 563-9060 Fax: (907) 563-9061 E-mail: dingraham@offshoredivers.com Website: http://www.offshoredivers.com Offshore Divers is an Alaska owned diving contractor specializing in sub-sea oilfield work on mooring systems, pipelines, platforms and docks in Cook Inlet, on the North Slope and in Valdez.

#### **Underwater Welding**

#### American Marine Corp.

6000 A St. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Tom Ulrich, vice president Phone: (907) 562-5420 Fax: (907) 562-5426 E-mail: Alaska@amarinecorp.com Website: www.amarinecorp.com American Marine Corporation specializes in marine construction, commercial diving, pipeline and platform inspection, repair and maintenance, underwater welding, dredging, vessel support, crew boat services and vessel inspection and repairs.

#### **Offshore Divers**

5400 Eielson St. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Don Ingraham, owner/mgr. Contact: Leif Simcox, owner/oper. mgr. Phone: (907) 563-9060 Fax: (907) 563-9061 E-mail: dingraham@offshoredivers.com Website: http//www.offshoredivers.com Offshore Divers is an Alaska owned diving contractor specializing in sub-sea oilfield work on mooring systems, pipelines, platforms and docks in Cook Inlet, on the North Slope and in Valdez.

#### Vehicle Sales/Rental/Repair

#### **Kenworth Alaska**

2838 Porcupine Dr. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Jim Scherieble, branch mgr. Phone: (907) 279-0602 Phone: (800) 478-0602 Fax: (907) 258-6639 E-mail: parts@kenworthalaska.com E-mail: sales@kenworthalaska.com Website: www.kenworthalaska.com Fairbanks office 3730 Braddock St. Fairbanks, AK 99701 Contact: Tom Clements, branch mgr. Phone: (907) 455-9900 Fax: (907) 479-8295 Kenworth Alaska is a full service truck dealership in two locations – Anchorage and Fairbanks. New and used truck sales, parts and service.

#### **Seekins Ford Lincoln Mercury**

1625 Old Steese Hwy. Fairbanks, AK 99701 Contact: Steven Angel, fleet sales mgr. Phone: (907) 459-4044 Fax: (907) 450-4007 E-mail: fleetsales@seekins.com Website: www.seekins.com Ford Lincoln Mercury dealer located in Fairbanks Alaska providing solutions to your transportation needs. Parts and service support in Fairbanks and Prudhoe Bay.

#### Welding

#### 3M Alaska

11151 Calaska Cir. Anchorage, AK 99515 Contact: Paul Sander, manager Phone: (907) 522-5200 Fax: (907) 522-1645 E-mail: innovation.3malaska@mmm.com Website: www.3m.com Serving Alaska for over 34 years, 3M Alaska offers total solutions from the wellhead to the retail pump with a broad range of products and services – designed to improve safety, productivity and profitability.

#### **Flowline Alaska**

1881 Livengood Fairbanks, AK 99701 Contact: Richard Schok Phone: (907) 456-4911

#### Fax: (907) 456-1194

Flowline has three-pipe insulation, fabrication, and coating facilities encompassing over 45,000 ft of enclosed production area, on a 22acre site in Fairbanks that offers substantial area for material handling and staging, and a dedicated rail spur.

#### Holaday – Parks, Inc.

1820 Marika St. Fairbanks, AK 99709 Contact: Jerry Freel, VP operations AK Phone: (907) 452-7151 Fax: (907) 452-3800 E-mail: jfreel@holaday-parks.alaska.com Website: www.holaday-parks.com Holaday-Parks is a sheet metal fabrication that involves welding. We also do heating ventilation and air conditioning.

#### **Udelhoven Oilfield Service Co.**

184 E. 53rd Ave. Anchorage, AK 99518 Phone: (907) 344-1577 Fax: (907) 522-2541 Nikiski office P.O. Box 8349 Nikiski, AK 99635 Phone: (907) 776-5185 Fax: (907) 776-8105 Prudhoe Bay office Pouch 340103 Prudhoe Bay, AK 99734 Phone: (907) 659-8093 Fax: (907) 659-8489 Serving Alaska for more than 35 years.

#### Welding Services

P.O. Box 7248 Nikiski, AK 99635 Mile 20.5 Kenai Spur Hwy. North Kenai, AK Contact: Keith T. Raham Phone: (907) 776-8279 Fax: (907) 776-3311 Cell Phone: (907) 252-5466 General Contractor #27005. Oilfield and general welding fabrication and repair services including aluminum, stainless steel and carbon steel.

#### Weld/Repairs/Manufacturing

#### Holaday – Parks, Inc.

1820 Marika St. Fairbanks, AK 99709 Contact: Jerry Freel, VP operations AK Phone: (907) 452-7151 Fax: (907) 452-3800 E-mail: jfreel@holaday-parks.alaska.com Website: www.holaday-parks.com Holaday-Parks is a sheet metal fabrication that involves welding. We also do heating ventilation and air conditioning.

#### **Natco Group**

P.O. Box 850, Stn. T Calgary, Alberta T2H2H3 Contact: Terry Murtagh, mgr. of business development Phone: (403) 203-2138 Fax: (403) 236-0488 E-mail: sales@natco-ca.com Website: www.natcogroup.com Natco Group engineers, designs and manufactures process, wellhead and water treatment equipment and systems used in the production of oil and gas worldwide.

#### Peak Oilfield Service Co.

2525 C St., Ste. 201 Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Mike O'Connor, president Phone: (907) 263-7000 Fax: (907) 263-7070 E-Mail: moconnor@peakalaska.com Website: www.peakalaska.com Alaska based general contractors.

#### STEELFAB

2132 Railroad Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 Contact: Janet Faulkner, vice president Phone: (907) 264-2819 Fax: (907) 276-3448 E-mail: jfaulkner@steelfabak.com STEELFAB is the largest Alaskan-owned steel service center in the state. It provides pressure vessels, modules, special design items and raw steel products.

#### **Unique Machine**

A subsidiary of Sumitomo Corp. 5839 Old Seward Hwy. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Pat Hanley, general mgr. Phone: (907) 563-3012 Fax: (907) 562-1376 E-mail: pat.hanley@umalaska.com Website: www.umalaska.com The design, development, manufacture and distribution of oilfield construction, mining, fishing and government parts to industry qual-



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#### Wire Rope

#### Arctic Wire Rope & Supply

6407 Arctic Spur Rd. Anchorage, AK 99518 Contact: Jill Reeves Phone: (907) 562-0707 Fax: (907) 562-2426 E-mail: awrs@customcpu.com Website: www.arcticwirerope.com Arctic Wire Rope & Supply is Alaska's largest and most complete rigging supply source. We specialize in custom sling fabrication (wire rope, web, chain, and polyester round.)

# OIL COMPANIES

#### Operators

#### **ConocoPhillips Alaska**

700 G St. • P.O. Box 100360 Anchorage, AK 99510-0360 Contact: Jim Bowles, president & CEO Phone: (907) 265-6512 • Fax: (907) 265-6922

#### **Marathon Oil**

3201 C. St., Ste. 800 • Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: John A. Barnes, regional mgr. Phone: (907) 561-5311 • Fax: (907) 5646489 Web site: www.marathon.com

#### **XTO Energy**

810 Houston St. • Fort Worth, TX 76102 Contact: Vaughn O. Vennerberg, II Phone: (817 870-2800 • Fax: (817) 870-0379 Other Office: 52260 Wik Road • Kenai, AK 99611

Contact: Scott Griffith, production superintendent

XTO Energy, established in 1986, is engaged in the acquisition and development of quality, long-lived producing oil and gas properties and exploration for oil and gas.


# Steelfab honors a lifelong employee

Vince Doran celebrates 90 good years with family and friends

By AMY SPITTLER Petroleum News

Vince Doran began at Steel Fabricators in 1964. "After awhile I retired. Richard and Janet (Faulkner) bought the business in 1988," and renamed it Steelfab. "They called me up and asked me if I'd like to come back."The rest, as they say, is history.

"I couldn't retire. I can't imagine not working; I love every minute of it," said Doran.

#### **COMPANYFEATURE**

When asked if he'd be in the office on his birthday, June 13, he said he'd be around. He was surprised that people take

the day off, adding that he'd never heard of such a thing.

"I guess you learn something new everyday."

Doran initially came to Alaska in 1941. He came up for a job in construction and joined the military when he



VINCE DORAN

arrived. Soon afterward he was flying fourengine bombers from England to Germany in World War II.

On the wall in his office Doran has an artist's rendering of the plane he flew during the war, a B-17 bomber. Next to it is a list of the 32 locations he'd successfully bombed. Right next to that's a certificate he and his fellow fliers received when they finished their tour – reserved for members of the Lucky Bastard Club. And rounding out the war memorabilia is a rare photo taken by a fellow pilot. The image captured is of Doran in flight, just as his bombs were being released. In the background enemy aircraft are closing in, and you're able to just make out enemy fire.

After the war Doran went back to his home-state of Washington, enrolling at Gonzaga University to receive his undergraduate degree. After graduation he got into flying again, operating a service out of the Grand Coulee Dam, the largest concrete dam in North America, for nearly three years.

During this time Doran married his wife Jean, and soon after, the Air Force sent them to live in Tripoli for a year. Once the couple



Doran in front of one of his ALASKAPAK treatment facilities.

returned stateside Doran began working for Morrison-Knudsen, a "great construction company," he says. "But when they found out I had lived in Alaska before the war they immediately had me moved up here. They couldn't get anybody to go to Alaska."

But family is what's kept Doran in Alaska all these years. "I was in construction for many years, and back then especially, you had to go where the jobs were." Doran remembers coming home when his kids were very young, after he'd been on a job, and they wouldn't know who he was. So he agreed to get out of construction in the lower 48 and come to Alaska, where jobs and family resided in the same place.

Eventually Doran found a home at Steelfab.As a manager he worked 50 hour weeks for decades. His first sewage treatment plant led to over a hundred more. It's his specialty, and he's designed every single one Steelfab has produced.

The secret to their success? "We're lowtech," he says, "I've found that customers who buy our plants just want them to work. We keep it very simple. And that works for us and for our customers."

Very simply put, Doran sticks to using microbes and bacteria. "Microorganisms don't need a lot of technology," he says, "they need a good environment and then they need to be left alone more or less."

This no frills approach has done well for

"Do something you love. If you don't like what you're doing, go do something else." – Vince Doran

Doran and he's confident in his design. It's no wonder he has a bumper sticker on his car that reads "Sewage feeds my family." When an honorary patent was mentioned in jest his modest nature came out, laughing it off as just another day at the office, not about the recognition. So it's no surprise Doran's approach to his work is as refreshingly simple — he likes to see things built.

Currently the company produces about three treatment plants a year, so Doran keeps busy by doing pressure vessel work and prepping for the company's certification inspections.

In 2001 he took a trip on an icebreaker around northern Canadian islands and above Greenland. "Once we hit ice we couldn't sail through, we all got off, drank some champagne, and then boarded again."

Checking his super-human status, we discussed weekend work, and he conceded that he's only Monday through Friday. But on those days he wakes up and drives from the Pioneer Home to exercise at the Senior Center, gets to Steelfab around 10 a.m. and works until midafternoon.

As for the weekends, "I've got other things to do."

Doran writes a newsletter for the Pioneer Home, is a reader at his church and an active participant in a weekly poetry hour where he recites some of his favorite works.And Doran still has all four kids and five grandchildren in Alaska.

So does he have any insider tips on living such a full life? Doran recommends always doing a good days work. He believes people are made to be active. "We're not made to lie around. Do something you love. If you don't like what you're doing, go do something else."

As we were finishing there was a party being set up in Steelfab's shop; a barbeque in Doran's honor complete with a cakereplica of one of his plants.

But before I let him go I had to ask whether or not he ever considered writing his memoirs; he modestly replied that he had "never thought of such a thing." I guaranteed him people would be interested.



Harry McDonald, president, sits in the simulator.

# New computerized simulator enhances Carlile's training program

By AMY SPITTLER Petroleum News

Carlile Transportation Systems has purchased and installed a new truck driving simulator at its Anchorage terminal. This state-of-the-art computerized simulator is the first in Alaska and is custom designed to mimic specific Alaska roadway conditions for enhanced driver training and safety. It's realistic, high resolution and interactive.

The simulator was built by a subsidiary of military contractor L3 Communications. The TransSim VS IV will be used for driver training, particularly among new hires. The cost was \$133,000, about the price of a new truck; but the estimated savings to the company will be at least that much. The simulator removes the risk of test driving new applicants on the road and ensures they have the driver qualification skills necessary before

#### **COMPANYFEATURE**

putting them through the application process.

The training simulator combines a fully operational truck cab with the latest digital simulation technology to create life-like training scenarios that improve driving behavior and skill. Subjects include defensive driving and decision making, space management, backing, fuel efficient driving techniques and correct engine operation using newer engine performance curves.

The equipment comes loaded with three channels, 180 degree plasma screens, 72 hz state-of-the- art software, force load steering, 140 engines, 240 transmissions, 33 axle ratios, Glass Dash Technology, gauge flexibility, a SimCommander touch screen and modular capability known as Omni Sim. It can be programmed to mimic varying weather and road conditions such as hills, ice, fog or road hazards such as debris or stalled vehicles. The computer retains driver performance and can be replayed by an instructor for training purposes.

The simulator can also be programmed for different types of trucks and trailer loads so a driver experiences how a specific truck reacts in different situations and with varying loads.

In Alaska, for example, long, doubletrailer configurations are common, but only experienced drivers are able to drive such a rig. The simulator allows newer drivers to get experience in a safe environment and log unlimited miles before getting onto the highway.

By the end of June, early July, Carlile will also be adding a skid pad scenario to its testing lineup to administer additional handling tests.



John McCoy preps Washington Gov. Chris Gregoire on what to expect before test-driving the simulator. Listening in is her husband, Mark.

"The new training simulator will enhance Carlile's safety program by reducing accidents, improving driver skills, increasing fuel economy, saving costs and saving lives," said company president, Harry McDonald. "It also allows for non-driving employees to get practice behind the wheel so they can train to move into a driving position."

Carlile recently launched a national campaign for driver recruitment, "Careers at Carlile." Successful campaign efforts resulted in hundreds of applicants and Carlile needed a safe and efficient method to quickly test driver qualifications.

"The simulator will prove invaluable with new hire training as well as enhance internal advancement opportunities. It is similar to a flight simulator that pilots use so even the experienced drivers are lining up to take a test drive," said John McCoy, driver education and development manager.

And to further add to the buzz, high profile test-driver Washington Gov. Chris Gregoire visited the Anchorage terminal on Tuesday, June 5 as a wrap-up to her visit to Alaska while on a two-day trade mission to confront concerns that have been raised by Alaska's fishing and shipping industries. The Associated Press reported she hoped to forge a working relationship with recently elected Gov. Sarah Palin on those issues and others, such as tourism, education, global warming and natural-gas supplies.

Fifty percent of Carlile's freight comes through Washington, and 97 percent of Alaska's total goods pass through the state. Carlile's invitation to the Governor was spurred by the company's commitment to promote a positive business relationship between the two states. Gregoire was able to spend about an hour at the Anchorage terminal, getting a brief overview of the company, a test drive of the new simulator and a tour of the facility. Despite having nearly a dozen backseat drivers nearby, Gregoire appeared to perform better than expected for a firsttimer. The visit seemed to be an educational, yet light-hearted end to a whirlwind trip.

Founded in 1980 by brothers John and Harry McDonald, Carlile has grown from two tractors to one of Alaska's largest trucking companies. Carlile employs more than 600, with terminals in Anchorage; Fairbanks; Kenai; Kodiak; Prudhoe Bay/Deadhorse; Seward; Houston, Texas; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Tacoma, Washington and Edmonton, Alberta.

To learn more about Carlile visit: www.carlile.biz or call (907) 276-7797. For more information on the TransSim VS IV go to www.mpri.com.

Editor's note: Once the governor took her leave, and Carlile staff returned to their usual posts McCoy offered me a turn at the wheel. After watching Gregoire I knew this was no video game. The governor and I both drove the vehicle with an automatic transmission, but that only alleviated part of the challenge. Implementing all four mirrors and the size of the rig alone was distracting, not to mention common bazards such as people, other drivers, stalled vehicles, and highway operating restrictions and then you get to the ice roads.

All in all the experience was intense. It left me with a greater appreciation for the amount of time and money companies like Carlile put into making sure the roads are kept safe while still keeping their clients satisfied.



On site surveying in Anchorage

# Lounsbury takes off with high-definition surveying

Adding high-definition surveying to its list of comprehensive surveying and engineering design services has Lounsbury looking forward to the future. Since 1949 the company has provided services statewide to the oil and gas industry, state and local governments and the private sector. According to Ken Ayers, vice president, this exciting technology is revolutionizing the way data is obtained and utilized.

With high-definition surveying, data is collected remotely rather than from direct measurement and it is collected in threedimensions. The technology has been around for many years, but has recently taken hold primarily due to dramatic software improvements.

The only drawback is the cost of the equipment. To buy a laser scanner and the software costs about \$150,000 in addition to the required training needed to operate the equipment. The scanner itself is inexpensive to operate, but like many high-

#### **COMPANYFEATURE**

tech applications, you have to upgrade the software every year.

"We've been looking at this for over eight years, and we kept asking ourselves, 'how do we use this technology to provide more cost-effective solutions and end products that our clients can actually use? That was one of the toughest things to get past."

Ayers credits software improvements and computer advancements for the company's ability to handle the large amounts of data the scanner produces. "We can manipulate it with the software provided and convert it into more traditional software platforms that our clients might use, like AutoCAD. The time finally felt right for us to get into this market."

The company hired Rob Moore, a survey technician, to spearhead the project. He's been involved in scanning for several



On site surveying in Anchorage

years at different companies. "It's great to have him onboard. We're well known for land surveying, and we have always excelled at implementing new technology as it emerges," said Ayers. Lounsbury was one of the first companies to use electronic data collection, computer aided drafting technology and global positioning systems in Alaska. "This is the next leap forward in survey technology," he added.

Ayers explained that high-definition scanning requires less time in the field, in addition to the tremendous amount of detail that's produced, "so our mapping is more accurate and our field efforts are more efficient." For each job the company figures out how much it would cost using conventional methods, using a survey crew versus sending a scanning crew. Ayers stressed that "you have to make sure you're using the right tool for the job and spending you client's dollars wisely."

Ayers says the tremendous amount of detail is the most extraordinary thing about it. Point data is collected at a density suitable to the application. The point data is often referred to as a "point cloud." Several point clouds can be registered together to compile virtual three-dimensional models. These models can be used in a variety of ways by design professionals who are moving toward true threedimensional design, project and facility management. "For example, when we



Image produced from recent surveying at local gravel pit.

model pipes the software knows that it's a pipe and will make it look like a solid surface that is dimensionally and spatially correct."

Keeping the product also means marketing its different uses. The company is actively pursuing projects that would benefit from the technology. Luckily the applications for high definition scanners are unlimited. It can be used to make three dimensional maps of virtually anything without having to measure it physically. It's all done remotely with a laser scanner. The technology is used regularly for forensics at crime scenes, for architecture, industrial facilities, archeological projects, bridges, and in construction management as a project progresses, to compare how the construction relates to the original design.

"We'd like to expand into new markets, and wouldn't mind having a crew ready to go on crime scenes," said Ayers. One of the ideal uses for high definition scanning is for highway closures, especially in a state with limited transportation routes. If an accident closes down a major road, scanning can be completed in as little as an hour. "With this technology you can get in there remotely so no one's disturbing the crime scene, you can see everything, including the skid marks on the pavement."

Lounsbury has used the technology on several different projects. One involved mapping the existing site conditions at several gravel pits and determining volumes of stockpiled material, for which they are currently designing a program to monitor the resource extraction and report volumes on an annual basis.

Another project included mapping of high traffic volume street intersections that greatly reduces interruptions to traffic and significantly increases safety for the field personnel. Comparisons of the scan data versus traditional data collection are still being analyzed. However, the tremendous detail of the surface data from scanning provides a significant advantage to the design engineer.

Lounsbury clients can download a free viewer that allows them to view and measure within the point cloud data obtained by the scanner. The feature is a great visual reference tool and makes the data accessible to people who aren't necessarily trained in the more sophisticated software platforms. For more information contact Lounsbury at (907) 272-5451 or k.ayers@lounsburyinc.com.





# Corporate Council on the ENVIRONMENT

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### COMPANYNEWS in brief

# Acuren recognizes significant personnel changes

At the end of May, Kim Harker, managing director for Alaska, wrapped up his time in Alaska with plans to leave the state. George Bryant was promoted from alternate project manager for the North Slope to managing director for Alaska. Karen DeMichelis has been hired for the position of regional controller in Alaska and Brent Rolph, was promoted from tank and vessel coordinator to alternate project manager on the North Slope. Acuren is the largest materials engineering, non-destructive testing and inspection company in the world. Highlights since the company's debut on the North Slope in 2002 have included the opening of an Anchorage office in August 2004, as well as adding offices in Kenai and Fairbanks. The company employs over 200 people in Alaska, and plans to continue its commitment to hiring and training Alaskans to work in the NDT industry.

Acuren is headquartered in Greenwich, CT with more than 60 offices in North America.

# Alaska Railroad Corporation posts earnings of \$10.4 million

The Alaska Railroad Corporation released its 2006 Annual Report on March 30, revealing earnings of \$10.4 million and total revenues of \$148.9 million.

"The Alaska Railroad had another solid year," said Governor Bill Sheffield who chaired the Alaska Railroad Board during 2006. "Safety, infrastructure and technology comprised the focus of our planned investments this year and we met most of our ambitious goals in each area."

Among the report's highlights is the best overall safety record in Railroad history. Passenger revenues surpassed the budget, and overall corporate assets grew considerably. In addition, for the first time, the railroad issued tax exempt revenue bonds.

"2006 capped a very successful fiveyear plan," said Pat Gamble, ARRC President and CEO. "As we review the progress of the past five years, we have already started to compile the lessons learned for our next five-year plan.



#### NAC begins regular service with new Boeing freighters

Alaska's largest all cargo carrier, Northern Air Cargo, announced the company received final approvals from the Federal Aviation Administration and has placed its first two converted Boeing 737-200 freighter aircraft into regular service. The company is now operating two of its new 737-200 aircraft with plans to introduce one more by the end of May pending final FAA approvals.

"We are thrilled to be able to announce that the final stages of our re-fleeting program have arrived," said Stephanie Holthaus, the company's vice president of cargo and business development. "These aircraft demonstrate our continued commitment to provide affordable cargo service to the residents of rural Alaska as we have for the past 51 years. Combined with the DC-6 fleet, we now have the tools to improve our level of frequency and reliability that our customers expect from us."

The new freighters were Delta Airlines passenger aircraft prior to undergoing extensive conversion and overhaul programs, including the addition of a large forward cargo door. Northern Air Cargo was founded in 1956 by Robert "Bobby" Sholton and Maurice Carlson with a commitment to serving all of rural Alaska's cargo needs. Alaska's longest-serving air cargo carrier with 15 scheduled locations was purchased by Saltchuk Resources, Inc from the Sholton family in early 2006.

Executing a well planned operations and investment strategy increases benefits to our customers, the State of Alaska and the bottom line."

The Alaska Railroad is a state-owned corporation, wholly self-sustaining without benefit of state subsidy. Revenue generated by the railroad covers all operating costs including employee wages and benefits. The railroad generates revenue through year-round passenger and freight service to communities from Seward to Fairbanks and through its management of real estate holdings along the railbelt.

#### John Dittrich named Arctic Structures GM in Alaska

Anchorage-based Arctic Structures is pleased to announce the appointment of John Dittrich as general manager of Alaska operations. John will be responsible for the day to day activities of the company including marketing, operations and finance. A lifelong Alaskan, Dittrich brings a wealth of experience from previous roles including general manager of Brooks Range Supply, vice president of finance for ASRC Energy Services and most recently CFO of Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation. Dittrich has served on a number of nonprofit boards in Anchorage and is presently the treasurer of the Petroleum Club of Anchorage, treasurer of Hope Community Resources and was just recently elected to serve on the board of the Friends of Campbell Creek Science Center.

Arctic Structures is an Alaskan corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Arcticor Structures, based in Calgary,AB. Combined, they operate three manufacturing facilities located in Edmonton,AB, Calgary AB and Palmer,AK. For more information please visit www.arcticor.com.

#### Cellular One announces wireless Samaritans

Nine Cellular One wireless users from across the country have been recognized as 2007 VITA Wireless Samaritans.

All honorees are being lauded by the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association during National Wireless Safety Week that runs June 11 through June 17.

"Every day millions of emergency calls are placed on wireless telephones around the country," said Cellular One spokesman Craig Davis. "These honorees are great examples of how important wireless products and services have become in American life."

CTIA honors wireless Samaritans annually and highlights their stories to members of Congress and the press to bring awareness to the important role wireless telephones play in emergency situations.

Cellular One, which operates markets in 17-states and is a leading wireless telecommunications provider in rural America, has been a key partner with CTIA's Wireless Foundation in the VITA Wireless Samaritan Awards for the last seven years.

Dennis Waldron from Sitka, Alaska was recognized this year. Waldron was out riding his ATV in the snow when he went over the edge of a steep slope and slid down into a ravine. He attempted to hike out and find a road. Eventually Waldron's flashlight died and he couldn't make his way out of the steep, slick terrain in the dark. Waldron then used his cell phone to call 9-1-1, but he was unable to describe his location. Rescuers were able to locate Waldron's ATV tracks near the edge of the slope. The rescue team continued down until they spotted the light from the snowmobile. Steps were cut for him, rope was used as a hand line, and Waldron was able to walk to the top of the ravine to safety.

Other 2007 Cellular One Wireless Samaritans are: Marti Mason, Gaylord, Michigan; Sue Porath, Central Bridge, New York; Susan Moss, Bennett, Wisconsin; Terry Moon, Central Lake, Michigan; Bob McDonald, Duluth, Minnesota; Christy Holmes, Shiner, Texas; Kim Pollard, Hagerstown, Maryland; Ben Harstad, Duluth, Minnesota.

Cellular One will award each of its 2007 Wireless Samaritans with a new wireless telephone and a citation of congratulations. For more information on the products and services of Cellular One, visit: www.celloneusa.com.

#### NACLink adds Shiloh MacCabe to operations Team

NACLink, the freight forwarding division of Northern Air Cargo recently hired Shiloh MacCabe as operations supervisor. MacCabe is responsible for the daily activities and operations of the NACLink office located at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. She comes to NACLink with 14 years of extensive customer service and operations experience in Alaska's transportation industry.

NAClink provides customers with logistic services moving freight to and from the lower 48 to any destination throughout Alaska. "It's a one-stop shop for getting your precious cargo to where you need it" stated MacCabe, a native of Napa, California. She moved to Anchorage, Alaska in 1991, and will be providing services to individuals and Alaska businesses alike. NacLink is a member of the Saltchuk companies.

#### NACLink adds Roslyn Mitchell as GM

NACLink, has also recently hired Roslyn Mitchell as general manager of NAClink.

Mitchell comes to NACLink with 16 years of extensive operations and customer service experience in Alaska's transportation industry. NACLink provides customers with logistic services moving freight domestically to and from any U.S. origin and destination.

Mitchell will be responsible for managing NACLink operations and sales.

# Northwest Technical Services celebrates milestones

The Anchorage branch of parent company PDS Technical Services, a privately held technical staffing company, has a lot to be proud of this summer. Not only is PDS celebrating its 30 year anniversary, North Wort Technical

North West Technical Services is celebrating an impressive 25 years as the company's first branch office.

Another notable anniversary being celebrated is Mary Shields' 20th year as NWTS's general manager. Shields and Judy Peterson, office administrator, have both been with the company since 1985.

And while NWTS plans to attend the corporate party in Dallas this July, it also plans to throw a party for its local office later this fall. In theory, both celebrations will be "mostly play" said Shields.

And these women, according to most people's standards, deserve some play time. Shields is the past president of the Alaska Support Industry Alliance and a past president of the Workers Compensation Committee of Alaska, while Peterson is the immediate past president of the WCCA. "We keep involved with what's going on out there," says Shields, who's also involved with the Alaska Federation of Business Professionals, "if you're in business in Alaska you're either really involved or you have to ignore everything."

And involvement definitely has its perks in their line of work. "A lot of what we do is with the oil and gas sector and there are a lot of issues out there that affect the industry, we have to keep on top of those things," said Shields.

Since NWTS deals with personnel on an almost exclusive basis, the staff finds it necessary to know what's going on with the department of labor, workers compensation and worker classifications, among other things. "We can't wait for someone to tell us we should have been doing something different," Shields said, "we need to be leaders, or as close to the



Mary Shields, general manager



Judy Peterson, office administrator



Local Anchorage photographer Paul Andrew Lawrence has just launched a new Web site for Alaska stock photography, www.paulcolors.com

leaders as possible in that area."

Business as a whole is going strong for NWTS. The company has dealt with industry changes in the past and plans to continue to develop and mold itself to client's needs. "We like people. Everyone in this office likes working with people," said Peterson. "There are some great people in the oil and gas industry and in the other industries we work with. It makes it fun. It's great being able to put someone to work in a job they really like to do. That's a win-win for everybody. The client, the employee, and for us," explained Shields.

And Shields readily credits her staff for the company's longevity. Peterson also pointed out the ongoing contracts with the oil companies in the state. "That's our life-blood," she says, "and they continue to work with us because we fulfill those contracts in a way that they like. We're effective. And our rates are fair; we've kept costs down throughout the ups and downs."

NWTS has built a solid reputation in Alaska. "Clients ask for something and they know we're not going to mess around and waste time. We can either fulfill a particular request when it's needed or we immediately search other options," stressed Shields, "an honest business person counts in this industry."

"It all comes down to our staff, which is committed to placing the 'right people in the right jobs', our highly qualified contract employees and our satisfied clients." Peterson said, "those things have been our three major keys to success."

#### Anchorage photographer launches new Web site

Local Anchorage photographer Paul Andrew Lawrence has just launched a new Web site for Alaska stock photography, www.paulcolors.com.The site allows customers to browse among hundreds of images and buy online with immediate download of rightmanaged photographs suitable for use in advertising, print, and Web design.

Paul Andrew Lawrence, a native of Norway, came to the United States in 1981 to earn a degree in film from the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California. Lawrence has worked extensively for European and North American companies, primarily for the oil and hospitality industry, shooting national ad campaigns, annual reports, and other forms of publicity.

Coming to Alaska in 1991, he worked as a commercial pilot, flying professionally for a few years in rural western Alaska before opening an aerial photography business in 2001 out of Anchorage. His mission is to make the state look good: not only to capture and share its scenic natural beauty, but also to illustrate the vibrancy of the industries here, their positive influence and their clean and minimal environmental impact.

The Web site contains a wide variety of images from around the world, but focuses on the oil exploration and production industry, as well as tourism, here in Alaska.

Lawrence's small business, P.A. Lawrence, LLC, is located at Merrill Field in Anchorage. He offers both stock photography and stock videography, where stock video images in HDV can be made available for corporate presentations, commercials, documentaries, etc.



## Rain for Rent introduces new high-flow pump

Rain for Rent is proud to offer one of the newest innovations in high-flow pumps. The electric VFD (Variable Frequency Drive) DV-400 16" pump is an essential part of any bypass pumping system. Unlike other electric pumps, the VFD DV-400's motor speed can be modified, allowing for variable flow rates. The VFD DV-400 has the capability to produce flow rates up to 13,000 GPM with 130 feet of total dynamic head and can be designed to simultaneously run two slave pumps. Features include solids handling up to 4-1/2", run dry capacity and quiet electric motor. Combined with Rain for Rent's total solution approach, the VFD DV-400 provides users with a high flow bypass solution that is efficient, safe and environmentally friendly.

For more information on Rain for Rent's products and services, call nationwide, (800)742-7246.

## Schlumberger announces latest release of Petrel

Schlumberger announced on May 16 the release of Petrel 2007.1 seismic-tosimulation software, which includes significant new functionality and scalability for all disciplines in exploration and development, and continued advances in productivity and collaboration. "Petrel 2007.1 is the most comprehensive release to date. It delivers a step change in productivity for geoscientists and engineers; collaboration from the field to office and back; and a shared understanding of risk and uncertainty enabling better decisions, in less time," said Olivier Le Peuch, president, Schlumberger Information Solutions. New seismic performance and scalability in Petrel 2007.1 improve the productivity of exploration teams to deliver more high quality prospects, faster. Highlights of new and expanded Petrel 2007.1 capabilities include enhanced seismic performance, handling and scalability for data sets up to 60 gigabytes on the desktop and an optional connection to a Linux cluster server for terabyte range data sets.

Additional capabilities include new fractured reservoir modeling supporting creation of discrete fracture networks and ECLIPSE reservoir simulation dual porosity models; multisegmented well support to accurately model the fluid physics in horizontal wellbores; and drilling enhancements including WITSML real-time data feeds for logs, events and trajectories for immediate incorporation in Petrel for real-time monitoring and modeling.

"The enhanced seismic performance in Petrel 2007.1 provides a quantum leap in productivity for our exploration teams," said Alan Clare, geological manager, Apache Egypt.

Petrel 2007.1 is built on the Ocean framework facilitating rapid updates and easy integration and deployment of proprietary and specialty functionality. The Ocean open development allows universities, third party vendors and clients to quickly add innovative functionality into the Petrel environment.

# Unique Machine obtains dual certifications for quality

Unique Machine, the largest machine shop operator in Alaska, has become the first Alaskan company to be both API Q1 and ISO 9001 certified for general machining services and the proprietary threading of casing and tubing.

Both certificates were obtained by Unique Machine following extensive reviews by a committee of the American Petroleum Institute Quality Registrar, the certifying body.

"Obtaining the ISO and API quality accreditations is a testament to the people within our organization," said Pat Hanley, general manager of Unique Machine. "These certifications are a reflection of our commitment to quality and to continuous improvement in customer service."

It has been a lengthy process for the company to perform all the necessary work to meet the standards of both quality programs and to implement a quality system designed to measure continuous improvement.

"These accreditations mirror the way we do business," said Hanley. "Companies doing business with accredited suppliers can be assured of a high level of quality, performance and relationship."

Unique Machine is located in Anchorage. They provide manufacturing, threading, and overhaul and repair services to every major industry in the State of Alaska. Specific to the oil and gas industry, Unique Machine holds proprietary technology licenses for threading services from most of the major technology companies located in the world, including Japan, France, Indonesia, England and the United States.

Unique Machine is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation of America and Sumitomo Corp of Japan that has been doing business in Alaska for 34 years. Along with another Alaskabased Sumitomo Corporation subsidiary, Tubular Solutions of Alaska, they supply a complete line of products and services to all major operators in the state.

# WesternGeco releases new onshore/offshore technologies

Schlumberger announced this spring

the release of three new technologies to complement WesternGeco Q-Technology services. The innovative WesternGeco DSC Dynamic Spread Control, the new Desert Explorer DX-80 vibroseis unit and the MD Sweep Maximum Displacement confirm the WesternGeco commitment to ongoing technological enhancement.

For offshore surveys, WesternGeco introduces DSC Dynamic Spread Control, the new automated vessel, source and streamer steering technology.

"Field tested in the Gulf of Mexico, this technique enables unsurpassed repeatability for 4D time-lapse studies and increase accuracy in Q enabled over/under and rich- and wide azimuth surveys," said Carel Hooykaas, vice president Marine, WesternGeco. "The Q-Marine technology platform, consisting of steerable streamers, single-sensor acquisition, and dense acoustic positioning network and calibrated marine sources, continues to evolve with the addition of the DSC system."

For onshore operations, WesternGeco introduces the new Desert Explorer and MD Sweep system. The Desert Explorer DX-80 vibroseis unit has been specifically developed to complement the Q-Land integrated acquisition and processing system. This vibroseis unit generates an 80,000 pound peak hydraulic force with low distortion across a broad bandwidth.

The new MD Sweep design methodology enables a vibrator to produce more energetic low frequencies than a traditional sweep design approach.

Historically, lower frequencies in the seismic bandwidth have been overlooked because conventional geophones attenuated them. Field tests demonstrated that the MD Sweep can extend the bandwidth of the vibrator operating at full power by half an octave.

"Seismic data with rich low-frequency content are essential to improve the resolution of deeper targets for structural imaging and successful data inversion to reservoir properties," said Mark O'Byrne, vice president Land, WesternGeco."Q-Land digital single sensors now provide a way to record these frequencies."

The WesternGeco suite of advanced geophysical services includes electromagnetic services and Q-Technology, the world's only single-sensor high-fidelity seismic acquisition-to-inversion platform. For additional information please visit www.westerngeco.com.

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