

Future Forward



The loss and impact of the 20 April explosion on the Deepwater Horizon are felt throughout the entire offshore industry. Experts fear that the spill will probably result in the largest environmental disaster to date. There has been and still is a variety of ongoing efforts to stem the flow of oil at the wellhead. In this issue a short look back at the incident.

The main theme of this issue is however renewable energy – energy that comes from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat, which are renewable (naturally replenished). Wind power, for instance, is growing at the rate of 30% annually, with a worldwide installed capacity of 157,900 MW in 2009, and is widely used in Europe, Asia, and the United States. The Dutch government wants renewable energy to meet at least 10% of the overall demand for energy in 2020, and is also clearing the way for the realisation of 6,000 MW of offshore wind energy in the year 2020.

Directly related to both offshore trends and the renewable energy market in particular, a new breed of offshore vessels is at the brink of entering the industry and includes a number of innovative solutions. The Dan Swift for instance – a former cable-laying vessel – is expected to be the cutting edge of the offshore accommodation market. An eye-catching project is also GustoMSC's NG-9000C wind turbine installation design, a state-of-the-art jack-up vessel design. The dawn of a new era of offshore ship types is fully underscored by the CSS Derwent – a compact groundbreaking DP3 semi-sub fitted with a 200t multi-purpose tower and a 150t crane; the culmination of a five-year project designed to deliver 'large boat capability' at a price of a much smaller vessel with a primary focus on light well intervention.

Last but not least, in this issue ample attention for the Asian offshore market. A rapid growth and development of the offshore oil and gas market in Asia is forecasted. It is expected that the Asian market will return to strength with a wide range of opportunities in both the shallow and deepwater markets, especially as China, India and Vietnam look to exploit their more distant offshore shelves. Further growth in offshore activity throughout Asia seems assured for the foreseeable future.

*Dennis Vinkoert
Publisher*

CONTENTS

Volume 3, Issue 3

SPECIAL FEATURE

- 8 | WHAT HAPPENED?
The Deepwater Horizon Disaster
- 40 | PRE-SALT DRILLING
Perspectives and Challenges
- 44 | CORROSION PROTECTION
The Intelligent Way
- 52 | ASIA OUTLOOK
Offshore Market Explored
- 57 | DIVING BELLS
Toward Extreme Depths
- 66 | IN THE LOOP
True Value – To Measure Is To Know

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- 14 | TIDAL ENERGY
Simple, Robust and Economic
- 28 | DRIVING FORCE
Wind Turbine Bearing Solutions
- 32 | FRENCH CONNECTION
Greening Brittany
- 48 | WIND OF CHANGE
Unlocking The Offshore Potential

OFFSHORE VESSEL DESIGN

- 18 | SETTING FUTURE STANDARDS
Wind Turbine Installation Units
- 36 | VOITH SCHNEIDER PROPULSION
Increasing Efficiency and Safety
- 60 | COMPACT SEMI-SUB
Cost Effective Vessel Alternative

SHIP REPORT

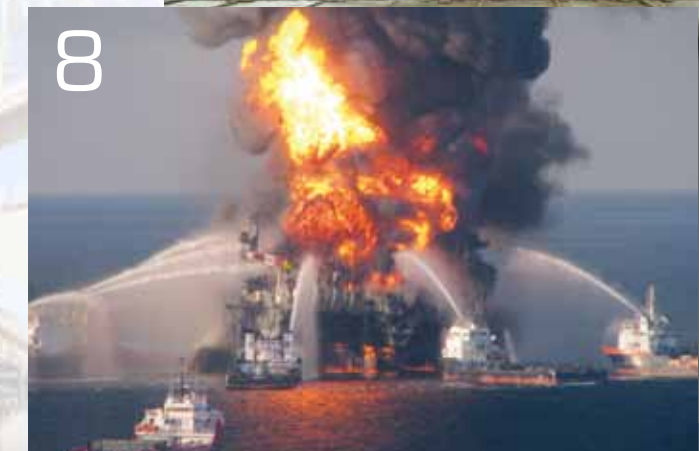
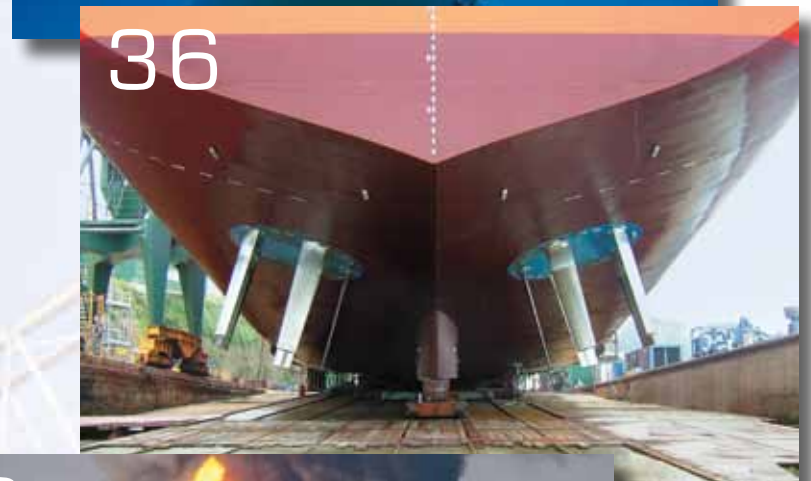
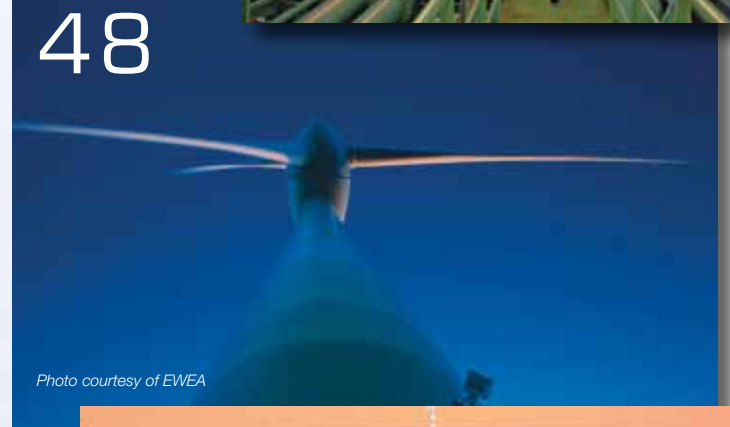
- 22 | DAN SWIFT
The Cutting Edge

QHSE, CLASSIFICATION, RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 63 | TAPPING QUALITY
Onboard Water Management
- 70 | TRUE NATURE
New Structural Criteria for FPSOs

REGULARS

- 1 | OPINION
- 4 | NEWS IN BRIEF
- 75 | OUTFITTERS PAGE
- 78 | YELLOW & FINCH PAGES
- 80 | ADVERTISERS' INDEX



Frontpage and background photo (contents): Finishing touches on the lower marine riser package (LMRP) containment cap, BP has deployed on 3 June, to collect oil and gas flowing from the MC252 well as a consequence of the Deepwater Horizon disaster (more on page 8). Image courtesy and copyright BP p.l.c.