

## Recognition



*Recognition. It's a fundamental human need. It's not what drives us to excel, but it makes our accomplishments all the sweeter. Whether it's the Maritime Awards or the Pulitzer Prize, professionals of all walks of life gather annually to recognize the accomplishments of their peers. In that spirit, Offshore Industry is proud to present an interview with Mercon Steel Structures' CEO, Jaap den Ouden, who was awarded with the prestigious IRO Award of Excellence late last year. The trigger to interview Jaap den Ouden is that no-one in this business would turn down the opportunity to hear a captain of industry discuss what's of main importance when it comes to the benefits of opportunistic thinking in the design and manufacturing process of offshore structures but also how to create an atmosphere in which everybody is committed to the success of the project. There are some fascinating insights and a terrific optimism of how vast experience can bring excitement to a successful project, when it's executed to perfection. In the very same spirit of accomplishments, this issue also examines the state-of-the-art in the Dutch offshore industry. Complete fabricated and outfitted stingers, a new generation of electrically powered rack and pinion systems for jack-up units, and fabrication-driven engineering, are but a few subjects reviewed in-depth in this special issue. They are the people doing the hottest work right now, the names you never miss when you attend a leading offshore show such as the spectacular growing On & Offshore Trade Fair which will take place from 30 March to 1 April 2010 in Gorinchem, the Netherlands. Indeed, as the cover shows, this edition also contains the Show Catalogue of that offshore event.*

*I am convinced that this new edition and show guide will play an important role in expanding business contacts. In addition, our mission is to be of further assistance and serve as your port of entry to the international offshore industry. All this is to provide you with the most informative, in-depth and useful information, insight and analysis related to offshore technology and innovation. We appreciate your interest and look forward to your feedback and contributions.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dennis Vinkoert  
Publisher*

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Front page: Built at Lamprell Energy’s yard in Dubai, the Leviathan is one of the Gusto MSC NG2500X designs of multi-purpose jack-up vessels. Her owner, Seajacks, currently has two DP jack-up vessels in operation: Leviathan and the Kraken. Where the Kraken is equipped with a helicopter deck, the Leviathan features a rack that can hold up to three wind turbine blades. Photo courtesy of Yellow & Finch Publishers (Photographer Dennis Vinkoert).

Background photo (contents pages): The construction of Maasvlakte 2 is proceeding according to plan. Over a quarter of the necessary sand was applied during the last year by contractors’ consortium PUMA. The trailing suction hopper dredgers have started to create two islands in the North Sea. Depicted is Van Oords’ Volvox Terranova applying sand by rainbowing. Photo courtesy of PUMA, Havenbedrijf Rotterdam N.V., Projectorganisatie Maasvlakte 2.

