## **Oil and gas news**

## Maxoil hires in expert

Global oil and gas consultancy Maxoil Solutions has made a key appointment to its team of specialists, with a focus on corrosion monitoring and mitigation.

Simon Schapira is a chemistry consultant and a technical authority on corrosion with 25 years' experience in upstream and midstream oil and gas operations.

He has hands-on knowledge and experience of field operations having worked in more than 150 locations in 16 countries, both onshore and offshore.

He joins a growing team of production chemistry and process engineering specialists, strengthening Maxoi's capability for adding value to its clients by utilising extensive knowledge and experience of chemical management and production optimisation.

Simon Schapira will work worldwide for the firm, which has expanded from its Aberdeen roots to incorporate a base in Houston and a strong presence in Perth, Australia, and Stavanger in Norway.

Managing director Mel Dow said: "We are delighted to welcome Simon to the team and look forward to harnessing his skills and expertise for the benefit of our clients.

"The strength of Maxoil Solutions is in the depth of the knowledge we can call upon and Simon will bring specialist insight in the field of corrosion at an important stage in our development."

Originally qualified as a microbiologist and employed by a chemical company, a move to the oil and gas industry extended Mr Schapira's work on microbiologically influenced corrosion (MIC) and production chemistry issues in upstream production and water injection systems.

Another area of interest includes monitoring and prediction of reservoir souring.

During 25 years in the energy sector, he has diversified to include onsite corrosion risk assessments and failure investigations along with consultancy on best practices for the monitoring and mitigation of internal corrosion.

## Landmark framework agreement Denholm Valvecare Ltd, the Ab-

erdeen-based valve company at the heart of Denholm Oilfield Services Division, has been awarded a landmark framework agreement to service two sites for the Scottish Energy giant SSE at Aldborough and Hornsea.

The major win follows news of the strategic partnership with Spanish Manufacturer Ringo Valvulas, which gives Denholm Valvecare exclusive distribution rights to a complete suite of European Standards products.

The win arrives against a backdrop of increased accountability in the energy industry, when standardisation is assuming a greater importance as a tool not only for increasing safety and performance, but also as an efficient and economic way of enhancing the interoperability of products. Even though a standard is not leg-

islative and governed by law, it is often quoted as best practice.

Roy Wood, managing director of Denholm Valvecare, believes that European Standards certification has a real commercial value and attributes it with the partnership's recent win.

He said: "The thinking behind our strategic alliance is to be exclusive suppliers of quality valves using materials sourced purely within Europe.

"As European materials have been subject to many stringent criteria over the years, the quality of Ringo Valvulas is some of the best in the world.

"Clearly China is the most influential in terms of global supply, and quality can be achieved with these products, but only in certain areas, from certain foundries.

"It is difficult to gauge the origination of products from the Far East, which means the quality of material and manufacture can become hard to vouch for. This is why more and more UK companies are highlighting 'full EU materials' as a requirement on their specification'.

## GoreVega announces new appointments

Aberdeen-based GoreVega this week announced two new appointments which further strengthen its position as a leading global provider of personnel and consultancy services for the well intervention sector.

These latest appointments follow recent reports that the company has achieved a record turnover of £16.3million last FY 2012-13 – and experienced significant global growth, particularly in Latin America.

The new UK posts include Rachel White who has been taken on as business and logistics co-ordinator at the Queens Road office. Working within the logistics team, Rachel will co-ordinate the learning and development tracker for GoreVega's contractors and employees. Originally from Montrose, she will also provide PA support to the senior team at the company.

GoreVega also welcomes Heather Donald to its operations division as contracts and operations specialist. A recent Law (LLB) Honours graduate from the University of Aberdeen, Heather will assist the team with personnel logistics and the reviewing of contracts.

Nathan Gore, managing director of GoreVega, said: "For GoreVega to maintain its leading market position, it's imperative we have a skilled and dedicated workforce on board.

"Our new starts are key to the company's continued planned growth and allow us to focus on providing a high-quality service to our clients and contractors.

"I look forward to working with both Rachel and Heather who have joined GoreVega at a very exciting time of global expansion. Their wealth of experience, industry knowledge and enthusiasm will be a huge asset to the business."



