



September - December 2012



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**If you wish to contribute in the next issue,
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Chairman's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The year 2012 has been an exciting one. There have been several developments that have taken place across the group of companies.

United Engineering Services International (UESI) has started its Melaka operations, which was inaugurated by YAB Datuk Seri Hj Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, the Chief Minister of Melaka. This will specifically focus on helping the group gain entry in the advanced composite engineering market. UES International and KV Resources also signed a MoU at the newly opened premises. Both UES International and KV Resources have complementary core skills and competencies in the provisioning of maritime platforms. This allows them to meet the needs of fast inceptor boats and offshore support boats to both commercial and security operators. We hope that this synergy will mutually benefit our businesses.

Mawarid Mining has received its second Omanisation award in three years at the 12th honorary ceremony for private sector enterprises for localization in the GCC recently. The ceremony was held in Riyadh on the sidelines of the 29th session of the Council of the GCC Labour Ministers. Mawarid earned this recognition due to its high rate of Omanisation in 2012. This is a wonderful achievement and I would like you to join me in congratulating Team Mawarid for this achievement.

MB Century won the Unison Overall Business of the Year Award at the BNZ Great Lake Taupo Business Awards. The event held at the Great Lake Centre celebrates local business achievements and it is satisfying to note that MB Century bagged the highest honour. On behalf of the MB Group of Companies, I would like to congratulate Marcel Manders, CEO and all at team MB Century.

MB Petroleum Services, Oman recently launched a Corporate Social Responsibility programme with the Imam Muhanna Bin Sultan School in Baushar. They have initiated a 'Drive Safe' Campaign targeting students. As part of the programme, drive safe messages have been fixed on school buses in both English & Arabic operating under the school's supervision. Two boards have also been installed with drive safe messages at the entrance/exit gate of the school premises. Furthermore, as part of this programme MBPS has also provided lunch coupons to students under the social welfare scheme. I am happy



to note that MBPS is making a positive contribution to society and we hope to sustain this momentum going forward across the group.

Petrogas Rima recently conducted a Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Awareness day for all its employees. HSE plays a critical function in our day-to-day life and the event highlighted the importance of safe HSE practices not only at work but also within our homes and the community.

As we come to the end of 2012, let us all take a moment to acknowledge our achievements and learn from our mistakes. Let's hope 2013 brings in more prosperity and happiness to all.

Happy New Year!

Regards & Good Luck !

Dr Mohammed Al Barwani
Chairman – MB Holding Company LLC

Iman Al Barwani wins ‘Special Award’ at the Al Mar’a Excellence Awards



Iman Al Barwani, Director, MB Holding receiving the special Al Mar’a Excellence Awards from H.H Sayyida Rawan Al Said, CEO, ONIC Holding

Iman Al Barwani, Director, MB Holding Company was recently felicitated with a Special Award at the Al Mar’a Awards for Excellence held at the Crowne Plaza Muscat Hotel. Al Mar’a Excellence Awards is a platform to recognize the achievements and entrepreneurial zeal of women in the Sultanate. The awards recognize and encourage Omani women who have conquered the odds and have reached challenging positions in diverse areas like business, government, industry, education and other relevant fields.

The awardees were felicitated by Maitha Al Mahrouqiyah, Undersecretary, Ministry of Tourism and Her Highness Sayyida Rawan Al Said, CEO, ONIC Holding.

On receiving the award, a joyous Iman said, “I am honoured on receiving the ‘Special Merit’ award. It is indeed a privilege to be nominated in such a prestigious category and winning it. To be honoured on the same platform with such stalwarts is rewarding and humbling at the same time. The Al Mar’a Excellence

Awards is a celebration of innovation, achievement and talent as demonstrated by women throughout Oman. It is a fantastic moment for all of us!”

She added, “I plan to continue working and making a positive contribution to the Omani society. My focus will be on the three broad categories of Corporate Social Responsibility that the MB Group of Companies has identified and finalized upon. These include The Going Green Initiative, Employment & Training of the Omani Youth and the Drive Safe Campaign. Furthermore, my family has initiated the Mohammed Barwani Charity Foundation, which I will have an active role in. Through this foundation, I hope to reach out to people & communities and contribute to their welfare.”

The winners were adjudged on a host of parameters like innovation and creativity, impact of their contribution on society, leadership abilities and goals achieved. This is the second edition of the Al Mar’a Excellence Awards. ■

MB Holding's Learning & Development Department conducts a Coaching Skills Workshop



The Drilling Fluid & Mud logging team during the Coaching Skills Workshop

A group of 16 Line Managers and Supervisors from MBPS Wireline, Drilling Fluid and Mud Logging Departments and select HR Professionals from across the Group attended a 2-day “Coaching Skills for Performance and Development” Workshop on the 29th – 30th September, 2012. They were selected for this workshop in view of their involvement and responsibility for the training and development of a group of Trainee Operations and Graduate Trainees who have recently joined their respective Programme (i.e. the “Wireline Academy”) and the “Tatweer” Graduate Development Programme. The programme was delivered by a well-known regional training provider, MEIRC Training and Consulting from Dubai.

The objective of the training workshop was to provide the participants with the knowledge and understanding of coaching and its role in supporting and improving individual/team performance and development. In addition, the workshop helped to develop skills and confidence required to perform effectively as coaches in the workplace.

The need to develop and have this skill set is seen as critical as it can help the Line Managers and Supervisors support and facilitate the training and development of their team members in a more structured, focused and disciplined manner.

The following key aspects of coaching were covered during

the workshop:

- Understand the “why” (purpose), the “what” (components), and the “how” (methods) of coaching. In addition, the opportunity to evaluate or assess their current coaching skills and effectiveness.

- The foundation for effective coaching covering the building skills in communications (e.g., listening, questioning, and giving feedback) and relationships (e.g., engaging others, promoting commitment).

- The good practices in coaching (e.g., TGROW Model), the roles and responsibilities of the coach, and planning a coaching programme (e.g., for Line Managers’ direct reports).

The training was well received by the participants. The practical examples and the real-life experiences shared by the trainer, and the opportunity to role play the various tasks of a coach helped the participants to not only reinforce what they had learnt, but also develop the confidence and commitment needed to undertake this challenging yet enriching responsibility! ■

MB Group of Companies launch online Corporate Social Responsibility programme



A recycling bin at the MB Holding head office premises

As most of you would have seen, 20 recycle bins have been placed at various strategic points within the Azaiba head office premises, in conjunction with team MUSSTIR. MUSSTIR has helped put this programme together along with Panasonic and implemented it as well.

While the cleaning & maintenance staff have been trained to segregate and dispose waste paper into the recycle bin, the company urges and encourages each & every employee to directly discard waste paper into these bins. The paper from these bins will be put in the 2 larger skips placed just inside the compound wall, which will be collected for recycling periodically.

The amount of paper collected for recycling until November 2012 itself has been 600kgs. The company encourages all employees within the MB Family to actively participate in this initiative and help in going green. ■

As a responsible corporate and as part of its overall Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, the MB Group of Companies has announced a 'Going Green Campaign' recently.

The three broad categories of the overall CSR initiatives

that have been narrowed down by the company include the 'Going Green Initiative', 'Empowerment of the Youth' and the 'Drive Safe Campaign'.

As a kick off to the 'The Going Green Initiative', the company has started the programme within its offices.

MB Training Center conducted training programmes during the holy month of Ramadhan

This Ramadhan, the MB Training Center put together three outstanding books for review that like the previous years generated a good response and learning value too.

Every year during the holy month of Ramadhan, the Training Center discontinues its regular programmes to host half day sessions that can both add value and are easy on the mind. This year was not different; the three books that were presented had a distinct appeal and insights that we seldom pay attention too.

The books presented this year included:

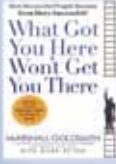


What Got You Here, Won't Get You There:

A truly simple book to follow but nevertheless challenging in its own right. Authored by Marshall Goldsmith, the book illustrates why the skills we use today may not get us where we want to be in the future. A simple technique like “Feedforward”, which helps people who use this to move ahead and to do so positively!

Start With Why: This was the second book of the season that was intuitive and stunningly awakening. When Simon Sinek, the author, presents his ideas backed with fact and some biology, the learning that transpires is truly simplistic in nature yet when we put thought to it, you realize it isn't what it may first seem like. An interesting read thoroughly enjoyed by our participants.

Great Business Teams: Another book that arouses the mind and challenges the status quo on how we think about one of the most fundamental

Ramadhan Book Review 2012
MB TRAINING CENTER
For the next 4 weeks, let's refresh and rejuvenate our minds to last us a lifetime through 3 great books and 3 enduring learning sessions!

 <p>What Got You Here Won't Get You There – The skills you need to get further and closer to your goals By Marshall Goldsmith 17th August 2012</p>	 <p>What do Great Business Teams do? Understand what successful teams in great companies do to be ahead of the game By Howard Guttman 17th August 2012</p>	 <p>Why you should Start with Why? – Finding the secret to true long lasting success By Simon Sinek 17th August 2012</p>
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All participants will receive free copies of the books via electronic and audio formats

Methodology
All the above programs will be discussion-based and led by an instructor. There will be short individual assessments on some of the programs.

Duration, Timing & Venue
The duration of each program will be 3 hours, from 8:30 to 11:30 with a short break in-between. These sessions will be held at the MB Training Center (MBTC), Ghubrah.

Target Audience
These programs are open to all employees in Job Grades H to M5

To register contact: MB. Bookin at Ext : 407 or email: bookin@mbpennell.com

A poster of the Book Review

collection of people – Teams. Howard Guttman, presents his insightful knowledge through his study of successful business teams from around the world and across cultures, markets and industry. From redefining how we view business teams to how we appraise individual and group performance.

Overall, these sessions were interesting and insightful for the participants that led us to see new ways of approaching old ideas and simple techniques to conquer what may seem like difficult situations. ■

Living on the Edge



Arif Al Kiyumi

Being a major in finance hasn't stopped 23 year old Arif Al Kiyumi from following his dream of Rally Driving... In a freewheeling chat with the Marcom Department, the young racer tells his story...

If there is anyone who personifies legendary singer Aerosmith's famous song 'Living on the Edge'; it is a young Arif Al Kiyumi, Financial Analyst at MB Holding Company.

Arif who has been a professional rally driver for the past three years, can't envision himself doing anything else. "It is more than just a hobby, it is my passion," he exclaimed.

Ever since he was a child, the thrill of 'living on the edge' fascinated Arif. He was just a teenager when he started riding bikes. When questioned about it, he immediately quips, "All my

friends had bikes, so I got one & started riding. But I had a few accidents and decided to give up biking."

"But this is what truly got me hooked onto motorsports," he fondly remembers. At the young age of 14, he started karting at the Seeb Karting arena and was soon popular on the karting circuit especially after winning his first championship. "This win really made me want to pursue karting further. I was happy to win but most importantly it made me realize that I need to work hard & improve my techniques."

From then on began Arif's

journey on the racing track and he hasn't looked back since. Following his successive wins, he was encouraged to participate in the open class championship and as luck would have had it – he won yet again. However, there was an unfortunate incident at the go karting arena and it had to be shut down. Arif was disappointed and deeply saddened when he realized that there was no place for him to pursue his passion.

When his family realized that Arif was going through a difficult time, they counselled him. They encouraged him to take a break and pursue his studies. He thought it was the right thing to do and he completed his education in arts and science. Shortly after, he started racing again.

He also went onto study at Sultan Qaboos University College of Commerce and majored in Finance. Why finance and not art comes the reply, "I wanted to work in the stock market. My future aim is to set up my own private investment firm or start my own venture."

"My family has always been very supportive and has always encouraged me to pursue my



The Safety First team

dream. If it wasn't for them, I would not be where I am today," admits an emotional Arif.

Despite being successful in college & performing exceedingly well, Arif always knew deep down that he would get back to rallying. So when he turned 17, he bought his first car, the Chevrolet Lumina SS. It was also the first time he raced professionally at the Muscat Festival in 2006 but he performed below his expectations.

Having met with bad results did not go down too well with him. He was disappointed in himself and started practicing more aggressively. It was then that he realized that apart from his skills, he needed a car that performed better and improved his racing abilities. With the support of his family, he bought

the Subaru WRX STI. From then on, with every competition that he participated in, he got better and better but the top honours evaded him.

By now, he had started participating in regional events as well but lady luck would not make a pitstop. Constant non-performance was tough on him and that is when he went back to his roots and followed the footsteps of his idols - Ari Vatanen and Colin McRae. Both legends in their own right, they lived by a simple philosophy - never give up and never quit. No matter how long it takes, success will come to you. Just be dedicated and be focused. And that is exactly what Arif did.

"I kept at the track and upgraded my car to another Subaru WRX STI with better features and kept getting better at my sport. The

victory spot however eluded me and in order to boost my performance I upgraded my car to a Mitsubishi Evolution 7. My performance instantly improved and I finished third in the Oman Championship."

Sensing his potential, United Engineering Services sponsored Arif for the 2010 Oman Rally Championship. Oman Rally Championship is held once a year in Oman in Nizwa, Sur, Sohar and Muscat. A professionally racer, Arif is now supported by Hamed Al Wahaibi (Wahaibi Motor Sports). Last year, Arif's dream came true when he bought what he terms, 'the ultimate sports car' - Mitsubishi Evolution 10.

When asked about the perils of motor sports, Arif confidently replies, "I like the thrill of the sport but contrary to popular belief, rally driving is one of the safest sports in the world. Every aspect of the race is considered when preparing and modern day cars and the gear worn by the drivers is extremely safe."

Arif takes every aspect of safety into consideration before any race and makes sure that the risks are minimal.

His message to everyone: **Take racing off the streets.** ■

The Tatweer Programme reaches a fruitful conclusion



MB GROUP GRADUATE RECRUITMENT PROGRAMME

برنامج محمد البرواني لتوظيف الخريجين الجدد

The MB Group of Companies launched 'Tatweer' – the MB Group Graduate Recruitment Programme earlier this year. The programme aimed at reaching out to the youth of Oman who are on the threshold of entering the job market. Devised in accordance with industry best practices and carried out by MB Group of Companies' highly qualified and experienced team of HR & Technical professionals, the programme aimed at producing well trained, highly efficient and capable young Omanis thereby supporting the Omanisation drive at all levels within the group.

“The Tatweer programme ensures that the group continues to have a steady supply of talented and capable individuals who can help to grow and develop the business today and tomorrow and at the same time meet its social and corporate responsibility to nurture and develop local talent in line with the government’s aspirations,” Mohammed al Kharusi, Director – Corporate Operations, MB Holding LLC.

As part of the programme, Tatweer participated in several career fairs across the country as the recruitment of local graduates into the MB Group of Companies is seen as a critical business strategy. During the career fairs, the job seekers were briefed comprehensively on the programme and the Graduate Recruitment Framework and brochures

were distributed. The launch was an instant hit wherein the candidates showed keen interest in the programme and about 2000 information booklets were distributed. Tatweer participated in the following career fairs:

- 1.SQU Career & Training Opportunities Fair 2012
- 2.Caledonian College of Engineering
- 3.Middle East College

A short advertisement campaign was carried in the leading newspapers across Oman in conjunction with the launch of the Tatweer programme. The introduction of Tatweer also coincided with the launch of Irecruitment (online tracking system), which means that all applicants will now have to apply online.

Approximately 600 applications were received. Of these, about 200 candidates met the qualifying criterion and were invited for the Aptitude Test. One hundred and seventy four candidates appeared for the test which was held over a period of 3 days. Candidates who qualified the written test were called for assessment and 103 candidates were assessed over a period of 4 days. From the candidates shortlisted through assessment centers, about 38 candidates were called for interviews. Twenty five offers have been made of which 12 have joined.

“Through the Tatweer programme, we have provided a structured and consistent approach to graduates’ early career development and ensure that they are supported and nurtured during this period. Although intensive, we are confident that this programme will contribute towards their career progression in more ways than one,” said PV Venkatesh, Group HR Manager, MB Holding LLC. ■

MB Toastmaster's celebrates its 100th session



The MB Toastmaster division recently conducted its 100th session with much fanfare at the Park Inn Hotel in Al Khuwayr. A milestone in itself, the MB Toastmaster's started in 2009 and has grown into a programme that creates leaders with exceptional abilities such as public speaking, time management, self-confidence, networking, and attention to detail-to list a few. The event was attended by MB Toastmasters (both past and present), Management of the MB Group of Companies, Area 65 TM Governor Robin Anand and the chief guest Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director – Corporate Operations MB Holding Company LLC.

The session was hosted by the current President of the MB Toastmaster club CC

TM Nahil Faraj. The theme of the event revolved around the number '100' – 100 years in the past and 100 years into the future. What made the event special was the blend of past and current toastmasters who actively participated in the occasion and made it a huge success.

The main highlight of the event was a stimulating speech made by guest speaker TM Shurooq Al Banna. In her speech, she highlighted the importance of believing in oneself and doing the right thing. TM Shurooq Al Banna is the winner of the District Humorous Competition of 2012 and was invited to be a part of the 100th MB Toastmaster session.

Mohammed Al Kharusi also handed over a token of appreciation to the guest speaker TM Shurooq Al Banna.

The chief guest presented the awards to the following winners :

Best Evaluator: MB Toastmaster Ibtehaj Al Raisi

Best Speaker: MB Toastmaster Yousuf Al Hashmi

Best Table Topics Speaker: Mr Jawed Khan



That day in Mabellah

- As told by Abdullah al Balushi, HSE Team leader, QHSE, MBPS to the Marcom team

A few years ago, I was driving to one of the sites for my duty in the company vehicle when I witnessed an accident. At first glance, it seemed to be a serious one, so my colleague and I immediately stopped the vehicle at the side. What we saw was a rollover accident and a lady was lying on the ground as she was not wearing a safety seat belt. When the accident occurred, she rolled over from the car and was lying on the road reeling in pain.

It was sad to see that there were many people standing around but no one came forward to help her. My colleague and I immediately asked people to move aside and we introduced ourselves to the lady and told her that we would be giving her first aid. I asked my colleague to bring the first aid kit which we always keep in all our cars. We bandaged her hand which was bleeding and I used my coverall as a pillow to give her some head support, so that she would be comfortable.

She then told me that she was feeling some kind of a pain in her body but was not sure where. I immediately told her not to make any movement till the ambulance arrived as there could be a possibility of a fracture. Any movement would only aggravate the pain further. So we asked her to be calm and patient till the ambulance arrived. She was also in a lot of pain because the sun was shining brightly so we provided her with some shelter.

The ambulance arrived 15 minutes later and we immediately informed the paramedics about the first aid service we provided. They



Abdullah Al Balushi, HSE Team Leader, QHSE, MBPS

put cervical collar on her neck, put her on stretcher and took her to hospital. But before that, they thanked us for helping the lady.

That day, I was not only happy and proud of myself but also thankful to MBPS for providing us with the basic first aid training. We happened to be at the accident site and helped save a life. I urge each and every one of you reading this to please enroll yourself in a safety course. If you come across a such situation at your home/workplace you should help and save a life.

It's worth it! ■

MBPS Training Centre accredited by International Well Control Forum (IWCF)



The MBPS Training Centre team along with CEO of MBPS, Madhusudan Swami

The MBPS Training Centre has been accredited by the International Well Control Forum (IWCF). It is indeed a milestone for the centre as getting this certification was not easy. Although accredited in June this year, the center has been providing in-house well control training since 2007.

However employees had to go to external institutes either in Oman or overseas to obtain their certification, which resulted in poor quality and was not cost effective. But now that we have been accredited, we can conduct the training as well certify our employees in-house. To date a total of 67 employees have appeared in the IWCF exam.

The well control certification is significant in increasing the Omanization percentage as without this certification, the employee cannot progress into a supervisory position. Through this, employees can be well prepared with their basic and advance skills and the MBPS Training Center will provide 11 days of total well control training compared to 5 days training provided by external institutes.

The centre provides 5 days of preliminary well control training sessions prior to the candidates' going to a final 6 days of IWCF training sessions which helps them in succeeding in the IWCF exam and assessment. ■

MBPS Mobilizes Well Test, Sand Management, Wireline and Coil Tubing Equipment to the Risha Field in Jordan



The mobilization of equipment for the BP Jordan contract (which the Well Test department won a few months ago) started early September.

MBPS has mobilised its equipment to Jordan. The total equipment and camp package required 91 truckloads to be sent in 3 convoys via UAE and Saudi Arabia to Jordan and then 700 kms through Jordan to the "Risha" Field which is 30 kms from the Jordanian/Iraqi border.

Because of the concern over possible extended delays at the Saudi Arabia/UAE border customs during the Ramadan/Eid period and because of the requirement for the Wireline unit to be on the rig by 16th September, it was decided that the first loads of the mobilization would be sent by ship to Aqaba and from there via Amman to Risha.

The MV BSLE "Sunrise" was contracted by our shipping

agents DHL to take the cargo and the ship sailed from Jebel Ali, after anxious delays waiting for a berth to collect the cargo in Port Qaboos Muscat. A total of 22 camp units, the "Big Foot" for the Coil Tubing Unit Trac Stack and all the Wireline trucks and equipment were loaded. As the ship had to sail through the Gulf of Aden under the protection of the International Naval Escort its position was unknown for 3 days however contact was made on clearing the Gulf and the ship arrived in Aqaba Jordan on September 11, 2012.

In the meantime a trucking contractor (PLM-Truck Oman) was contracted to deliver the remaining equipment in preferably 3 convoys if the trucks could be arranged. BP has strict standards for

trucking and lifting in all its Worldwide Operations and getting together 62 trucks in 3 x 20 truck convoys proved to be difficult as all trucks had to be inspected and passed to BP standards before commencing the move.

A 15 truck convoy followed by a 7 truck convoy left Muscat on 8th and 9th of September and arrived across the Jordanian border on the 16th September, 2012.

At the time of writing this article the trucking contractor was still attempting to get together further numbers of trucks as there were approximately 35 truckloads of equipment still to be moved.

The rig drilling Risha#46 had some serious problems getting a pressure test on the

surface casing and we were fortunate as this delay of 14 days eased the pressure of getting the mobilization complete in time for the well intervention startup.

This is now anticipated to be the first week of November and all MBPS equipment will

be on site with time to spare. The Well Test department would like to thank all the departments involved in this undertaking for their efforts to complete all the paperwork, bookings, equipment preparation, equipment recertification, truck inspections etc. that

were required to start the mobilization.

There were times when there was concern that deliveries from suppliers would not be on time and but we are pleased to note that all suppliers delivered as close as possible to their original delivery dates. ■

MBPS Commences Iraq operations



In preparation for operation start up in Iraq, MB Al Ghalib is currently building a new head office and operation support base on a 50,000sq. mtrs land, south of Iraq near North Rumaila Field. The final contract negotiation is currently on going with 2 clients to provide them with Drilling and Workover rigs. Both the newly built rigs are currently under the customs clearance process. All auxiliary equipment, camp and personnel mobilization is underway. ■



MB Petroleum Services launches Corporate Social Responsibility programme with Al Imam Muhanna Bin Sultan School



Sheikh Ibrahim Bin Yahya Al Rawahi, Wali of Baushar, the principal of Al Imam Al Muhanna Bin Sultan School & senior staff from MBPS stand next to one of the buses.

MB Petroleum Services (MBPS), has launched a Corporate Social Responsibility programme with the Al Imam Muhanna Bin Sultan School in Baushar, Muscat. The company initiated a 'Drive Safe' awareness campaign targeted primarily at the students and also the public at large.

Drive safe messages have been fixed on school buses in both English & Arabic operating under the school's supervision. Additionally, two drive safe

message boards have also been installed within the school premises at the entrance/exit gate. In its continuous efforts directed towards the development of the areas within which they operate, MB Petroleum Services has also teamed up with the School to sponsor lunch coupons for students under the social welfare scheme.

Madhusudan Swami, CEO, MB Petroleum Services, said, "MBPS is a true home grown

brand. This initiative aimed at the country's youth, reflects the company's philosophy of being committed to the nation's future generation. Through this programme, MBPS hopes to ingrain within the students key values of being responsible and considerate towards others on the roads. We would like to thank Sheikh Ibrahim bin Yahya al Rawahi, the Wali of Baushar, the Ministry of Education, the Principal as well as the management of the school for all the support rendered in making



Khamis Al Hinai, GM Operations, MBPS & the principal of Al Imam Al Muhanna Bin Sultan School signing the agreement

this initiative successful. We would also like to acknowledge the cooperation extended by Muscat Municipality and the Royal Oman Police in providing with all the necessary

permissions.”

Across its operations, MBPS is committed to make a positive contribution to the people in the community. The company

maintains the highest possible safety standards, respects the environment and works closely with the communities to address important aspects of local need and ensures that it contributes back.

Khamis Al Hinai, General Manager – Operations, MB Petroleum Services said, “Majority of the company’s efforts occur locally at operations where the businesses implement programmes to develop and support the communities close to us. This pioneering initiative will contribute to raising greater awareness about the importance of safe driving among the students and we are confident that many youngsters will benefit from this.” ■



Officials from the school & MBPS standing near the drive safe message boards at the entrance/exit gate of the school

Drilling & Workover Department has launched “Field Training & Coaching”



It has been over 2 decades since MB Petroleum Services commenced its operations with PDO in one of the core sectors of the Oil and Gas business – Workover operations. The story which began in 1992 has seen unprecedented growth of a fully owned Omani company, from a single hoist operation to its present level of 15 units working for PDO and a combined total of 22 including other operators in Oman. This era also saw the company venturing into the other areas of oil and gas business – Drilling and Production Services.

The saga of this growth also contributed in many ways to the emergence of new entrants in the same business, by creating an inspirational surge predominantly among the local communities.

An introspection of MBPS will reveal that it has always been a dynamic organization primarily due to the rapid growth it has achieved since its inception. There have been phases of ups and downs during the course of progression but it has managed to maintain a certain level of stability despite growth related dynamics. The company has always maintained its high standard of commitment to HSE vis a vis its

employees and customers.

Since the beginning of 2012, the company is witnessing some drastic and alarming trends in its overall HSE performance. There has been a surge in the incidents happening across the fleet which is of grave concern and the need of the hour is to bring in a comprehensive recovery project to tide over this storm. The purpose is to assist the organization to recover and regain the standards which it had maintained in the past.

Way forward :

Upon analyzing the reasons for the current trend it was found that training remains a fundamental factor which if improved will usher in the required results. A fully competent and trained work force can only maintain higher level of operational standards while contributing to a sustained growth of the organization.

Based on this, a recovery plan was developed and it includes a safety stand at all units and a comprehensive field training and coaching programme.

Safety stand down in the field:

The top management of MBPS led by the CEO and the GM - Operations have dedicated their time and efforts to conduct 6 safety stand down meetings in the field and met with all the key personnel. The main objectives were to make everybody believe and understand that all personnel are empowered to STOP any operations if they feel it is unsafe to operate and report it to their immediate supervisor for further evaluation. It also made it mandatory to strictly follow all MBPS operating procedures and use the basic site risk minimization processes (PTW, Pre-job Management, TRIC Card & JSA, STOP, Gas test, Pressure Management etc.).

Field Training & Coaching:

This training will ensure that the field crew is aligned with the MBPS HSE MS and Operation Procedure Manual. Expectations for, and clarity on roles and responsibilities are critical to achieving an incident-free workplace. The Management will closely work with the field crew to enhance their HSE knowledge and understanding to meet the company HSE objectives (primary objective) and then operational excellence (secondary objective). The recovery plan will help dispel uncertainty and reinforce the confidence of our employees and client.

The Management believes that HSE's role is to protect the health, safety and welfare of workers and safeguard others who may be exposed to risk from work activities. This can only be done by providing information and advice; raising awareness; promoting training; proposing new policies and standards. However, these activities alone are not enough to deliver the targets and here the role of HSE Department and Operation Management is to provide the support to field crew in making arrangements to manage their own health and safety.

To convey the above message and promote good HSE culture, MBPS believes that strong and visible management leadership is critical and therefore the recovery plan is being led and run by the Senior Manager of Drilling and Workover. The team was equipped with specially built mobile training center and materials to conduct the training and coaching in a professional manner.

There were three main areas of enhancement, **Safety Leadership, Well Control** awareness and **Rig Floor Safety**.

1.Safety Leadership: The objective of this

training is to reemphasize the benefits of using risks and hazards minimizing tools for the activities with a comprehensive explanation and practical examples on conducting TBTs, TRICS, PTW, DROPS, Drills and all safety related tools.

2.Well Control: The objective of this training is to raise the crew awareness on maintaining the full integrity of well control, keeping the well barriers, how to maintain the primary well control and how to act if it gets lost. It also explains the details and function of each equipment involved and how to bleed of well pressure in a proper manner.

3.Rig Floor Safety: The objective of this training is to build up the crews knowledge on understanding the functionality and the safe working procedure for all the equipment and tools involved in handling tumblers and bottom hole assemblies. This training includes but not limited to inspection of draw works and braking system, pipe elevators and handling equipment, tongs and power swivels, spotting and rigging up mast.

The training method adopted is on-site personnel training and the exchange of experience and information, the use of fundamental tools in order to achieve HSE objectives, with a view of continuously improving prevention and protection standards. The training put much emphasis on employees, when carrying out their duties, to be actively involved in the process of HSE safeguards, in the interests of their colleagues, third parties contractors, client and as well as in their own interests.

To conduct the onsite training in the most efficient and effective manner, it was necessary to shut down operations during the training hours. The management gave us their go ahead and insisted we conduct the training. ■

The Prime Minister of New Zealand and Cabinet Ministers visit MB Century New Zealand



Senior Cabinet Ministers of the New Zealand Government visited MB Century in August 2012 to gain a greater understanding of renewable energy and also to “visit an award winning New Zealand

Company”. The Cabinet Ministers accompanied the Prime Minister and complimented MB Century New Zealand’s outstanding business performance and diverse business model.

The Ministers gained a full understanding of the diverse service offerings and specialist geothermal services that the New Zealand Business can offer both in country and internationally.

MB Century Australia supports Queensland Police Games Book

The Queensland Police Sporting Association Inc (QPSA) is a body of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and incorporates all sporting bodies of the QPS. Each year the QPSA conduct annual Police Games. All members throughout the State are invited to attend and the main participation coming mainly from the South East area.

Over the last 21 years, the QPSA

has published a Police Games Journal to advise Members of the activities ahead and also results of competitions recently completed. It has been strongly supported by a number of leading companies in the Brisbane area.

There are many clubs within the QPSA, and the sports involved are Pistol and Rifle Shooting, Triathlon, Cycling, Swimming, Touch Football, Boxing, Tennis,

Golf, Cross Country, Mountain Bike, Athletics.

The competitions are conducted throughout the state, with the main events at the Queensland Police Academy. Special days for the families and children are also taken into consideration.

MB Century is proud to be associated with the Queensland Police Games Book.

MB Century Australia supports local activities

Muscular Dystrophy WA was overwhelmed by the success of our second 'RIDE FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN'T', as part of the "Act Belong Commit Dwellingup 100". More than \$85,000 was raised in 2011. The ride is a major fund-raising and awareness initiative for Muscular Dystrophy WA.

Muscular Dystrophy WA has again been given the amazing opportunity to be part of the "Act Belong Commit Dwellingup 100" in 2012 through the

generosity of Events Company, TriEvents and the Perth Mountain Bike Club. It is a privilege to be associated with such a well organised and iconic event.

We have built a dedicated team of 50 riders who are taking on the challenging – 40kms or 100kms mountain bike track. Each is personally riding for someone living with muscular dystrophy. We wish our team the very best!

MB Century Australia sponsors the West Australian Geothermal Energy Symposium



The West Australian Geothermal Energy Symposium was held earlier this year in Perth.

The conference brought together scientists, technical experts, policy makers and potential end-users to promote and expand the understanding and utilisation of geothermal energy in Western Australia at all levels. The event provided a forum to examine the technical, market and regulatory

issues critical to the success of the industry and increase public awareness of the opportunities to use geothermal energy.

Geothermal energy offers a wide range of opportunities to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and associated greenhouse gas emissions. Geothermal heat can be used to power large-scale electricity generation, but can also be used for much smaller

scale projects.

The energy contained in geothermal waters can be used directly for space heating and air conditioning as well as a plethora of other residential and industrial applications that range from ice making and seawater desalination to heating swimming pools, thermal mineral springs bathing, prawn farms and green houses to name just a few.

MB Century Australia supports the 2012 Sunsuper Ride to Conquer Cancer

The Western Australian Institute for Medical Research (WAIMR) is Western Australia's premier adult medical research institute, investigating the genetic and environmental causes of a range of diseases.

Formed in 1998 with a vision of fostering a high-level of collaboration between the State's medical researchers, the team has and continues to make, a number of internationally-important discoveries with the potential to deliver better health to the global community.

The following statistics reinforce the need to pay attention to cancer-its cures

and causes:

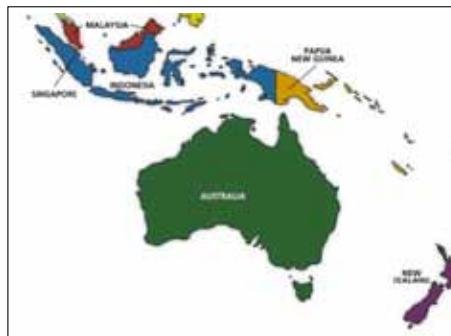
- 1 in 2 Australians will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.
- An estimated 115,000 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Australia in 2010.
- Cancer is the second leading cause of Australian deaths and affects almost 20% of the population. More than 43,000 people are expected to die from cancer in 2010.
- The most common cancers in Australia (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) are prostate, colorectal, breast, melanoma and lung cancer.

•In Australia, the number of skin cancer cases outnumbers the total number of all other types of cancers combined. At least 2 in 3 Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by the age of 70. Each year, around 434,000 Australians are treated for one or more non-melanoma skin cancers (the most frequently occurring cancer in Australia, but the least life-threatening).

MB Century Australia is proud to support The Sunsuper Ride to Conquer Cancer®. Every fundraising dollar will support ground breaking, critical cancer research being undertaken at the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research.

MBC Australia's Rig 14 wins tender for a 5 firm well and 6 option well programme for New Standard Energy (NSE) in Western Australia

Following the completion of the geothermal programme for Newcrest Mining in Papua New Guinea in December 2011, Rig 14 was mobilised from the remote Lihir Island, off the Papua New Guinea mainland and shipped to the port of Darwin in Australia. The rig was then loaded



onto trucks and transported approximately 2,500 Km from Darwin to the first well



location for NSE. Rig 14 spud Nicolay-1 on 18 August, 2012.

MB Century invests in Rig 32



Rig 32

MB Century has invested \$42 million in a new on shore drilling rig to keep the Company at the forefront of their industry.

The new hydraulic hoist rig was constructed in Italy and is quieter, safer, smaller and more mobile than existing rigs in the company's extensive suite of drilling equipment.

Following its arrival in New Zealand, the rig will be commissioned in a three-rig drilling operation to continue Contact Energy's geothermal

development programme near Taupo, New Zealand.

A 30-month contract, recently signed between MB Century and Contact Energy, has a four year right of renewal and is considered significant in the industry.

Already a leader in the field of geothermal drilling and steam field design, MB Century is proud to bring new technology to New Zealand.

"The new rig will revolutionise

the way we undertake geothermal drilling operations. We're committed to excellence, service and to providing quality and superior equipment. This new rig will be the most advanced in New Zealand. As well as having a smaller footprint, it integrates a range of hydraulic equipment and being largely automated, there is reduced risk and increased operating safety," said Marcel Manders, CEO, MB Century.

He added that the new rig was faster in operating, halving the number of days to that of the existing rigs. The rig also has the flexibility to operate in both geothermal and oil & gas environments and incorporates a range of cost effective and performance efficiencies.

MB Century prides itself in offering their staff continued professional development and in mid-June employees, selected from existing crews, travelled to Italy for simulated training in a range of operating and maintenance areas associated with the new rig.

"It's an exciting time for the drilling industry and our new rig gives staff an opportunity to advance their skills and develop professionally," he pointed out.

MB Century wins Unison Overall Business of The Year Award



MB Century was the major winner at the BNZ Great Lake Taupo Business Awards, held in July. They won the Unison Overall Business of the Year Award.

After being named the medium/large Business of the Year, the team from MB Century was

called back on stage to claim the major title. It was with great pleasure that CEO, Marcel Manders, accepted both awards on behalf of all MB Century employees, thanking them for their efforts. He said, "These awards recognise the significant improvements in MB Century's

business performance and the change in culture that is ensuring that we are the employer of choice. To have our efforts recognised by the business community and our clients is a testament to all MB Century staff. These awards will attract a large amount of publicity. The key now is to continue our performance and not become complacent. I would like to congratulate all MB Century staff for the awards and their efforts."

More than 400 people gathered at the Great Lake Centre to celebrate local business achievements and see the winners of each category in the Service excellence and Business excellence categories.

Gordon Tietjens was the guest speaker at "the State of the Nation"

Gordon Tietjens was the guest speaker at the 'State of the Nation' held earlier this year. Gordon is internationally recognised as the international Rugby 7's leading coach, having won the World Cup eight times and two consecutive Commonwealth Games gold medals. Gordon was inducted into the International Rugby Board Hall of Fame in February 2012.

'State of the Nation' events occur twice a year and provides an opportunity for CEO Marcel Manders to present MB



Century's business updates to the entire New Zealand Business team members, so that they remain informed on all issues of the business.

Gordon spoke about building and maintaining high performance teams. His presence at the event was welcomed and enjoyed by all.

Erdöl-Erdgas Workover GmbH (EEW) creates a new vocation



One strength of Germany's economy is how well qualified its specialists are. They go through three year "dual vocational training schemes", which combine company apprenticeships with academic education. This form of training existed in the oil industry until the 50s in West Germany, and prevailed until reunification in what used to be East Germany.

EEW saw a need for new specialists going forward. After a lengthy struggle with everyone from State Ministries of Education and Culture through to the Federal Government, EEW was instrumental in having the vocation of deep drilling specialist created three years ago.



Specialist company apprentices are provided by a varied consortium of firms that includes RWE Dea AG, K+S KALI GmbH, Koller Maschinen- und Anlagenbau GmbH, H. Anger's Söhne Bohr- und Brunnenbaugesellschaft mbH, EEW and several others. Apprentices come to stay at the Haldensleben vocational school for the theoretical part of their education.



EEW currently has 25 apprentices. The first group post their training, joined the job market in the middle of 2012. All of these young deep drilling specialists were successful in securing jobs quickly. ■

R&D latest feat – Instant Downhole Shutting Tool for Fall-Off Transient Pressure Survey

MB Petroleum Services' R&D department has successfully field tested yet another technology after completing three Fall-Off pressure surveys using Instant Downhole Shutting Tool (IDHST) in the Marmul field in wells MM-460, MM-504 and MM-574. The plan is to further carry out similar jobs in MM-597 and MM-594. This operation is a first of its kind in the Middle East and probably the first in the world where one can shut-in the well downhole in less than a second allowing instant transient pressure survey to be done meanwhile eliminating the undesirable 'wellbore storage' as explained below.

Discussions with senior PDO Reservoir Engineers Khalfan Al-Shuaili and Khalid Al-Zuhimi revealed that there is an acute need for IDHST to capture accurate reservoir data in a buildup, drawdown or fall off test while avoiding the unwanted 'wellbore storage' i.e. wellbore fluid passing through the shut-in tool during closure process which for over a century has been resulting from the slower shut-in devices causing erroneous readings during the initial shut-in period.

In the past, PDO was facing major problems of data disturbance and wellbore storage effects during fall-off tests and the rest of pressure transient tests. Using the conventional Downhole Shut-in Tool (DHST) the closing time takes up to 40 seconds during which period pressure data is considered erroneous due to falling of water from the completion column through the shut-in tool.

Dr Said Mufarji, GM - New Technology department and Sulaiman Al Mufargi, New Technology Superintendent identified a reputed company which invented IDHST capable of well closure in less than a second.

The tool is programmed on the surface by electronic timer unit which has an accuracy of ± 2 seconds of reaching closure time. Furthermore, using the IDHST technology a client can have the well on stabilized production or injection for up to 25 days before the well is shut-in whereas shorter stabilization periods are required in conventional tools.

Dr Mufarji highlighted, "The

elimination of wellbore storage results in much faster and more accurate transient pressure survey analysis which is a key process in identifying reservoir permeability, skin factor, presence or absence of fault(s), initial reservoir pressure etc which are significant in the entire field development (FDP) study."

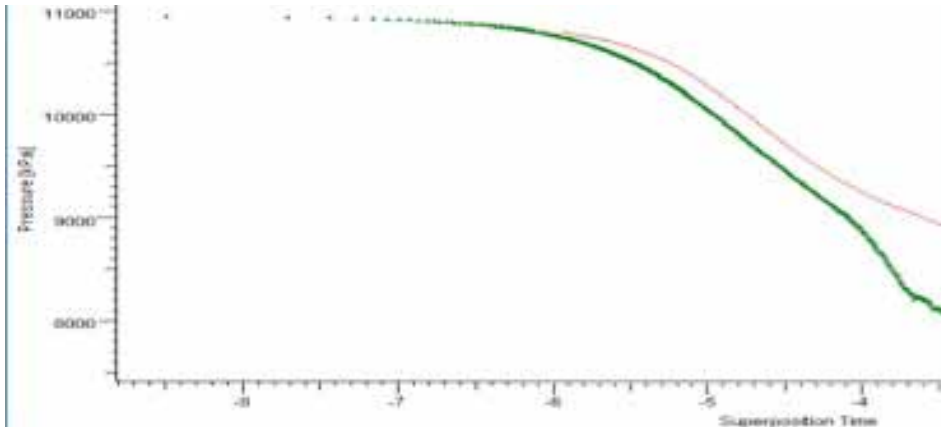
From the above, it can be deduced that despite availability of many tools for the same purpose, shorter well closure time is very important to get accurate data, hence obtaining reliable reservoir data analysis is important. To date, this can only be achieved using IDHST.

The instant DHST can also be used in production wells for buildup or drawdown transient pressure surveys regardless of whether the well is completed with a nipple profile or with a nipple less completion.

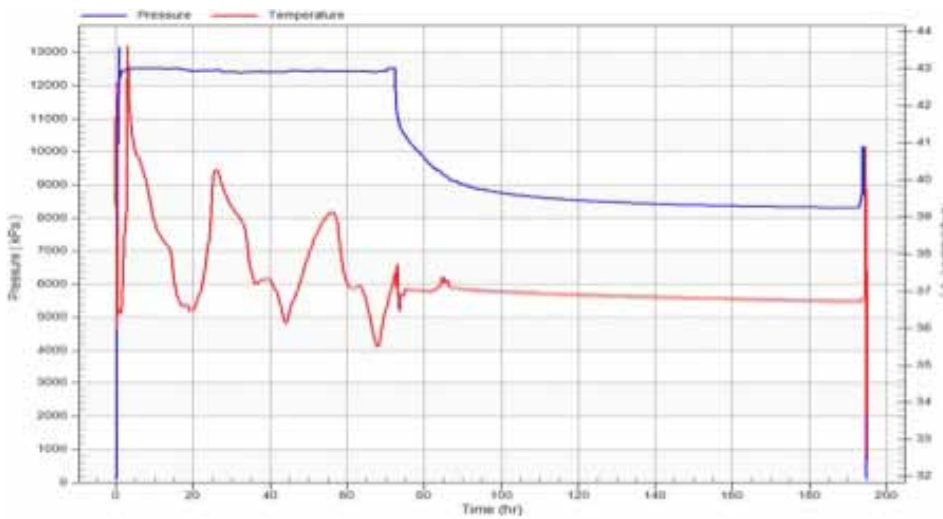
It has always been a reservoir engineer's dream to have an instant well shut-in ability for better data quality to study the reservoir reaction during fall-off, build up and drawdown surveys and MBPS R&D department can now fulfil that dream.

Below are results of PDO's water injection well's fall-off pressure surveys recently performed using MBPS R&D provided IDHST.

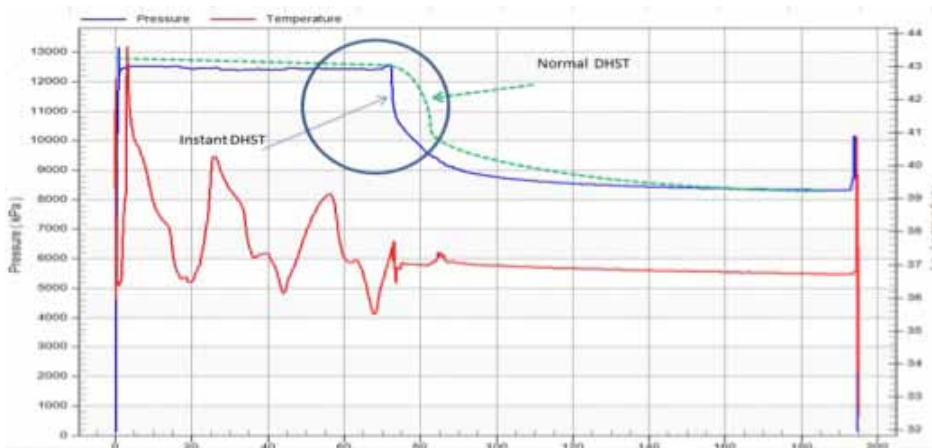
MM-504 First fall of test (early data picked up at initial instant closure).



MM460 Extended Fall-off Survey



The Deference between Normal DHST and Instant DHST at Initial Survey



This is an example of initial transient pressure survey between IDHST and ordinary DHST where the green dotted curve in a semi-circular shape reflects the unwanted wellbore storage effect which does not happen in case of IDHST which shows a 90° curve at the same location in the graph. ■

A winner all the way

Khamis Al Hinai - General Manager - Operations, MB Petroleum Services reveals what it takes to be a successful person - both professionally & personally

When you look at Khamis Al Hinai, General Manager – Operations, MB Petroleum Services you would think that he has had an easy life. The confidence and calm that he exudes makes you believe that.

Khamis has had to strive hard to get to where he is today. He started at the young age of 17 as a roustabout in one of the rigs at MBPS. He remembers, “Whenever I saw any programme on the television about oil, I would get really excited. I thought this would be a fun thing to do, so I decided to join the industry. At the time I was only 17 years old and did not realize that the job is a lot harder than what they show on TV. It was a harsh environment; I was doing shifts, working hard and I had just finished my

secondary school. MBPS is the only company I have worked for in my career. I joined as a roustabout as I had no experience in the field. So I started from the lowest rank.”

He adds, “I have a few relatives who work for major oil & gas companies and they recommended me to join MBPS because it was the most promising oil company in Oman. There are several other Omani oil companies that are in operation today, but even now we can say that the MB Group of Companies is one of the most prominent oil and gas groups in the country. I am glad that my family asked me to join this company.”

Working hard was never an issue for Khamis. Despite long

hours, he kept himself motivated, positive and moved up the ranks as a rig manager. “After working for a few years, I realized that I needed more education if I had to get better at what I do and I enrolled myself in a mechanical engineering programme.” A part time course, Khamis juggled work & his academia. “I was doing 2 weeks on & 2 weeks off. For 2 weeks I worked as a rig manager and during my 2 weeks off I attended class. It was not easy as I had to cover up for the 2 weeks that I had missed as well as study what was currently going on. It continued like this for five years,” he said.

Due to his hard work and positive attitude, Khamis was promoted as the first Omani rig manager in 2002, around the same time he

1995



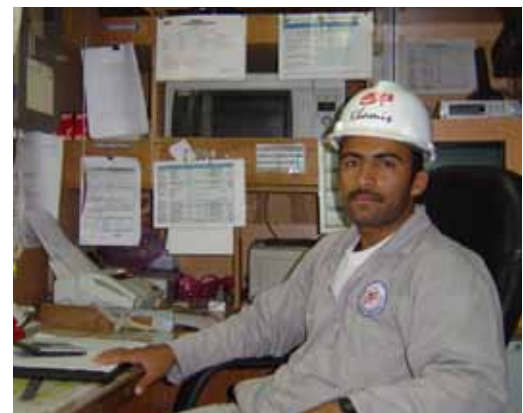
At 17, Khamis joined MBPS as a roustabout

2001



At 23, Khamis took over as a Tool Pusher

2002



At 24, Khamis became the first Omani Rig Manager

started his course. The new position came with its own set of challenges and charters. But despite having to juggle work-study balance, Khamis admits to have enjoyed his educational stint so much so that he graduated with a distinction. “I was really happy and so were my family & colleagues at work,” he smiles.

Why mechanical engineering, when he could have majored in any other field? “At the time, this specialization was more applicable to the job that I was doing. We had a lot of rigs & machines and there was an obvious synergy,” he points out. But he always knew that at some point, he would have to change his specialization and undertake a management related course rather than a technical one, if he had to further move up the rank. By this time, he had established a name for himself within the organisation and was beginning to be a force to be reckoned with.

Working in a multinational organisation with a diverse set of people brought along its own set of challenges and tasks and sure enough he faced conflict within the tough working environment. But over time, he realized that different cultures have a different way to approach the same issues and hence it is very important to understand and appreciate them.

He explains, “Diversity brings culture, different types of experience and conflict. What I have learnt is that different cultures have different symbolisms and may not mean how we understand it. For example, as part of our recovery team, we had an expat rig manager and after an assignment and before

2012



At 35, Khamis is currently the General Manager - Operations

2011



At 34, Khamis was promoted as Senior Manager - Drilling & Workover

2009



At 31, Khamis was honoured by PDO for his invention of the Dual PCP Receptacle

2007



At 29, Khamis acquired his Bachelor's Degree

2007



At 29, Khamis moved to his new home

2008



At 30, Khamis became the Workover Manager

the next, he would go, 'you are useless', or 'you do this', or 'you don't do that'. Now, if someone is told that 'you are useless', he may take it to his heart and feel bad. But in his culture by saying 'useless; he probably means that the individual is not required for that assignment and not that he is actually 'useless'. So when you work in a multicultural and high diversity environment, you have to understand each culture and only then evaluate it."

Having worked in such an environment has made Khamis realize that there is not much difference between nationalities, "You should break all cultural barriers and mill people together and build unity. If there is unity, you can achieve anything but if people are pulling in different directions, you are in for trouble," he adds.

Despite the dynamic and demanding work schedules, Khamis was very clear about his aim to pursue an MBA. So he applied at the London Business School for an executive MBA and was even offered a seat. However, at the same time MBPS won a contract in Bahrain and hence he had to drop out of his course as he was involved in the setting up of the business operations there. But this delay has not deterred him from his ambition. He still plans to pursue



his MBA and confidently says. "I will as soon as I am able to manage the time."

Khamis has been working with MBPS for the last 17 years and has recently been promoted as General Manager – Operations and looks after Drilling & Workover along with the support group. There are 25 hoists in Oman and Bahrain and 4 workshops and 4 drilling rigs, which come under his purview along with its logistics and maintenance. Khamis is fully responsible for these 2 businesses which include but is not limited to operations, maintenance, finance, strategic planning, tendering and other businesses related to these two departments. Besides that he also provides technical support to other countries when required.

An avid swimmer, Khamis

doesn't regret anything. In fact he believes every experience in life teaches you a lesson. "There are always challenges in life but remember that everything has a solution. Long time back, it was well known and accepted by everybody that Omanis cannot take senior jobs. For a long time, expats were managing rigs. But today, you can see the change."

He credits Dr Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman MB Holding Company for having challenged and helped change stereotypes. He explains, "There was a directive from the Chairman that Omanis should start working towards senior positions. So there was an experiment that was conducted in 2002, wherein a colleague and I were asked to take over Hoist 2 as rig managers. We took it up as a challenge and within a year or

two; the management could see the difference. Hoist 2 made the highest revenue at that time and became the hoist which made high profit at low costs with a commendable HSE record. But to achieve this was not easy, there was jealousy and clash, but with dedication and hard work you can achieve anything.”

He goes onto further elucidate, “I am not saying this because I am working for MBPS but the truth is that everyone should be grateful to MBPS – whether it is Government of Oman, the society or the clients. It is one of the few companies that has trained employees from scratch and got them to where they are today.”

Khamis feels that wherever he is today is because the love and support of his family.

He thinks it is extremely important to engage the family in the work sphere. “Once your family knows what you are doing, what the company is giving to the community and once you grab their interest, all you need to do is explain that you are going through a difficult time and they will walk with you. The most important thing is that you & your family should speak the same language with regards to your job and they will never leave you behind.”

With such hectic schedules,

does he have time to follow his passion and live the life he wants to? Pat comes the reply, “I don’t think I have ever missed out on anything that I really want to do. I have time for everything as long as I have my calendar in front of me.”

In his free time, apart from swimming, Khamis likes to work on his inventions and has three of them to his credit. One invention has been taken by PDO – the Dual PCP Receptacle. This invention took long hours of deep thinking and compressive study and he came up with the present design of Dual PCP Receptacle.

The first piece was tested in one of the Marmul wells and was highly successful. There was a significant reduction in cost with zero complexity and his invention has contributed to \$ 10 million saving per annum to PDO. “There are two others designs that I have given to the project and planning department. We are now getting close to the execution stage so we can commercially test it,” he says with a smile.

With the increasing focus on Omanisation and offering in-country value, how does he see this issue being tackled? He firmly thinks that ‘In-country value’ value doesn’t mean declaring Omanisation figures to the government or the people.

To him, in country value means that one has to invest time and money in training and grooming Omanis. “Building in country value is easy to say but just having Omanis is not a measure of talent. In fact I would say, teaching a man to fish is much better than just feeding him fish. Hence one needs to train, groom and invest in ‘in country value’ and I think we at MBPS are doing a good job. There are very few companies today, who have the capability, resource and inclination to develop and nurture young talent,”

Talking about value, Khamis places special emphasis on loyalty and self-initiative. He feels that all Omanis should start developing themselves and not wait for anyone to help & support them. “It is important to believe in oneself and be loyal because it always pays off. Never ever will there be a job which is free of charge. Everyone gets frustrated with their job at times but you need to see it as a bottleneck and go through it and emerge stronger.

We have to face challenges and people who run away from it are pessimists. Yes, there will be pressure and we will have to face things which we don’t want to see or listen or talk about but the key is to learn from it because it is a stepping stone for success.” ■

Wireline Academy Operator Training Programme 2012 officially launched



“Most organizations say they’ll take you a long way. We actually mean it.”

MB Petroleum Services has a justified reputation for excellence in the oilfield industry. These credentials have been built over many years of hard work and commitment by a dedicated workforce.

To build that kind of reputation and then to maintain it, the right people, with the right kind of training and at the right level of competency are required.

This thought initiated the birth of the New MB Wireline Training System or WL Academy Programme.

The Wireline Operator Training Programme was initiated by the MBPS Wireline Management, whose members saw a need for a programme that would meet the industry standard and that would provide new workers with the competencies required to ensure they were proficient in all tasks in their operational sphere. The Wireline Team, MBPS HR department along with the help of the MB Holding team worked collaboratively on this initiative. The candidates (i.e. diploma graduates from the various Technical Colleges across the country) who have been carefully selected for this programme, and under a training contract, will go through a 4-year training period. During this period, they will follow an intensive technical training

programme which is focused on the immediate development to Operator level while setting the foundations for long-term future Supervisors and Managers by incorporating the relevant leadership & behavioral competencies in the programme.

The Operator Training Programme has been designed to prepare staff for a career in Wireline that will put them in the skill set of their Wireline peers, both nationally and internationally.

“We ensure that everyone has access to the guidance they need to develop their capabilities and progress in their careers. As they progress through the programme, they will participate in rigorous competence assessments and reviews to ensure that they have met all the requirements to move to the next level, cementing the required practical and theoretical knowledge over the full Mechanical Wireline spectrum, firmly in place.” said Steven Perry, Senior Wireline Manager.

Each trainee will have the support of a personal Trainer and a Coach throughout their four years. The emphasis here is on learning mainly from a practical mix of hands-on and formal training, but with expert guidance, support and mentoring throughout the training period. The candidate must complete the sequence of courses, structured on-the-job tasks, and activities that have been specifically designed to develop their competency. “We believe our operator programme for these diploma graduates is a unique offering and that any employee graduating through it will be in the possession of a skill set that leaves them exceptionally well placed not only for a successful career as Wireline Operator and Technical Professional, but also prepare them for operational challenges in any location hence, expanding the operational footprint of our local staff both in Oman and internationally.” said Steve Perry. ■

MB Petroleum Services conducts workshop on ‘Roadmap to Efficiency Improvement’ at Koller (KMA) in Germany



Rajesh Mohan, Head of Business Transformation, MB Petroleum Services along with the Koller team in Germany

Rajesh Mohan, Head of Business Transformation, MB Petroleum Services conducted a workshop on ‘Roadmap to Efficiency Improvement’ with key members of the Koller team in Celle, Germany. The workshop analyzed and guided the manufacturing process of KMA to focus on margin retention, measure and revise operations time standards and strengthen procurement process, strengthen vendor performance and sourcing database and redesign facilities based on refined benchmarks of operations times.

Rajesh used KMA’s own project orders as case studies

to draw out patterns of cause and effects contributing to variation between estimates and actuals of project margins. He established that the process design needed to be more detailed and formalized collaboration between sales, design, engineering, supply chain and production at the time of offers to customers. The body of standard times needs to be refined for improved capacity planning process. He further stressed on the importance of vendor performance and market price database strengthening.

With the involvement of the entire KMA team; new project monitoring templates with

weekly reviews and a monthly review process headed by a steering committee will course correct deviations early in the entire manufacturing process. A roadmap for improvement initiatives has been jointly evolved at the end of the workshop.

Rajesh said, “It is an honour to be conducting a workshop with the Koller team in Germany. The team has been extremely enthusiastic and receptive and I am confident that together we will further achieve greater improved performance.”

Wilhelm Linnewedel, CEO - Koller Germany, noted, “It was wonderful to have Rajesh over to conduct a workshop for the Koller team here. The workshop was informative and analytical. It gave the Koller team an opportunity to interact with the MBPS global team and be part of such a knowledgeable session. I am confident that this workshop will go a long way in improving our efficiency and further focus on margins, review our estimates in a timely manner and prudently measure our work in progress.” ■

Petrogas work on exploring more oil in Oman



Trucks creating vibrations for recording 3D seismic data in the RSSF area. Seismic provides an image of the rock layers underground and the interpretation of this data underpins most drilling activity.

“Prospecting for oil is a dynamic art... The greatest single element in all prospecting past, present and future, is the man willing to take a chance.”

-Everett DeGoyler

It is more than 100 years since Guy Pilgrim of the Geological Survey of India came to Oman and the Gulf states searching for evidence of oil. Since then many companies have come exploring for oil in Oman, some have been successful and stayed, and more have spent their money and left empty handed. Given the long history of oil exploration in Oman, is there any oil left to be found?

Indeed there is. Oil is where

you find it and sometimes fresh eyes on old data, new data, drilling deeper, or just drilling something, turns up new oil fields. What does not rank for one company to drill, the small high that contained the Safah field, can lead to 100,000 (bopd) barrels of oil production for another. What is not economic today may be economic at some point in the future with a higher oil price or new technologies. This is the case with the Marmul

field discovered in 1956 by Cities Service when oil was \$ 1.9/ barrel but not developed until 1980 by PDO. Or the West Bukha gas-condensate field, discovered in 1976 by Elf in the Straits of Hormuz and not developed until 2009 by Indago/RAK. Blocks 3 and 4 had been explored without success by PDO, ELF, JPDO, WINTERSHALL, AMOCO, NIMIR, TOTAL and ENCANA, but it was CC Energy in 2009 that drilled deeper in Saiwan

East and made an unexpected discovery in the Huqf, and logged and perforated a previously untested formation, the Barik, in Farha South. These fields are now producing a total of 14,000 bopd.

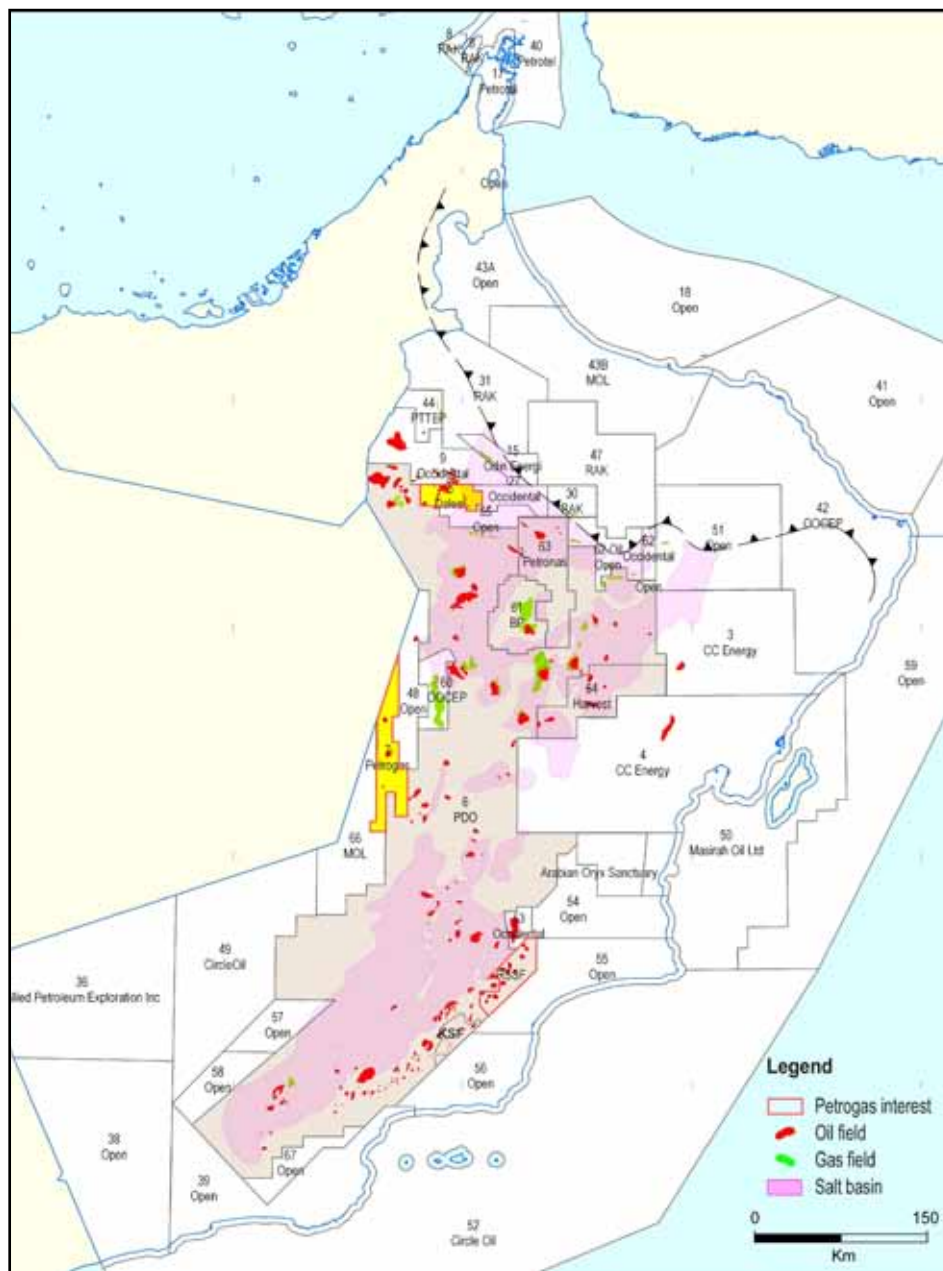
What do you have to do to obtain an oil concession?

These days, generally you have to buy a data package from the Ministry of Oil and Gas, evaluate the data, identify if there are structures or anomalies that could contain oil, propose a work programme of seismic data acquisition and drilling wells, and commit to these activities and spending a large sum of money in 3 to 6 years.

The Ministry will evaluate the bids from different companies and decide which one offers the best value for Oman. If you are successful, you need to be prepared to spend millions or tens of millions of dollars without any certainty that you will find any oil or get anything back for the money you have invested.

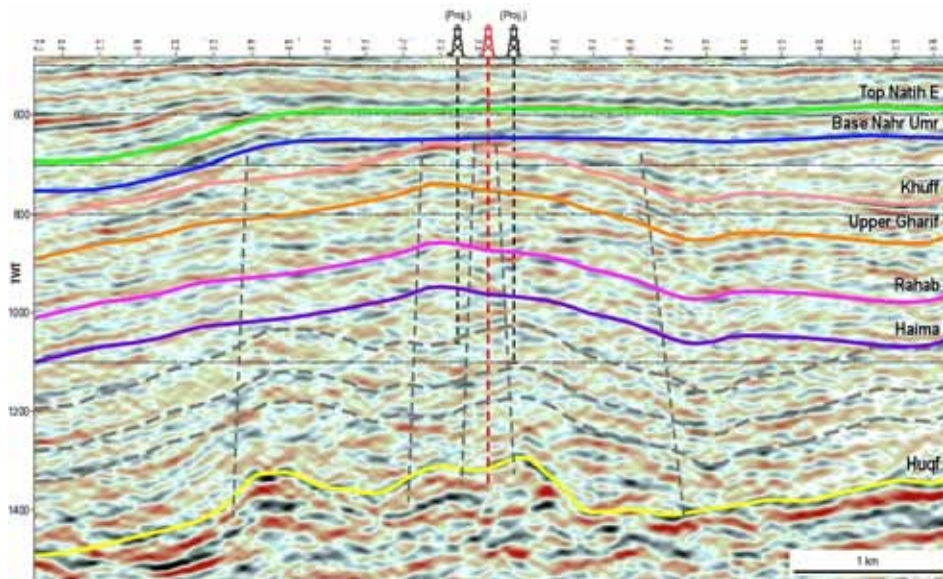
What about Petrogas?

Petrogas' New Venture (NV) team actively screens and evaluates almost all concessions offered by the



Map of Oman showing concessions currently awarded by the Ministry of Oil and Gas, and the oil and gas fields. PDO's Block 6 coincides closely to the outlines of the Ara salt basins. The Ara salt contains rich source rocks for hydrocarbons and salt movement has formed many of the highs occupied by oil fields.

Ministry and also looks at has evaluated Ministry offerings for Blocks 51, 54, 55, 65 and 66, and farm-in opportunities offered by Odin Energi for Block 15 and Circle Oil for Block 52. occasionally are offered for



Seismic cross-section over a deep Huqf prospect in the RSSF drilled by the well shown in red. Oil, being lighter than water migrates upward and is trapped, sometimes, at the crests of folds in the rocks. In this case the well found water rather than oil, but next time, the result could be different.

Petrogas has submitted competitive bids for exploration Blocks 55 (east of the Rima Satellites Small Fields, RSSF) and 65 (south of Block 5) that are under evaluation by the Ministry of Oil and Gas. The NV team is also busy looking at opportunities outside Oman.

Petrogas currently has interests in two concessions (Block 5 and 7) in Oman and a Service Agreement with PDO for the RSSF. As well as producing oil already found in these blocks, Petrogas always tries to look for more. In Block 5, Daleel, one

successful exploration well was drilled and another is about to be drilled as a result of trading data with PDO from their recent discoveries at Sayyah North and Taliyah North. These are traps where different layers of the Natih formation are truncated on the flanks of the Lekhwair High. Tendering is ongoing to shoot new 3D seismic data over the whole of Block 5, an investment of 30\$ mn. This new data will guide the drilling of several hundred more oil production and water injection wells, and also provide the basis for exploration drilling for new oil prospects and for

gas in deeper reservoirs.

In Block 7, a ~4500-5000 m deep prospect has been identified beneath the Ramlat field which has been offered to be drilled as part of the future exploration commitment.

New 3D seismic data has also been acquired over much of the RSSF area. Two wells have been drilled deeper in the past few months for reservoir horizons not previously tested in the area. One flowed 2830 bpd saline water, but it could just have easily been oil. Another well will be drilled shortly to a large prospect beneath a different field. All of these wells have fallback completions on shallower oil reservoirs.

In 2013, the benefits of the new 3D seismic data will start to be realized and new prospects and field extensions will be drilled.

Petrogas is thoroughly committed to finding and producing more oil in Oman.

“Several times in the past we have thought we were running out of oil, whereas actually we were only running out of ideas” - Parke A. Dickey ■

Petrogas Rima conducted HSE Awareness Day for its employees



The Petrogas Rima team at the HSE Awareness Day



Alan Heward, COO, Petrogas E&P addressing the audience

HSE has always been a top priority for Petrogas and in its efforts to further bolster its importance, Petrogas Rima held an HSE Awareness day for all its employees. Held annually, this full day event was held at the City Seasons Hotel in Al Khuwayr.

The day included a keynote address from the General Manager of Petrogas Rima, John Passmore. In his speech, John highlighted the importance of safe HSE practice in our everyday lives. He said, "The annual HSE awareness day is a reminder to all of us about the importance of safe HSE practices not only

within our work environment but also within our homes and the society. We must thank the HSE team for providing us all with extremely useful information on the latest developments in HSE, all of which will help us in educating and communicating within our businesses."

This was followed by presentations on various key topics such as:

- Environment Around Us by Mr. Lokesh. U, Project Manager, RAY International
- Ergonomics by Khalil Al Farai, HSE Coordinator, Petrogas E&P
- Human Factors by John Abbs, HSE Manager, Petrogas E&P

- Plastic Bags & Environment, by Omar Al Riyami, Volunteerism & Membership Manager, Environment Society of Oman.
- Diabetic & Hypertension, by Dr Bhavana Dhabalia, MBBS, MD
- Internal Medicine, Starcare Hospital
- Why the Southern Jiddat and the Jebel Al Arkad are important to the ecosystem, by Faisal Al Lamki, Consultant, Aridlands

Nasser Al Zadaly, HSE Manager, Petrogas Rima, said, "It is our endeavour to show Petrogas Rima's Management commitment to HSE and bring HSE closer to people. We feel it is extremely important to

discuss important topics with our employees and that is exactly what this awareness day was all about.'

These presentations were followed by on the spot quiz and cash prizes which kept the spirit of the participants. The day ended on a fun note with all the employees taking a few lessons with them. ■





United Engineering Services Graduate Development Programme is underway



The students of the graduate development programme at UES

Keeping in line with the MB Group of Companies mandate of focusing and nurturing young talent, United Engineering Services (UES) has announced a 2 year Graduate Development Programme that aims to develop the knowledge and skills of the graduates to handle the job independently and in line with the highest of industry standards, best practices and as per client requirements.

UES has chosen 7 local high caliber graduates to undergo this intensive programme that will bring out the best in them and equip them with the tools to succeed and take on leadership

roles within the organization.

All the graduates hold a degree in Mechanical Engineering from accredited universities in Oman. The programme commenced in August 2012 and the feedback from the trainees have been positive, to say the least.

Neville Storey, CEO, UES, said, "The purpose of the Graduate Recruitment Programme is to support youth development and work within the management to ensure that it continues to be a success. The programme also hopes to bring networking opportunities to the graduates, facilitate the coordination of

mentors and rotations, and ensure that the commitments made to the participants are fulfilled."

The Human Resource division at UES acts as in a supervisory capacity to the students by monitoring the progression of the programme on a monthly basis, ensuring that the plan is followed by the students and the management involved. The HR team interviews the trainees after every semester to gain a better understanding of the course progression and also understand how information is being transferred to these young minds. ■

Saif al Amri awarded a certificate of merit from the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development

Saif al Amri who works as a senior HR Officer, at United Engineering Services has received a certificate from Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development (CIPD).

Having completed a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Saif has been working with the MB Group for over 15 years. In order to further develop his credentials, Saif enrolled himself in to the CIPD programme. The CIPD programme attracts individuals from established global businesses and recognizes the need to provide the latest training in order to raise the standards of HR Professionals.

The course began in February last year and consisted of four subjects, Performance Management, Training & Development, Recruitment & Selection and HR Plans & Organization Context. After the four modules were completed, project work in staff utilization commenced.



Saif al Amri

Says Saif, "I would like to thank Hamoud Al Rawahy, General Manager – HR for all his help & advice and

also all my colleagues, who covered for me during my absence. It was certainly a tough course, but one where I learnt some valuable lessons. This course broadened my horizons and developed my capabilities further in the field of Human Resources."

Saif was recently promoted as Senior HR Officer.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Saif on his wonderful achievement and wish him the best for his future! ■



UES International Sdn Bhd announces the official



Hafidh Al Busaidi, Executive Director, Mining & Oilfield Services addressing the audience

Further to the announcement earlier this year of the establishment of UES International (UESI) by its parent company United Engineering Services (UES) LLC, Muscat, Oman, the company is extremely proud to announce the official opening of its facilities in Melaka by YAB Datuk Seri Hj Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam the Chief Minister of Melaka on 24th September 2012.

United Engineering Services LLC is a key subsidiary of the MB Holding Group of Companies, headquartered in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. UES LLC started its operations in 1979 and is today among the leading oil field services companies in Oman and the

Middle East having completed three decades of operations.

UES International Sdn Bhd is specifically focused on helping the group gain an entry in

the advanced composite engineering market. This will be initially into maritime, defence and security platforms internationally, as well as providing specialist engineering and fabrication solutions for the Oil and Gas industry in Malaysia and the region. This commitment is wholly in line with UES' public announcement to proactively address the Oman and regional maritime, defence and security sectors.

Usama Al Barwani, Managing Director, United Engineering Services, enthusiastically noted "On behalf of the whole MB Group, we are absolutely delighted at the official opening of our Melaka operations. We are indeed honoured that the



YAB Datuk Seri Hj Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam the Chief Minister of Melaka inaugurating the premises

opening of its Melaka Operations



Abdullah Al Shidani, GM - Marine, UES

Chief Minister, YAB Datuk Seri Hj Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam has agreed to grace this occasion with his presence. Our determination to ensure that UES will be at the forefront of engineering excellence is central to our commitment - to our customers and business partners alike."

He further added, "We are determined to develop and grow our operation in Malaysia and in that regard are now preparing business plans to replicate the specialist component and fabrication engineering capability of UES in the Middle East, here in our Melaka operation, thereby addressing

the Oil and Gas market of Malaysia and this region.

We foresee our current investments to increase in excess of USD10mn in the near future. We are also looking for suitable land to invest and develop our own facilities shortly." ■



UES Nizwa facility is a one-stop shop solution for all engineering needs



The UES facility in Nizwa

The UES Nizwa Machine Shop Services was set up in August 2011. The facility has a wide range of machines including CNC lathes, manual lathes, milling, drilling, shaping and welding machines, band saw, hydraulic torquing unit etc. These are amply supported by material handling equipments including overhead cranes, forklifts, pallet trucks and pipe loading stations. The facility also offers pipe straightening, cement block removal, phosphating as additional services.

A massive setup for pressure testing is nearing completion and is expected to be operational very soon. With

the resources ready at hand and in the pipeline, the facility is capable of accommodating jobs of any nature, whether it be manufacturing, repair, remanufacturing or recertification. With a total plot area of 36726 sqm, the facility has the potential to grow in the coming years.

The machine shop is already certified by ISO 9001:2008, API 5CT, 6A AND 7-1. The business is currently more repair-oriented, but plans are afoot to increase the content of manufacturing in the product mix. With this intent, the facility secured license for Hunting connections. More connection licenses are in the pipeline, and very soon

the list will include licenses that will complement and supplement the capabilities available in the Ghala facility.

Keeping the future growth requirements in mind, they have already embarked on an ambitious programme to develop the leadership skills of the existing supervisory cadre, as well as that of a few candidates with potential from the ranks. The management trainer from L&D center visits the Nizwa facility every Thursday and takes the candidates through a tailor made training programme intended to inculcate the skills and values needed for supervisors.

In addition to the machine shop, the UES Nizwa branch houses other facilities which include Regent (slotted liners), PCM (pumps), and Smith (tools – rentals). The range of services and manufacturing capabilities provided in-house by the UES Nizwa branch are numerous and with the current infrastructure in place, it will not be long before other facilities spring up within the UES Nizwa branch. ■

Signing of an MoU between UES International Sdn Bhd and KV Resources Sdn Bhd



UES International (UESI) and KV Resources have signed an MoU, in the presence of YAB Seri Hj Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, Chief Minister of Melaka, at the UESI premises in Melaka.

UES International and KV Resources have complementary core skills and competencies in the provisioning of maritime platforms to various operators of fast interceptor boats and offshore support boats to both commercial and security operators nationally.

UESI's parent company United Engineering Services (UES) LLC is headquartered in

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. UES International is specifically focused on providing market entry for the Group in the application of advanced composite platforms, initially into maritime, defence and security applications. KV Resources provides various types of boats through innovative supply and support commercial arrangements into Malaysia's maritime sector.

Usama Al Barwani, Managing Director, United Engineering Services, commented, "UESI are delighted to be developing a working relationship with KV Resources and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial business. In recognising

the synergies between KV Resources and UESI, there is an increase in demand for offshore support boats and fast interceptor boats to enable operators to undertake their roles and duties. We believe that together, we are perfectly positioned to secure business in the near term."

Datuk Nasir, Managing Director, KV Resources, said, "UES has a world-class portfolio and their UESI operation in Melaka is maintaining that quality of product output. The engineering standards of design and production in their maritime platforms are impressive and we are looking forward to working with them." ■

Mawarid Mining Company receives Omanisation



Rashid Al Bimani, General Manager - HR, Admin & Security, Mawarid Mining LLC receiving the Omanisation award for Localization in the GCC, in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Mawarid Mining Company, the largest private mining company in Oman, was selected by the Ministry of Manpower-Sultanate of Oman as one of the leading organizations in terms of Omanisation of Jobs at the GCC level and felicitated during the 12th honorary ceremony for private sector enterprises for Localization in the GCC on September 25, 2012. The ceremony was held in Riyadh on the sidelines of the 29th session of the Council of GCC Labour Ministers.

The event celebrated the achievement of the private

sector in different disciplines in appreciation for efforts made to increase Omanisation rates in private establishments. Mawarid Mining has earned recognition and was selected for this year's awards due to its high rate of Omanisation. The award was presented to Mawarid's representative for achieving and maintaining high Omanisation percentage in the year 2012.

Tariq Al Barwani, CEO, Mawarid Mining Company, said, "We are delighted to receive this award. It is part of our companies` mission,

to serve the communities where we operate, which includes recruiting, training and development of local talent. We will continue in the same direction with sincere dedication and responsibility."

Mawarid's Omanisation percentage as on end of August 2012 stands at 77.4% with 378 out of a total its 488 employees being Omanis and as such Mawarid remains at the forefront of making a meaningful contribution to the Omani Society.

Following the footprints of its

award for 2nd time in 3 years



Rashid Al Bimani along with the HR team of Mawarid Mining

parent company MB Holding, Mawarid right from its inception has paid special attention on recruiting and developing of nationals wherein as a policy, preference in employment is given to nationals. Knowing that mining is relatively new to Oman; Mawarid as a part of its corporate social responsibility developed and implemented various training and guidance programmes to enhance employee competencies through various on-the-job and formal training programmes including technical and non-technical trainings for its Omani employees.

Mawarid encourages and supports its Omani employees to develop their respective disciplines and take up supervisory and leadership

positions. In the period from January 2011 to August 2012, Mawarid provided more than 1300 training seats to its Omani employees wherein employees attended training programs on their respective technical & functional skills, HSE, English language, supervisory development, leadership and behavioural development.

The company's unwavering commitment to corporate social responsibility includes the undertaking that all stakeholders in an area shall benefit from the company's operation which is evident from the fact that out of a total of its 378 Omani employees more than 300 come from the areas in which Mawarid presently has operations or has plans to

have operations in near future.

Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director – Corporate Operations, MB Holding Company, said, “Our Human Resources departments within the entire group have continued to implement the road map to transform processes towards functional excellence in all aspects. Mawarid as a part of its mission and corporate social responsibility has developed and implemented various training and guidance programmes to enhance employee competencies through on the job and formal training programmes including technical and non-technical training for its Omani employees. This recognition further strengthens our resolve in this direction.”

Rashid Al Bimani, HR & Administration & Security General Manager, Mawarid Mining, who received the award said, “It is an honour to receive this award on behalf of Mawarid Mining Company. Mawarid operates with a strong belief that an organisation must focus on training & development of its employees at all levels. Our unwavering commitment towards Omanisation is there for all to see and we shall continue in our path.” ■

Exploration Activities – An Update



Below is an update of the various exploration activities that are currently being undertaken by Mawarid Mining

Kazakhstan:

A 22-hole, 2,550m diamond coring Phase 1 exploration programme was completed since drilling commenced in Kazakhstan on the Tokum Prospect. Assay results from this programme included significant wide zones of pervasive medium-grade gold mineralisation with occasional high spikes throughout the drilled area. Efforts are underway to produce a preliminary resource estimate by the end of the year.

In addition, the company also hired a third drill rig and further exploration drilling has commenced on the Zhenishke and DH2003 prospects. Six trenches were also completed on the Yuzhnoye South prospect and additional trenches are planned for the nearby Tam Ak prospect before winter sets in.

Tanzania:

For easier reference, the Chunya license in Tanzania has been sub-divided into four exploration blocks namely, Makona, Yagowe,

Zablon and Mabatini blocks. The regional mapping programme encompassing the entire license is progressing well and a total of 154 rock chip samples have so far been collected from prospective outcrops and shear structures. Assaying of the samples is currently being done at the SGS laboratory in Mwanza.

Mawarid Mining Tanzania has begun drilling on its Chunya leases in the Lupa goldfields in south-west Tanzania. A prospect scale mapping programme was completed that identified favourable zones for follow up drilling. A 10-hole 2,000m diamond core drilling programme has been planned. Mawarid Mining Tanzania is employing local drilling contractors to complete this programme as well as support local labour for core processing needs. Mawarid has tangible proof of the existence of gold on its leases as they contain some sub-tenements for local artisanal miners. The mining methods may be makeshift but Mawarid geologists have observed the gold these miners are digging out and expect their efforts to be the tip of the iceberg.

Reconnaissance exploration work and site visits to the three licenses on the Lake Victoria Greenstone Belt are planned for the last quarter of 2012. ■



Mawarid Mining operations – An Update



The Mandoos pit operation started in the month of October 2011 well in advance of the scheduled November first week. Initially pre-digging operation started till the first blast was done on 22nd November 2011. Mining operations have been continued systematically right from the beginning.

Due to low ore stock piles and keeping in view the schedule of ore supply to the plant, the management decided to increase the fleet size to meet the stiff production target. Two new excavators and 3 dump trucks were added to the Mawarid fleet of equipment and 4 trucks were hired to further strengthen the fleet size to meet the targeted production.

The production targets were continuously achieved on more than a million tonnes starting from January 2012 to May 2012 as well as the overall production since we commenced operations in October 2011. Till date, we have achieved an average of 22% more than the planned quantity.

The first copper ore from this pit was mined in June 2012. This is a milestone for the mining team considering that for almost 8 months there was no ore and also the fact that this target was achieved as per original planned schedule.

Mawarid was given drilling and blasting license in 2010 and ever since all the drilling

and blasting has been carried out by the in-house team.

The major challenge was also the availability of blasting material and blasting restrictions i.e. limited blast per week as well as the size of the blast permitted by ROP.

To overcome this, Mawarid submitted a request to increase the blast size and as luck would have it, the ROP agreed and approved trial permission for 15 tonnes of blast.

Another milestone is the successful completion of earth work at the plant (Tailings Dam Extension work) which was taken up in March this year and completed in record time. ■

Mawarid Mining marks its presence at the MENA Mining Congress in Dubai



Tariq Al Barwani, CEO, Mawarid Mining making a presentation at MENA Mining Congress

Mawarid Mining LLC participated in the fourth annual MENA Mining Congress held in Dubai recently.

This annual event served as an important networking point for mining companies, investors, government officials and financiers from different countries within the mining community. The congress served as an influential podium which exhibited and highlighted Mawarid Mining’s capabilities and achievements.

Mawarid Mining showcased its credentials with a double participation in this key event. They took part in the exhibition and had 2 important presentations in the conference. Ore samples from the Hatta, Safwa and Mandoos mines were displayed at the stand that

proved to be an attraction. One of the key speakers at the MENA Mining Congress was Tariq Al Barwani, CEO of Mawarid Mining LLC. He spoke about mining opportunities for copper in the Al Batinah region of Oman.

In his presentation, Tariq spoke about the Mandoos pit and the economies of scale that it involved. He also discussed at

length, the completed projects in the Hatta Mine, Hatta South Mine, Hatta Extended, Shinas Mine, Safwa Mine and the Ghuzayn 2013 deliverables.

Tariq also mentioned that Mawarid Mining had commenced international operations and explained the company’s exploration strategy and programme in Jabal Khalkal, Saudi Arabia, Kazakhstan and Tanzania for the year 2012/2013. ■



Vengesayi Nyamondo



Mawarid stand at MENA Mining Congress

New Force in MB Holding



Afrah Musallam Khamis Al Busaidi
Legal Assistant



Iman Ahmed Hamood Al Esry
Graduate Trainee-HR



Sampath Kumar Gadamsetty
Manager - Internal Audit

New Force in Petrogas



Azhar Al Kindi
**Deputy COO , Petrogas
E&P LLC**



Kalyan Bania
**Business Analyst, Petrogas
E&P LLC**



Gautam Biswas
**New Venture Team Leader,
Petrogas E&P LLC**

New Force in UES



Ahmed Salim Al Hajri
**Graduate Development
Trainee, Agency Sales**



Khalfan Hamdan Al Shamsi
**Graduate Development
Trainee, Fabrication**



Faisal Ali Al Manji
**Graduate Development
Trainee**

New Force in UES



Wael Mohammed Al Zadjali
**Graduate Development
Trainee, Machine Shop**



Andrew Stefan Wagner
**Deputy General Manager -
Marine**



Vijay Iran Dsilva
Procurement Officer,

New Force in Mawarid



Ahmed Mohammed Al Maqbali
Laboratory Analyst



Almuhammad Ali Mubarak Al Mukhaini
**HSE Officer – Drilling
and Exploration**



Miroslaw Stanislaw Bilinski
GM - Under Ground Project



Endayenew Molla
**Mines Maintenance
Mechanic**



Ephrem Dibaba
**Mines Maintenance
Auto Electrician**



Suvith Visalakshy Surendran
**Plant Maintenance
Diesel Mechanic**

New Force in Mawarid



Makhsud Mirdodoev
**Procurement Senior Contract
& Procurement Specialist**



Manjunath
Shift Metallurgist

New Force in MBPS



Al Mutassim Al Riyami
Recruitment Specialist



Iqrar Husain
**Operation Manager,
Drilling Department**

MB Holding holds iftar for its staff



MB Holding hosted its Annual Iftar Party during the holy of Ramadhan at the Intercontinental Hotel, Muscat. MB Holding employees including Muslim staff, Directors, CEO's, GM's and Divisional heads participated in the celebrations in full strength making the occasion a memorable one. ■





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- MB Holding LLC is a group of companies that has evolved into one of the fastest growing and most versatile players in the oil & gas, and mining sector in the Middle East with presence in more than 20 countries.
- It comprises over 6000 professionals from more than 51 nationalities delivering significant value and success.
- The MB group makes significant investments in the development and training of its employees to enrich personal learning and continually build local organizational capacity.

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