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## Petrotech: The trademark of Indian hydrocarbon industry

OTECH 2010

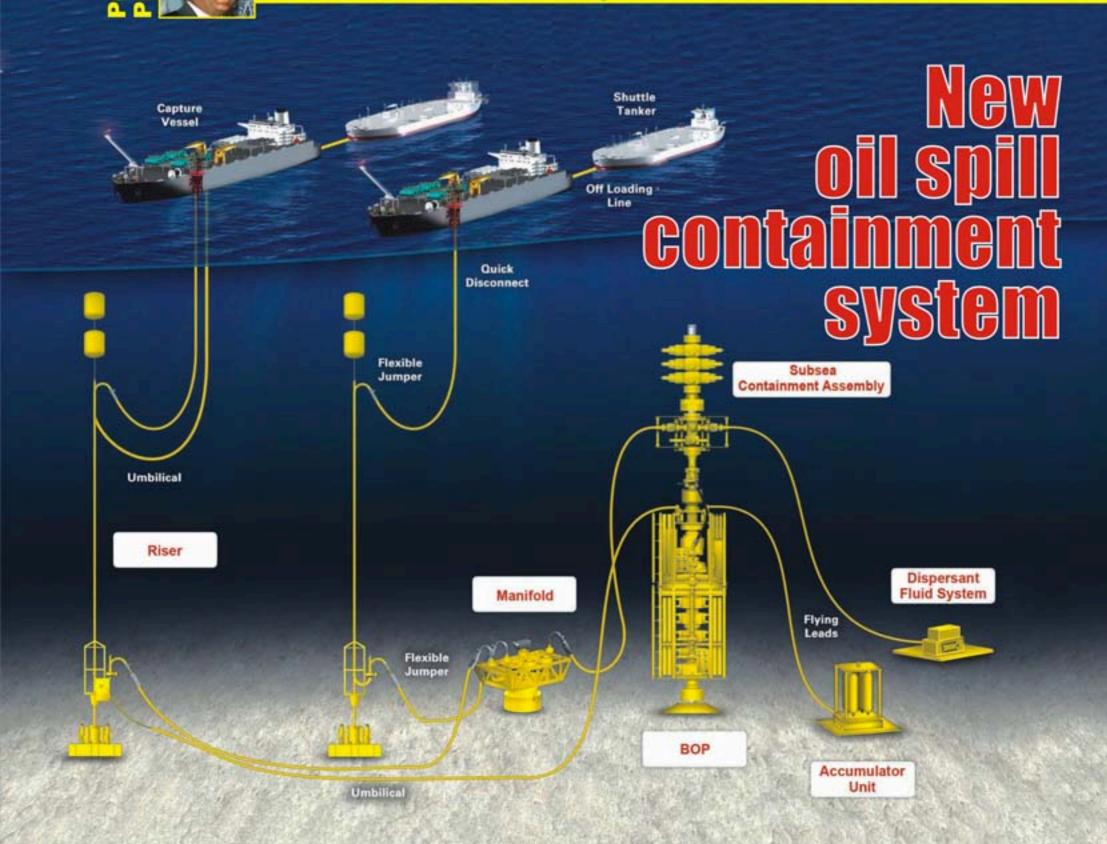
"We are confident of delivering a world-class event" Sudhir Vasudeva, Chairman, Organising Committee, Petrotech 2010

"Petrotech 2010 Exhibition will be India's first carbon neutral event"

A.K. Hazarika, Chairman, Exhibition Committee, Petrotech 2010

"Petrotech Society to scale up its efforts towards industry-academia interface"
Naresh Kumar, President, Petrotech Society

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# "Petrotech Society to scale up its efforts towards industry-academia interface"





Chief Editor, DEW talks to Mr. Naresh Kumar, President, Petrotech Society to find out the activities of the Society as also its strategies to make the upcoming PETROTECH 2010 the best in class. Excerpts from the interview:

# (Mr. Naresh Kumar is MD, Jindal Drilling & Industries)

Congratulations for being re-elected, for forth consecutive term from amongst the doyens of the Indian oil industry as President, Petrotech Society. What was your winning edge?

Thanks. It is always an honor to be associated with Petrotech Society and work for the industry with some of the best of Oil and Gas professionals.

As one of the founding members of the Petrotech Society, I have tried to give it as much quality time and effort as possible to help it grow from a small base to a globally renowned body in this industry. As its president, I have also contributed my bit to voice the Society's recommendations on various policy formulations.

I am privileged that the Governing Council of the Petrotech Society recognized my work towards championing its cause, and has unanimously re-elected me as its President for the fourth consecutive term. We have accomplished a lot, but there's a lot that we still need to achieve as a team... Right now, the focus is on making the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Petrotech Conference and



"Petrotech Society hopes to enter into more co-operations and agreements to ensure knowledge sharing and exchange of professional expertise"

### Exclusive to DEW

"Society aims to scale up its efforts in popularizing the industry among students as a preferred career option by facilitating more industry academia interface so as to give them a close perspective of this industry"

Exhibition a bigger success, which is scheduled to be held between 31<sup>st</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> November in New Delhi.

### How long you have been the President of Petrotech Society? What is your role as the President? Could you recount some of the major achievements of the Society under your Presidentship over the years?

I have been serving as the President of Petrotech Society since 2004 and also the head of its Executive Committee. My responsibility is to guide the Society's secretariat together with other able professionals from the industry. The executive committee also decides upon the schedule for holding workshops, seminars, conferences and other academic initiatives of the Society. We also need to ensure successful implementation of objectives as enshrined in the memorandum of the Society. Over and above these activities, as part of the Steering Committee and various Nodal Committees for our flagship biennial conference, my role also requires to contribute towards making the Petrotech Conference and Exhibition a world class event.

Over the years, Petrotech Conferences have grown in size as well as quality of participation. From just over a thousand delegates in 1995, we had the honor of having more than 4500 delegates and representation of more than 45 countries in 2009, which included honorable Energy Ministers from 11 countries. Today, Petrotech Conference and Exhibition has emerged as one of the trademark events of Indian Hydrocarbon Industry under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It has also gained widespread & ever-increasing popularity among international oil and gas community especially in the last few years. I believe it is one of the very few conferences in Asian region which, even after 15 years, has not only treasured its legacy but also has grown

every time, which itself is a big achievement. Petrotech is also working towards addressing the manpower crunch for hydrocarbon industry by way of establishing Petrotech Chair in reputed institutes and opening student chapters in various institutes, which again is another way of contribution towards industry.

# What are your immediate priorities and long term thrust areas as the new President, Petrotech Society?

The 9<sup>th</sup> Petrotech Conference and Exhibition is just round the corner in October-November this year. Our immediate priority obviously is to make it the best of the Petrotech Conference & Exhibition so far, which has been the trend since inception.

This year, we also intend to take the Petrotech Conferences and Exhibition a step forward and utilize it even more effectively to facilitate technology transfer and asset acquisition abroad for ensuring India's energy security. In today's complex operational environment technology holds the key for oil industry. Petrotech is keen on placing more thrust on playing the role of an enabler and facilitator for bringing in required technology for Indian oil and gas sector. Further, Petrotech Society also hopes to enter into more cooperations and agreements to ensure knowledge sharing and exchange of professional expertise.

Manpower crunch is another big problem for Indian and international hydrocarbon industry. To address this arduous challenge, the Society aims to scale up its efforts in popularizing the industry among students as a preferred career option by facilitating more industry academia interface so as to give them a close perspective of this industry.

# What are the broad activities of the Petrotech Society other than organizing the biennial Petrotech Conference and Exhibition?

Apart from Organizing the biggest biennial Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition in the Asian Region, Petrotech Society also confers Lifetime Achievement Awards to honor people who have made extraordinary contributions to the growth of petroleum industry in India. It also organizes several seminars and workshops on various aspects of the hydrocarbon industry, such as exploration, refining & petrochemicals, R&D, HSE,

"We are in talks to invite some very eminent speakers from IADC to deliberate in the forthcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Petrotech Conference, to make the discussions more rich and meaningful"

carbon credit, CDM, beyond petroleum etc. to help foster a continual learning environment. In order to promote R&D in hydrocarbon technology, the Society has also constituted research fellowships, and has signed a MoU with University of Alberta, Canada to exchange of professional expertise and knowledge sharing in the area of petroleum management. Petrotech Society has already organized the two industry educational tours to University of Alberta and Western Canada in 2008 and 2009. The third such exchange programme is scheduled from 24th July to 5th August this year. We also have student chapters in several universities and institutes across India to attract students.

You have also been the first & only Asian to be elected to the board of International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC), US. How do you plan to use your IADC influence to attract more oil majors, especially from the drilling industry, to participate in the Petrotech conference and exhibition?

It always helps to leverage your network to bring experienced professionals of international repute to India for deliberation and also showcase to them the achievements of the Indian oil industry. IADC which is the apex body for Drilling Contractors & service providers since 1940 is very well connected to every part of world. Besides inviting delegates attending the event, we are in fact in talks to invite some very eminent speakers from IADC to deliberate in the forthcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Petrotech Conference, to make the discussions more rich and meaningful.

You are the Managing Director of Jindal Drilling and Industries, President, Petrotech Society, Member of the prestigious IADC, US, Member of the R-Group of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India besides other similar assignments. How do you don so many hats at a time and do justice to all? Could you share the secret of your success?

Other than the things which you just mentioned, I am also very actively involved in upliftment of various segments of Society. I strongly believe it's our moral responsibility to pay back to the society and the industry in whatever way one can – in fact everyone should, and in every possible manner. It's not an easy job to balance your commitment towards several responsibilities in addition to your business, but it's not impossible as well, especially if one has a genuine



Mr. Naresh Kumar, President, Petrotech Society with Mr. R.S. Sharma, Chairman, Steering Committee, Petrotech 2010 at the second Steering Committee Meeting at New Delhi.



Mr. Naresh Kumar, President, Petrotech Society and Managing Director, Jindal Drilling and Industries Limited addressing the members at the second Steering Committee Meeting in New Delhi.

"Petrotech is keen on placing more thrust on playing the role of an enabler and facilitator for bringing in required technology for Indian oil and gas sector"

intent of dedication and giving back. All it requires is a rigorously disciplined approach, clear focus on priorities, and a strong resolve.

The only drawback that I feel is that sometimes it becomes difficult to spend quality time with family. There is a saying in corporate world, "All the busiest people have all the time to do everything in the world." It just requires making priorities in life with passion & managing your time well. As they say, first you manage time, then you manage timelessness!