

»» Asia or Western Europe," he said.

"Douglas-Westwood's forecast of total global installations represents a 37 per cent increase on the 2007-2011 period (when there were 98) and a corresponding increase of 81 per cent in expenditure," noted Lucy Miller, the lead author of the report.

"The disparity between the two percentages is a reflection of factors such as a larger proportion of newbuilds and conversions compared to redeployments, a greater degree

of local content raising the cost of relevant equipment and services and cost inflation.

"FPSOs will continue to dominate the sector, with 81 per cent of forecast global FPS spend. For the first time, our forecasts include a breakdown of FPS by component and associated spend. Expenditure on the hull is a considerable proportion of Capex – on average 25 per cent of an FPSO and around 35 per cent for other FPS types. The bottom line is that the sector is set for massive growth," she concluded.

Fugro enters into LOI to acquire OBN business

Fugro has entered into a letter of intent (LOI) to acquire the Ocean Bottom Node (OBN) business of SeaBird Exploration PLC.

Under the LOI Fugro will acquire SeaBird Technologies AS and Seabed Navigation Co Ltd, which collectively hold all of SeaBird's rights and assets related to the OBN business. The agreed acquisition price is US\$125 million on a cash and debt-free basis.

As part of the contemplated transaction Fugro has already acquired 11 per cent of SeaBird Technologies and Seabed Navigation Co Ltd. Fugro will also source charter vessel capacity from Seabird to support the OBN operations.

At the time of writing, SeaBird was mobilising for a US\$40 million OBN contract for ONGC. The OBN method is for seabed acquisition of 3D and 4D (time lapse reservoir monitoring) multi-component seismic data. OBN is the only available method for acquiring seabed seismic data in deep water and around obstructed areas. The nodes used in the OBN approach are deployed using ROVs. Fugro has provided ROV support to SeaBird's OBN business for several years.

Fairmount Glacier positions FPSO Usan offshore Nigeria

Fairmount Marine's ocean-going tug *Fairmount Glacier* has successfully assisted in the installation of the FPSO Usan, offshore Nigeria. Fairmount was contracted by Saipem Energies, which needed a tug with a bollard pull of 200 tonnes for the job.

The Usan FPSO is one of the largest of its kind: 320m long with a breadth of 61m. The unit was built by Hyundai Heavy Industries in Korea. The Usan oilfield, discovered about 10 years ago, is situated 100km south of Port Harcourt in water depths of up to 850m.

Fairmount Glacier had just completed a successful docking in Durban (South Africa) when it was contracted by Saipem Energies. During mobilisation to Nigeria, *Fairmount Glacier* called at Pointe Noir for preparation works. Directly afterwards the tug proceeded towards the Usan field.

Fairmount Glacier connected to the FPSO Usan as requested. After almost nine weeks of continuous heading control and other general assistance to the FPSO, the FPSO was successfully installed and the vessel was ordered to commence demobilisation.

De Hoop celebrates 10 years of building for Oceanografía



De Hoop has been building offshore vessels for Oceanografía for more than a decade

Shipyard De Hoop in the Netherlands recently celebrated a decade of shipbuilding for Oceanografía in Mexico. In 2001, Shipyard De Hoop designed, built and delivered its first ship to the Mexican shipping company. *Caballo De Mar* was a diving support vessel to be used for inspection, maintenance and repair.

In the years that followed, De Hoop developed another seven diving support vessels for Oceanografía, with varying functional requirements. In addition, Shipyard De Hoop designed and built two PSVs for the company.

The last two vessels, *Caballo Xanthus* and *Caballo Genitor*, are being built at the company's yards in Lobith and Foxhol. **OSJ**

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Annual Marine Propulsion Conference, London, UK
www.rivieramm.com/events

24–25 April

Ballast Water Treatment Technology Conference, London, UK
www.rivieramm.com/events

30 April–3 May

OTC 2012, Houston, Texas, USA
www.otc.org

24–25 May

European Dynamic Positioning Conference, London, UK
www.rivieramm.com/events

28–31 August

ONS 2012, Stavanger, Norway
www.ons.no

4–7 September

SMM 2012, Hamburg, Germany
www.smm-hamburg.de

17–20 September

Rio Oil and Gas, Rio, Brazil
www.ibp.org.br

27–30 November

OSEA 2012, Singapore, Malaysia
www.osea-asia.com

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