Offshore Technology Conference

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**April 2018**

**Diamond Offshore and Trelleborg Win Award for Engineering Innovation**

*Diamond Offshore and Trelleborg are called to the winner's circle for oil & gas product advancements and officially recognized for forward-thinking engineering*

HOUSTON, TX: Diamond Offshore and Trelleborg have been selected as one of the winners of E&P Magazine's prestigious Special Meritorious Awards for Engineering Innovation (MEA) in the Subsea systems category for their joint development technology involving creating a Helically Grooved Buoyancy design with VIV Suppression. The MEA awards will be presented at the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) in Houston, Texas.

Antony Croston, Business Group Director with Trelleborg’s offshore operation in Houston, says: "Since everyone involved in offshore oil & gas production knows that MEA entries are judged on their game-changing significance, both technically and economically, we couldn't be prouder to have our jointly developed technology that is acknowledged for enhancing performance of drilling riser operations in high current conditions.

“For many years, fairings have been accepted as the best technical solution for drag and VIV reduction on drilling risers. However, the use of fairings comes with an operational penalty in the form of increased running and retrieval time, as well as handling issues, especially in harsh weather. We now have an integral concept that not only provides critical uplift to marine risers but also significantly reduces drag and flow-induced motion. Recent validation test results indicate that the performance is equivalent to fairings but at a fraction of the total operational cost.”

Helically grooved buoyancy is the result of a joint development between Trelleborg Offshore and Diamond Offshore Drilling to integrate vortex-induced vibration (VIV) suppression and drag reduction with drill riser buoyancy, increasing rig efficiency without compromising on safety or structural integrity. The design dimensions are optimized to ensure uncompromised uplift while effectively eliminating riser motions and higher levels of drag in onerous offshore current environments compared to traditional riser buoyancy. The new multi-functional solution integrates the technology to suppress VIV and reduce drag into DRBM equipment during manufacturing, essentially eliminating the requirement of ancillary suppression equipment, alleviating complicated and time intensive riser running and retrieval procedures.

An independent team of experts, including engineers and engineering managers from operating and consulting companies worldwide, judged the competition. The winners come from a varied range of disciplines in oil & gas exploration and production, solving many of the issues that posed barriers to efficient operations. Technological advances of the winners open new and better avenues to the critical challenges the industry faces.

**~ENDS~**

**For press information:**

For additional information on Trelleborg’s offshore operation, please contact Ruth Clay, Mobile: +1 281 740 5755; [ruth.clay@trelleborg.com](mailto:ruth.clay@trelleborg.com).

**Notes to Editors:**

About Diamond Offshore

Diamond Offshore is a leader in offshore drilling, providing contract drilling services to the energy industry around the globe. Additional information and access to the Company’s SEC filings are available at www.diamondoffshore.com. Diamond Offshore is owned 53% by Loews Corporation (NYSE: L).

**Trelleborg’s offshore operation and Trelleborg Group**

Using advanced polymer material technology, Trelleborg’s offshore operation provides high integrity solutions for the harshest and most demanding offshore environments. As part of the Trelleborg Offshore & Construction Business Area of Trelleborg Group, Trelleborg’s offshore operation specializes in the development and production of polymer and syntactic foam based seismic, marine, buoyancy, cable protection and thermal insulation products, as well as rubber-based passive and active fire protection solutions for the offshore industry. Within its portfolio are some long established and respected brands including, CRP, OCP, Viking and Emerson & Cuming. Trelleborg’s offshore operation has been providing innovative solutions to the industry for over 30 years. [www.trelleborg.com/offshore](http://www.trelleborg.com/offshore)

**Trelleborg** is a world leader in engineered polymer solutions that seal, damp and protect critical applications in demanding environments. Its innovative solutions accelerate performance for customers in a sustainable way. The Trelleborg Group has annual sales of about SEK 32 billion (EUR 3.28 billion, USD 3.69 billion) and operations in about 50 countries. The Group comprises five business areas: Trelleborg Coated Systems, Trelleborg Industrial Solutions, Trelleborg Offshore & Construction, Trelleborg Sealing Solutions and Trelleborg Wheel Systems. The Trelleborg share has been listed on the Stock Exchange since 1964 and is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm, Large Cap. www.trelleborg.com.