

Gripping News



**A regular quarterly newsletter
Informing and Entertaining !**

June 2007

Well, after a gap of several years, we've decided to start up our newsletter again. Actually, when I look at the dates, our last newsletter was issued in the last century ! Since then a lot has happened at Bardex and we've welcomed new agents and representatives on board to help us and we've added many new customers from all around the world too.

Gripping News will focus on what's new at Bardex and the people who make our business a success. We'll also have a regular feature article or two. But to make it work, we'd like your ideas as well – so please tell us what you would like to see and read about – and send me Bardex news from your area.

Offshore Technology Conference 2007

It's official ! Over 67,000 people from 110 countries attended the recent OTC (Offshore Technology Conference) in Houston in the first week of May. Bardex was just one of 2,400 companies exhibiting in a show that occupied 49,000 sq. m. – the size of 13 football fields. As a high-priority company which has exhibited at the OTC since it first



began, the Bardex exhibition stand was in a prime location. This year we were very close to major customers SBM, Saipem and Technip. Oilfield suppliers Oil States Industries and National Oilwell Varco were close by too.

Bardex will be at next year's OTC on 5th – 8th May, 2008 so we hope to see you there too !

Forties Delta – new grippers

Bardex has recently been awarded an order for new replacement grippers for the Forties Delta platform in the UK sector of the North Sea. During the last 18 months we've also received similar orders to change out the grippers on the Forties Alpha, Bravo and Charlie platforms. We supplied the original gripper jacks on all four platforms over 35 years ago and in fact, except on the Charlie platform where replacement rams were also ordered, the original Bardex jacking cylinders will continue to be used !

When the giant Forties field development was being planned it was thought the oil would run out by the early 1990's but today, now operated by Apache North Sea Ltd. and with further development drilling, Apache have already increased field production to over 80,000 bbls/day and the Forties field is expected to last many more years yet.

Offshore Europe 2007



The next exhibition we attend will be Offshore Europe in Aberdeen, 4th – 7th September. Bardex will be at **Stand 876** and we will have photos and posters on display showing our entire product range.

Offshore Europe alternates with Offshore Northern Seas (in Stavanger) and although it's not as large as the OTC, it will still attract more than 35,000 visitors. If you or any of your customers are coming to Europe at this time, be sure to come to the show and visit us.

Stephen Jones from our UK office and Dennis Graney from Houston will be on hand to discuss equipment and application queries.

Experienced Hands

It's not just Bardex equipment that lasts and lasts.



Monty Peters is Manager of the Contracts Department in our Goleta, California corporate headquarters, but way back in 1973, Monty was a younger Bardex field service engineer who installed our gripper jacks and dedicated hydraulic power supply/control units on all four of the (then BP) Forties field platforms.

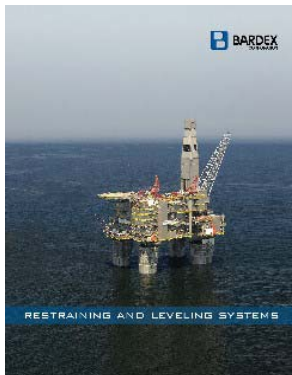
Engineering excellence combined with invaluable hands-on experience makes Bardex the supplier of choice when it comes to heavy load handling systems.

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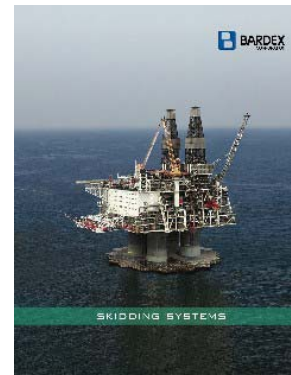
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We have produced two new excellent 4-page brochures which describe Bardex Skidding Systems and Bardex Restraining and Levelling Systems. As well as 3D graphics illustrating our products, we also include photographs of the equipment, working *in situ*.

We'll be sending out copies of these brochures to all our representatives, if you'd like any more – just let us know.



A Brief History of Bardex

We started trading in 1963 as Hydranautics and soon established two main divisions within the company - one for Heavy Load Handling Systems and one for Reverse Osmosis Systems. Both divisions grew and in the early 1980's, the original heavy load handling company was renamed Hydranautics Hydraulic Systems and the water purification division was sold off as Hydranautics Water Systems, a separate company. This sale also included the name "Hydranautics" and so the original group's name made a transition through Bardex Hydranautics to become, in 1984, Bardex Corporation. Bardex retained the manufacturing plant, head office and most all the personnel. Nowadays, although we source many parts and sub-assemblies from around the world, prior to shipping we still assemble, inspect and test the finished products in the same manufacturing plant that we started up in over 40 years ago.

Although we have a design and marketing office in Houston, Texas, the major part of our engineering and design effort is based in our corporate headquarter offices associated with the manufacturing plant in Goleta, California. Goleta operations maintain a registered Quality Management System in accordance with the requirements of ISO 9001:2000 and an Environmental Management System deemed consistent with guidelines established under ISO 14001, 1996 edition.

Today, Bardex is a worldwide technology leader, providing dependable solutions to heavy load handling and positioning problems in the Shipyard and Offshore Oil/Gas Industries.

In the Shipyard industry, our products include ship lifts from 1,000 te, to over 10,000 te capacity utilising linear chain jacks and ship transfer systems using skidding and/or wheeled bogies. We also supply offshore jacket load out and launch systems. In the Offshore Oil/Gas industry we provide drilling systems for such applications as rig skidding and BOP lifting/handling; for floating production/drilling platforms and vessels, our designs include chain jacks for mooring tensioning, steel catenary riser (SCR) and pipeline pull-in systems.

All of our products are custom designed and produced to match each specific application and so if your customers have any special heavy load handling requirements, let us know and we can offer the Bardex combination of excellence, experience and innovation to find an efficient and dependable solution.

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