CHINA’S MOST ADVANCED DEEP-WATER SEMI-SUBMERSIBLE DRILLING RIG IN DNV GL CLASS

It was announced from Shanghai on 21 November that COSLProspector, the fourth deep-water semi-submersible drilling rig built by CIMC Raffles for China Oilfield Services Limited (COSL), had been delivered in Yantai, Shandong Province. It represents another milestone for China’s deep-water drilling rig going into the global mainstream market.

COSLProspector has a length of 104.5 m, a width of 70.5 m, a height of 37.55 m, and an operating water depth of 1,500 m. It is able to drill 7,600 metres and has a designed operating temperature of -20 degrees Celsius. The rig is a multi-function platform, which has a maximum variable deck load of 5,000 tonnes and is able to accommodate 130 personnel. It is classed by DNV GL and China Classification Society (CCS) and meets the strictest standards of PSA and NORSOK. This highly automated unit is equipped with 10,000 controllers and alerts and can therefore be monitored remotely.

It is claimed that the rig adopts the most advanced power management and environmentally-friendly design concept, and facilities, including a variable frequency drive, an escape chute system and auto ice-cleaning technology. Compared with her three sister rigs delivered since 2010: COSLPioneer, COSLPromoter and COSLINnovator, COSLProspector adds ICE-T, CLEAN and WINTERIZATION notations. Therefore it fulfils ice-class, environmentally-friendly and low-temperature requirements.

Said Sun Guang, Yantai Station Manager at DNV GL: “The unit has complicated class notations. Its design and construction quality allow it to work in harsh environments such as the North Sea and the Barents Sea. COSLProspector represents the best quality in China offshore newbuilding.”

COSLProspector is the seventh deep-water semisubmersible drilling rig built by CIMC Raffles. The yard has other four semisubmersible drilling units under construction, which will also be classed by DNV GL.

Added DNV GL’s Vice President and Regional Manager Torgeir Sterri: “With the delivery of COSLProspector, CIMC Raffles demonstrates that it has established significant capabilities and capacities for series production and bulk delivery of high specification drilling rigs. As a class society coming from the North Sea, we are very proud and happy to be actively engaged in the fast development of Chinese offshore industry. Our ambition has been to contribute as much as we can by utilizing the competence and experience we have gained during the last decades through our involvement in the global offshore arena.
and in particular in the field of harsh environmental conditions. We will continue our endeavour to support our customers and partners in their pursuit of offshore engineering.”

About DNV GL in the People’s Republic of China
DNV GL was involved in the development of Chinese offshore industry as early as in 1970s. In 1979, DNV GL reached an agreement with the Chinese authorities to co-operate in the offshore sector. In early 1980s, DNV GL carried out classification services for three jack-up drilling rigs for China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) in Dalian Shipyards. DNV GL enables organisations to advance the safety and sustainability of their business. It provides classification and technical assurance services along with software and independent expert advisory services to the maritime, oil & gas and energy industries.

Picture caption
COSLProspector fulfils ice-class, environment-friendly and low-temperature requirements.