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Keith Grimes, CEO

Hi,

In the last month we had some interesting price movements in oil and gas that were somewhat unexpected given market conditions, but encouraging. We also saw some small increase in activity, measured by rig count that was also promising. So as we continue to see improvement in the industry, we are becoming more positive about finding people jobs while providing our client's the best people to fit their specific needs.

I want to brief you on a new development at Hamilton Group. We are entering an exclusive alliance with a new company, Decom International. Decom provides project management, well site supervision and engineering services in the decommissioning and P&A market for the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Their founders have very impressive experience in the business, exceptional integrity, a can-do attitude with a great approach to safely getting projects completed. We are looking forward to a close relationship with Decom and I believe that they will harmonize especially well with both the Hamilton Engineering and Petroleum Engineers businesses. Look for more information on this as we progress through the set up of the relationship in the next few weeks.

Thanks and talk to you next month.

Climate Change?

In this column, we normally share information about technology within our industry from one of our consultants or vendors partners. Today, we would like to share some information that we found interesting published from outside our industry.

There are clearly many sides to the global warming or climate change debate, but there is little doubt that the debate will affect our industry. In that light, we found the [Deutsche Bank Climate Change Advisors](#) asset management group interesting because of their financial commitment to invest in the area of climate change. Rather than a “blaming” attitude, their information focuses on the opportunities for those businesses that can either adapt to and/or mitigate climate change.

Of particular interest were two white papers:

[“Investing in Agriculture: Far-Reaching Challenge, Significant Opportunity: An Asset Management Perspective.”](#) This report explores the question of how to sustainably meet the growing energy and food demands of a global population approaching nine billion people in 2050 in a sector affected by climate change; and

[“Investing in Climate Change 2009: Necessity and Opportunity in Turbulent Times”](#) . This report argues that governments should not be deflected by the global market downturn from making major investments in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

These papers remind us that water, food and energy are forever interrelated and our world’s growing population cannot be supported without each of these areas having strong and vibrant businesses.

“There are clearly many sides to the global warming or climate change debate, but there is little doubt that the debate will affect our industry”

Just Something Fun: Claude Thorp

The Cook's Out of the Closet

Everyone knows that real men grill, but only the most independent, toughest, and strongest men will get up at three in the morning to smoke a brisket for the afternoon family picnic. I've recently compiled a non-scientific survey and can report that 85% of the men in Texas grill but don't smoke, 4.99% of the men in Texas will get up at three in the morning to smoke a brisket, but only 1% of 1% of the men in Texas will get up at three in the morning and are able to smoke a perfect brisket. Interestingly enough, 100% of the surveyed male and female population absolutely loves a perfect brisket, admires the 1% of 1% that can smoke it, and secretly wishes they were the original Marlboro man.

I'm sure a "smoker's" ancestor took pride in being alone on the open range and watching their cattle stand still for hours at a time. They stand in the heat all day, often with those aprons that butcher's wear (I would never call it an apron to their face) and usually have their favorite non-imported beer before breakfast. Independent, tough, strong and even mean when they have to be.

Admitting that I am less than a "real man" is hard, but okay, it's out there. I really don't like to "grill" and you will never catch me "smoking". I sleep okay knowing that my father passed away without ever knowing that I don't grill or smoke, but I am concerned about how my children and grandchildren might look at me should they ever find out. However, I do love a perfect brisket and the Marlboro man was cooler than the "most interesting man in the world".

John Talbot and I played last week with two of our executive level clients in the API golf tournament out at Kingwood Country Club. There were grillers and smokers that were grilling and smoking and even some that were playing golf; a "real man's" tournament. One of our foursome has a built-in smoker in his back yard, ranking him high in the 4.99%, but he was still striving for the perfect brisket. He and John talked a lot about smoking and even quizzed some of the onsite smoking experts for their secrets when John gave me an opening:

"You can smoke a great brisket in a slow cooker". Stay tuned next month for my recipe successes and failures, plus the answer to the difference between a slow cooker and a crock pot.

"only 1% of 1% of the men in Texas will get up at three in the morning and are able to smoke a perfect brisket"

Events of Interest

Haynesville Shale Expo
November 13, 2009
Shreveport, LA
[More Information](#)

LAGCOE
October 27 - 29
Lafayette, LA
[More Information](#)

Hamilton's wide range of service offerings come from the combination of three companies:

Hamilton Engineering Inc. (Houston, TX), founded in 1976 by Lacy Hamilton, specializes in providing consultants for the planning and supervision of petroleum related drilling, completion, and well workovers in nearly every oil producing state in the United States and over twenty foreign countries.

Petroleum Engineers Inc. (Lafayette, LA & Houston, TX), founded in 1970 by Don E. Claxton, Alvin Bellaire, Jr. and C. F. "Skip" Kimball III, specializes in providing the upstream industry with drilling and completion project management services as well as professional engineers, well site supervisors and technical services at a moments notice, worldwide.

Atlantis E&P Services Inc. (Houston, TX), founded in 2001 by Terry Clark, specializes in providing experienced reservoir and geoscience consultants with backgrounds in conventional and unconventional reservoirs in both domestic and international settings.

In addition to the services provided by these three companies, our companies have recently added drilling fluids management, IT, real-time data and full-time placement services.

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