

COMMUNIQUE

Kline announces state funding for \$18.5 million floodgate

By: Julia Arenstam, edited by Christy Alley Naquin

At the April SCIA General Membership Meeting, Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board Chairman Chip Kline announced that the state will pay for the \$18.5 million Grand Bayou floodgate.

The floodgate is the largest gap in the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection System between reaches K and L.

CPRA will also give the South Lafourche Levee District another \$5 million for work along the Larose-to-Golden Meadow hurricane protection system, Kline said.

"That is a huge announcement that every single leader in this room, from Terrebonne Parish and Lafourche Parish have been actively pursuing over the last five years," Kline said.

The floodgate project was made possible through the release of almost \$20 million from the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) in the CPRA annual plan.

The \$18.5 million now fully funds the floodgate's construction. The project should be put out for bid in July and complete construction before the 2021 hurricane season.

"The Morganza Action Coalition is grateful to and appreciative of Gov. John Bel Edwards and his executive assistant for coastal activities, Chip Kline, for their continued support to complete the Morganza-to-the-Gulf levee system. Their commitment to fund over \$18 million from GOMESA funds to build the Grand Bayou floodgate, linking the Terrebonne and Lafourche parish le-

vee systems, will provide closure to the last major gap in the Morganza levee system protecting eastern Terrebonne and north Lafourche Parish citizens," coalition President Jay Walker said.

Working with the Bayou Lafourche Freshwater District and Executive Director Ben Malbrough, the \$65 million Bayou Lafourche pump station will now be financed through a Department of Environmental Quality revolving loan fund.

The project was originally scheduled to receive \$35 million from GOMESA revenue. The new loan frees up almost \$20 million for CPRA to spend on the Grand Bayou floodgate.

The Bayou Lafourche pump station in Donaldsonville is designed to improve pumping capacity and increase the freshwater supply for nearby marshes.

The freshwater district and CPRA are splitting the cost, with CPRA committing to a \$50 million share and the district to a \$15 million share. The two agencies will split the repayments on the DEQ loan for up to 22 years, Malbrough said.

"As the result of the leadership and the proactive mindset of Ben Malbrough, he found a way with us to finance that project over 20 years," Kline said.

With a low interest rate of 0.95 percent, CPRA's estimated annual payments will be roughly \$2.7 million under a 20-year bond plan. The district's annual payments would



Chip Kline
CPRA Board Chairman

be about \$826,000, Malbrough said.

Because of the partnership with CPRA and DEQ, the water district is able to pay for the project without increasing water fees or imposing any new taxes, he said.

"This is the first restoration project that is going to be constructed with this funding source," Malbrough said.

The project qualified for the low-interest DEQ loan because it is part of the Barataria-National Estuary Program's comprehensive conservation and management plan.

Malbrough said they worked with BTNEP staff to identify the new funding source, which has primarily been used for sewerage projects.

Over the last three years, the freshwater district has spent about \$3 million on engineering and designs for the new pump. Once financing is complete, Malbrough said

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A Message from our President



I'd like to finish on the same topic that I started with... Purpose. The SCIA purpose in my words - we are an organization focused on engaging leaders to come up with solutions to the business challenges in our region. We are constantly striving to improve the business climate so companies can succeed, so jobs can flourish, and ultimately so the people of this community can enjoy the best quality of life this region has to offer.

I am proud of the progress towards that purpose over the last year, and confident that progress will be greater still in the years to come. The strength of this organization is in our hard working members. Please continue to stay committed to and engaged with your SCIA in striving for this good purpose.

Thanks,
PAUL DANOS
SCIA PRESIDENT



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From the Director's Desk

I have the honor of working with so many dynamic leaders. Each year at about this time, our current SCIA present passes the gavel to the new incoming President.

As we close out a Board term at SCIA I am able to reflect on the past year. It has been an honor to work closely with Paul Danos over the last 12 months during his presidency.

Paul's leadership and forward thinking has helped to grow SCIA in powerful and meaningful ways. Even during a slow recovering economy, Paul has led the way for SCIA to become more relevant and even more philanthropic as evident with SCIA's \$60,000 contribution to Fletcher Technical Community College. The donation for the Career Center building, bringing all essential admissions, workforce solutions and career counseling under one roof will unify so many services that new students, returning students, and even unemployed laborers can utilize.

Listing all of Paul's accomplishments related to SCIA and his attributes would fill this entire newsletter. So, I'll just say Thank you, Paul.

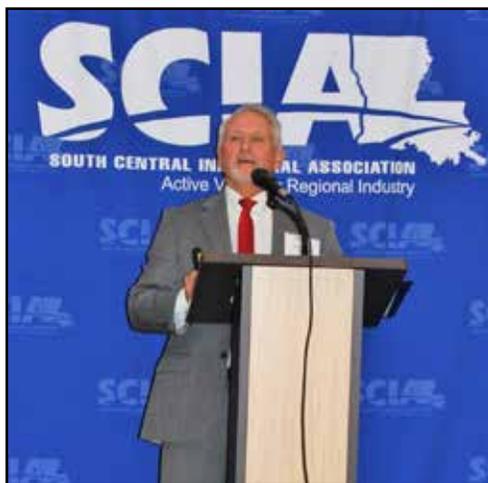
Chett, I look forward to working with you and building upon what all of the Presidents before you have worked toward. SCIA will continue to do great things under your leadership.

Christy Alley Naquin

SCIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Luthi points to industry's growing demand

By: Julia Arenstam, as edited by Christy Alley Naquin



Randall Luthi
NOIA President

The latest speaker at the South Central Industrial Association's monthly meeting rounded out a series of talks on the oil and gas industry.

Randall Luthi, departing president of the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA), told the group of industry professionals at the May General Membership meeting that the oil and gas industry will not fade away. Due to rising energy consumption across the globe, the oil and gas industry will continue to be a major source for energy into 2040, along with renewable energy, he said.

NOIA is an offshore industry and lobby group based in Washington, D.C., that represents the offshore business interests and related industries. For 47 years, the group has promoted fair and open access for development, Luthi said.

"Offshore is not dead, nor is it irrelevant," he said. "But it could be doing a lot better than it is."

Executives from some of the country's largest oil and gas producers such as Shell, Chevron and BP have all spoken to SCIA members on the same topic over the past few months.

The oil and gas industry is expected to invest \$11 trillion over the next 20 years to keep up with global energy demands, Luthi said.

That is coupled with a rise in momentum and resurgence of investments in the offshore industry as onshore shale drilling has slowed down or come to a plateau, he said.

Through equipment and platform standardization, companies have reduced the break-even price for a barrel of oil. Executives of Shell, Chevron and BP stated the same.

Standardization has driven the break-even price down from over \$100 per barrel, to \$45 or \$55, Luthi said. But the future of the industry relies heavily on politics, he said.

Luthi praised efforts by President Donald Trump's administration to open up offshore drilling beyond the Gulf Coast. The Administration's America First offshore energy policy and strategy, for example, would open drilling or exploration to 90 percent of federal offshore leases. Yet after the 2018 midterms and the "blue wave," combined with the upcoming presidential election in 2020, Luthi said, the industry should expect gridlock in Washington.

"On oil and gas, don't expect anything good to come out of the House of Representatives," Luthi said, noting the growing number of Democrats in the House.

There are some renewable energies that are begging to form as a branch of the oil and gas industries, he said. One project in Rhode Island put wind turbines offshore, utilizing some of the same service companies offshore platforms would use, Luthi said.

There's a "pipeline" of similar projects planned along the East Coast.

As Luthi prepares to leave NOIA to return to his home state of Wyoming, he said the industry needs to continue working to revitalize the Gulf of Mexico, open access to the eastern side of the Gulf, improve safety and speak up.

"There is no margin of error for us. We cannot make mistakes," he said. "We are still paying for the Macondo accident." 🇺🇸

Scalise leads Congressional talk on offshore drilling

By Halle Parker, as edited by Christy Alley Naquin

Flanked by six other members of congress, House Minority Whip Steve Scalise sat down with local oil industry representatives and port commissioners in late April at his annual Energy Tour and Roundtable to hear the issues facing the industry.

The roundtable served as an introduction for six of the Republicans' freshman House members from outside Louisiana: North Dakota Rep. Kelly Armstrong, Kansas Rep. Ron Estes, Texas Rep. Lance Gooden, West Virginia Rep. Carol Miller, Tennessee Rep. David Kustoff and Virginia Reps. Denver Riggleman and Ben Cline

Scalise said his fellow representatives flew down Monday and spent the day touring an offshore drilling platform before sitting down for the discussion.

Board members from the South Central Industrial Association and the Greater Lafourche Port Commission were in attendance, sharing their experiences and family histories in the oil industry. Capital One Bank, the Offshore Marine Services Association and Shell Oil Company representatives also joined them at the table.

The conversation focused on how Congress could help make drilling in the Gulf of Mexico more competitive and draw more companies back to the area.

The legislators asked Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association board member Lori LeBlanc to send them data comparing the United States' rate to others in the world.

LeBlanc had asked the representatives to look into royalty rate reform. "Do it in a way where you can bring those multi-billion dollar investments in the U.S. versus going to other countries," she said.

Several SCIA members called for the legislators to continue working toward deregulating the bank and oil industries.

Scalise noted that when they were talking about deregulation, he was looking at the regulation that was designed not to improve the industry but to inhibit drilling.

"Regulations can actually be counterintuitive to what they're supposed to do and



Minority Whip Scalise brought six Freshman House Members with him for the Energy Roundtable held at the Greater Lafourche Port Commission: From left to right: Representatives Denver Rigglemann and Ben Cline of Virginia, Representative Kelly Armstrong of North Dakota, Minority Whip Steve Scalise, Representative Carol Miller of West Virginia, Representative Ron Estes of Kansas, and Representative David Kustoff of Tennessee.

that is to create a fair and safe environment for everybody," he said.

Organization representatives also stressed the ties between the oil industry and coastal restoration and tried to explain the close relationship.

Deputy Port Director Davie Breaux said the service port exemplifies the effect of both public and private investment to maintain infrastructure and build the land for it. He said the relationship isn't normal.

"But that's what makes us unique," said Breaux.

Port Commission Board President Chuckie Cheramie, whose family has been in the industries since the 1940s, said the commission works hard to create new land to help the state.

Scalise said he was pushing for the expansion of GOMESA – the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act – to include any state interested in allowing off-

shore drilling, like Virginia. He said the federal government needs to use the revenue-sharing incentives in the act to encourage states to produce energy.

All of the House members present stressed their commitment to keeping the country "energy independent."

In his own introduction, Kustoff noted that the energy industry was bound to be an important topic in the 2020 presidential campaign, predicting it will be "front and center."

"Your livelihood is going to be part of the debate," he said. "We're on your side." 🇺🇸

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BSEE Finalizes Improved Blowout Preventer and Well Control Regulations

Via BSEE.org

The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) released the final improved Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control regulations. BSEE's final Well Control Rule – as the regulation is commonly known – removes unnecessary regulatory burdens to responsible offshore development while maintaining safety and environmental protection. The revised rule reflects the Trump Administration's focus on smarter regulations that provide regulatory certainty, signal American competitiveness, advance energy security, and sustain economic prosperity while promoting safety.

"Today's final rule puts safety first, both public and environmental safety, in a common sense way," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt. "Incorporating the best available science, best practices and technological innovations of the past decade, the rule eliminates unnecessary regulatory

burdens while maintaining safety and environmental protection offshore. Under President Trump's leadership, America is a leader on energy resulting in greater security and economic prosperity."

"BSEE's review has been thorough, careful, and tailored," said BSEE Director Scott Angelle. "Free of undue regulatory burden while ensuring that operators conduct outer Continental Shelf activities in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, today's rule will fuel and sustain responsible energy exploration and production of America's outer Continental Shelf."

The final revised rule leaves 274 out of 342 original Well Control Rule provisions – approximately 80 percent – unchanged. Sixty-eight provisions were identified as appropriate for revision, and 33 provisions were added to improve operations on the OCS. Following the direction of both Executive Order 13795 and Secretary's Order 3350,

the final rule addresses offshore oil and gas drilling, completions, workovers, and de-commissioning activities.

Furthermore, BSEE considered all 424 recommendations arising from 26 separate reports from 14 different organizations developed in the wake of and in response to the Deepwater Horizon and found that none of the revisions contravened any of these recommendations (see Listing of Reports).

The improvements to requirements for Blowout Preventer (BOP) design and testing include:

- Limiting the number of connection points to the BOP, reducing the number of potential failure points;
- Equipping each BOP with a high-flow receptacle to ensure faster delivery of fluid to perform the function from a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV);

see BSEE page 8 >>

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Industry Day at the Capitol Draws Huge Crowd

This year, over 1,000 energy industry supporters, workers and leaders showed up at A-Z Park at the Capitol for Oil and Gas Industry Day, hosted by GLAC. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from the three gubernatorial candidates about their plans for the future of the oil and natural gas industry in Louisiana. Gov. John Bel Edwards, Congressman Ralph Abraham and Eddie Rispone spoke to the crowd about Louisiana's economic growth and their plans for the industry if elected as governor. Terrebonne Parish President Gordon Dove preceded the gubernatorial candidates with a brief speech about the importance of industry, specifically in Terrebonne Parish, and the unwarranted lawsuits the State Administration has suggested the coastal parishes pursue against the oil and gas industry.

Gov. John Bel Edwards shared his vision for growing the oil and natural gas industry in Louisiana. "We still have our challenges, and we still have a lot of work to do," said Edwards. "But compared to where we were and where we are today, we can attack those remaining challenges from a position of strength. I am very optimistic about the future of our state and your role in it."

Congressman Ralph Abraham expressed his willingness to partner with industry companies and supporters. "I don't have to tell the oil and gas industry here the state of your business," said Abraham. "I'm here to thank you for what you do for Louisiana and what you do for all for all 64 parishes, including employment and the taxes you pay. And know that I'm with you."

Eddie Rispone, a businessman of Baton Rouge, spoke about the importance



Marc Ehrhardt, Director of Grow LA Coalition (GLAC) welcomes the crowd of attendees at Oil & Gas Industry Day at the Capitol.

of supporting the industry and economic growth in Louisiana. "There's no reason why Louisiana should not be no. 1 in the South when it comes to jobs and opportunities for our citizens with our resources here," said Rispone. 

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Opinion: You can't sue Mother Nature

Op-Ed By: Dan Fagan

Gov. John Bel Edwards would like to sue oil companies doing business in the state for their "damaging effects on the coast," claiming the industry helped destroy Louisiana's coastal wetlands with exploration practices, such as digging canals, that accelerated erosion.

But, Chris McLindon, president of the New Orleans Geological Society, says canals didn't cause most of the loss of Louisiana wetlands. The society has members from the energy industry, academia and the environmental field. He attributes the vast majority of wetland loss on natural subsidence caused by a combination of factors, including the downward pull of the weight of sediments and fault movement. He says as sediments flowing down the Mississippi River compact, it causes subsidence.

"The North American Continental plate is sinking under the Gulf Coast region. The tectonic fabric of this part of the continent is causing the Mississippi River basin to

subside," said McLindon.

When platonic plates shift in California, the earth shakes. When they shift in south Louisiana, the earth subsides resulting in wetland loss. Subsidence isn't commonly blamed by trial lawyers for wetland loss; it's coastal erosion supposedly caused by oil company canals.

McLindon offers compelling evidence, saying every major river basin in the world, much like the one in south Louisiana, experiences subsidence and wetlands loss. It's true even for river basins where there has been no oil and gas exploration. And he says there is not a single example, anywhere in the world, of reversing subsidence of a river basin.

Subsidence also occurs in episodes. McLindon says most of Louisiana's loss of wetlands happened between the 1930s and 1970s during an episode of accelerated subsidence caused in part by fault movement.

McLindon says the idea canals are to blame for Louisiana wetland loss comes from a 1988 study that ignores a much stronger correlation between subsidence and fault lines.

"The correlation isn't that good for the canals. There are areas with canals with wetlands loss. There are areas with canals with no associated wetlands loss. There are areas with wetland loss with no canals. Across the board, it's not a good fit. What's a better fit is the correlation between where faults extend to the surface and wetland loss occurs," said McLindon.

State Sen. Sharon Hewitt, R-Slidell, who's a former oil company executive, says McLindon's research on Louisiana wetland loss is crucial.

"I believe the work Chris McLindon and the New Orleans Geological Society are doing in conjunction with a number of

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Shell announces Gulf of Mexico deep-water discovery

Courtesy of Shell

Shell Offshore Inc. ("Shell"), a subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell plc, today announced a significant discovery at the Blacktip prospect in the deep water U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Evaluation is ongoing and appraisal planning is underway to further delineate the discovery and define development options.

"Blacktip is Shell's second material discovery in the Perdido Corridor and is part of a continuing exploration strategy to add competitive deep water options to extend our heartlands," said Andy Brown, Upstream Director for Royal Dutch Shell.

Blacktip is a Wilcox discovery in the Perdido thrust belt and was discovered in the Alaminos Canyon Block 380, approximately 30 miles from the Perdido platform and Whale discovery. The find presents the opportunity to augment existing production in the Perdido area where Shell's Great White, Silvertip and Tobago fields are already producing.

Drilling at the initial Blacktip well is still underway and has to date encountered more than 400 feet net oil pay with good reservoir and fluid characteristics. The well is currently being deepened to further assess the

structure's potential. Blacktip is operated by Shell (52.375%) and co-owned by Chevron U.S.A. Inc. (20%), Equinor Gulf of Mexico LLC (19.125%), and Repsol E&P USA Inc. (8.5%).

This discovery in a Shell heartland adds to the company's Paleogene exploration success in the Perdido area. Through exploration, Shell has added more than one billion barrels of oil equivalent in the last decade in the Gulf of Mexico. The company's global deep-water production is on track to exceed 900,000 boe per day by 2020, from already discovered, established areas. 

» CPRA cont. from pg. 1

construction on the new pump should begin in January.

"When we talk about this region, you're talking about close to 6,000 businesses, you're talking about over 100,000 jobs. 36 percent of the people who work here actually commute from other areas because of the jobs here, because they're high skilled jobs, high paying jobs," Kline said. "So why does CPRA keep investing in this region, why do you, as locals, keep taxing yourselves and investing in this region, why does industry continue to invest in this region? It's because this region matters. It matters to our state, it matters to the Gulf Coast and it matters to our country as a whole."

The state has kept investing in Morganza because it is the "highest-performing project by far," he said.

According to 50-year projections, if the system is completed, it will reduce annual flood damage costs by \$3.5 million. The state has invested \$180 million in the project. Local contributions amount to another \$234 million.

Kline, like many other state and local officials, questioned why the federal government hasn't contributed to the system's construction.

"The federal government has spent \$72 million on studies and zero on construction," Kline said.

Working with the Army Corps of Engineers, CPRA has brought the \$10.3 billion federal cost estimate down to \$3.2 billion, for the same level of protection, he said.

"Congress needs to pay attention to this," Kline said. "This will ultimately save the federal government money in the long run." 

» BSEE cont. from pg. 5

- Requiring an array of rams, which are steel covers designed to close rapidly around and over a drill pipe to stop the flow of hydrocarbons, with specific capabilities, allowing the most effective use of each ram type and maximizing functionality; and

- Improving the expected lifespan of a critical BOP component by specifying a testing methodology that provides a readiness check without putting unnecessary wear and tear on the component.

Background

BSEE published proposed revisions to the Well Control Rule on May 11, 2018, opening a 60-day public comment period that was later extended to 87 days. During the open comment period, BSEE received over 118,000 comments on the proposed rule. BSEE carefully reviewed and considered these comments prior to finalizing the 2019 Well Control Rule. 

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New Needs-based scholarships available through SCIA

For the first time, SCIA is offering two needs-based scholarships, in addition to their annual merit-based scholarships. One needs-based scholarship will be offered to a student attending Fletcher Technical Community College and the other to an undergraduate or graduate student attending Nicholls State University.

Unlike the merit-based scholarships, once the needs-based scholarship is awarded, the student can continue to receive the same financial assistance from SCIA each semester for up to four years, as long as the student meets a minimum GPA. In addition, each semester, a new student will be awarded another scholarship that they too can carry from semester to semester! "Essentially, it's like SCIA is helping to put students through four years of college!" said Executive Director, Christy Alley Naquin.

Criteria:

- Full time student at Nicholls or enrolled in Workforce Program at Fletcher
- Employee, child or grandchild of an SCIA member company
- Applicant receiving no academic scholarship aid
- Applicant must be a resident of Lafourche, Terrebonne or St. Mary parish and have graduated from one of these high schools.
- Applicant must have and maintain a 2.5 GPA. If applicant is a first-time freshman, he or she must have graduated from a high school with at least a 2.5 GPA.

Students meeting the above criteria can apply directly through Fletcher and/or Nicholls websites. FASFA forms are required and the colleges will be handling all documents and decisions. 🇺🇸

» Mother Nature cont. from pg. 7

Louisiana universities will provide critical information for future infrastructure investments," said Hewitt.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently announced that levees near New Orleans will require a lift prior to 2023 to maintain flood insurance accreditation. Much of the data needed to understand the issue of subsidence and which levees require lifting will come from the oil industry. New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, joining other surrounding jurisdictions, recently involved the city in a lawsuit against the oil industry. McLindon says litigation often obstructs the oil industry's ability to work cooperatively with government.

If McLindon is right about subsidence as the main cause of wetland loss, who will the Administration suggest we sue next? You can't sue Mother Nature! 🇺🇸



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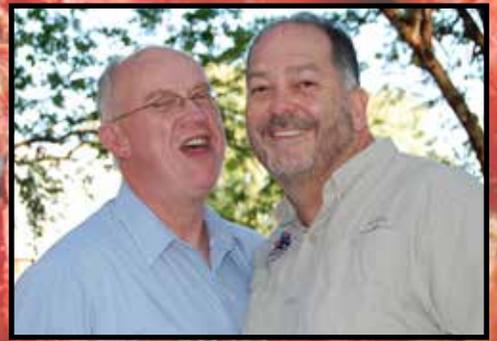
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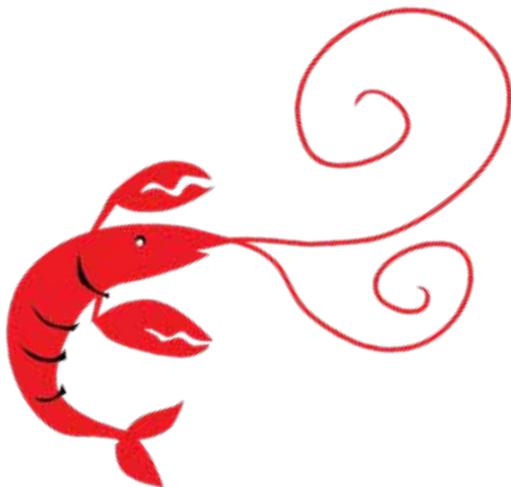
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Thank you to Cannata's for the delicious desserts!

Out & About with SCIA



SCIA Board Members pause for a picture at the Oil and Gas Industry Day at the Capitol. Pictured left to right are: Chett Chiasson, SCIA Executive VP, Lori LeBlanc Board Member, Christy Alley Naquin Executive Director, and Wynn Radford SCIA Board Member.



Members of BP pose for a picture at Oil & Gas Industry Day at the Capitol



SCIA Executive VP Chett Chiasson emceed for BSEE Director Scott Angelle's Press Conference announcing the revisions to the Well Control Rule and Blowout Preventor Systems. Speakers also included LA District Attorney Jeff Landry, Senator Norby Chabert, and GEST Executive Director/SCIA Board Member, Lori LeBlanc.



Terrebonne Parish President Gordy Dove gives opening remarks to attendees of this year's Oil & Gas Industry Day held at the Capitol



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Paul Danos spoke to the membership at his last meeting as President of South Central Industrial Association.



SEACOR was a sponsor of the May General Membership Meeting. Willard Robison of SEACOR addressed the membership prior to the guest speaker to give insight of SEACOR's beginnings and where they are today.



Paul Danos presents a new member certificate to Ann Miller of Ortho LA at the May General Membership Meeting.

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Employers: Look for certifications when hiring entry-level staff

2019 graduates Terrebonne Parish Public School Students earned more than 3,000 certifications.

By: Katherine Gilbert-Theriot

It's an HR manager's dream: Finding a low-cost way of assessing an applicant's skill sets and training.

Luckily, employers have a new tool they can use when hiring entry-level employees, being brought to the hiring community via the Jump Start career pathway program. And as of the May graduation season, 1,003 Terrebonne more graduates are in the market with industry-based certifications.

Jump Start is Louisiana's career and technical education program which aims to begin career training while students are still in high school, allowing them to earn industry-based certifications and culminating their high-school career with a Career Diploma. The program sets the students up to enter the workforce and/or continue their education with a head start on skill sets needed by employers.

Say you're a retailer looking to increase your staff for the holiday shopping season: wouldn't it be nice to hire a young person for evening shifts who has some training in customer service? The Jump Start program offers a Customer Service and Sales certification – and students across Terrebonne Parish are testing for the certification this fall.

But Customer Service and Sales is only one of the certifications available to students. Terrebonne Parish School students can earn several of the following in their junior and senior years:

- Adobe Certified Associate Photoshop
- ASE Automotive certifications (auto body/collision and repair technology/technician, drive train and axels, electrical/electronics, engine performance and repair, heating/air conditioning, maintenance/light repair, steering/suspension, and transmission/transaxel)
- ASE Welding Level 1
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Certified Restaurant Server
- CIW Web Design Specialist, Network Technology Associate, Internet Business Associate
- Emergency Medical Responder
- FEMA National Incident Management System

- First Aid/CPR/AED
- Food and Beverage Executive
- Louisiana Micro-Enterprise
- Microsoft Office Specialist
- Microsoft Office Specialist Master
- MOUS Office Specialist 2010
- NCCER Core
- NCCER Carpentry Level 1 and 2
- NCCER Electrical Level 1 and 2
- NCCER Welding Level 2
- OSHA 10 General Industry
- Pro Start S/P2 Safety and Pollution Prevention
- ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certificate
- T2 Production Safety Systems
- WorkKeys (skills evaluation in applied math, graphic literacy and workplace documents)

These Jump Start career diplomas give students a level of knowledge in these areas, offering companies new options when hiring entry-level staff and providing students skills sets upon which they can build through their career or further education.

College-bound students are also earning certifications in the business and production safety applications, all extremely useful as they further their education. 

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LAGCOE to host exposition and conference in New Orleans

Courtesy of LAGCOE

Since its founding in the 1950s, LAGCOE has remained a nonprofit organization committed to serving the oil & gas industry. Over the years, as the industry has grown and developed, so has LAGCOE. While mostly known for its long-running biennial technical exposition and conference, LAGCOE as an organization has expanded and is dedicated to the growth of the energy sector. This is accomplished through facilitating domestic and international business development and fostering a pipeline for the energy workforce. Through its biennial technical expositions and conferences, as well as its educational programming, the organization focuses on three goals as it strives to build a robust community of energy specialists:

- Promoting commerce through opportunities to connect with global businesses and the latest technological innovations
- Fostering education by offering opportunities for individual advancement from high school to retirement
- Connecting people through learning and networking events

LAGCOE has provided countless opportunities for individuals and companies alike to grow alongside the fast-paced energy industry. While formerly focused on oil and gas, the technical exposition and conference has broadened its scope to encompass

hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of attendees, including many of the latest innovators and innovations in the energy sector. At the 2017 expo, LAGCOE shifted from an upstream-focused event into the midstream, maritime, and LNG industries event.

LAGCOE 2019, which will be held October 9-11 in New Orleans, Louisiana, will mark the 64th anniversary of onshore and offshore technical exposition and conference. Last summer, LAGCOE announced the move from its hometown of Lafayette to New Orleans. The new location, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, was selected to accommodate for growth and industry needs. Growth is already being realized.

With five months remaining until LAGCOE 2019, the space originally allocated for exhibitors in the convention center is nearly sold out. The size of the convention center allows for the opening of a second hall, which makes LAGCOE 2019 more successful for everyone involved. This will be the largest indoor square footage for exhibiting in LAGCOE's history. Two contributing factors leading to the influx of exhibitors include an uptick in the oil and gas economy and the growing excitement around the show's move to New Orleans.

Greg Stutes with Completion Specialists, Inc. and current LAGCOE Chairman said, "Moving our technical exposition and conference to New Orleans at this point in LAGCOE's history aligns with elements of our purpose, mission, and vision. With any change comes discomfort, but if you are done changing, you are done. It is exciting to see our LAGCOE community that is now so spread out continue to move forward and do what is necessary to embrace the change. The need to open more floor space to accommodate additional exhibitors is definitely a great sign towards a successful show."

LAGCOE 2019 exhibitors join a group of innovative individuals and businesses who are forging the future of the energy industry. Through hard work, creativity and "out-of-the-box" thinking, extraordinary new technologies have been developed to find and produce oil and natural gas. LAGCOE celebrates these innovations and technological advancements during the New Technology Showcase. Exhibitors and sponsors are eligible to participate in the showcase at no additional cost.

To view the criteria or learn more about LAGCOE 2019, please visit www.lagcoe.com/home-expo. 



Why Exhibit?

- CONNECT** your business with the right kind of attendees, in the right place.
- EXPLORE** technical and international sessions that focus on both the onshore and offshore oil and gas industry.
- DISCOVER** the new location in New Orleans will accommodate for growth and industry trends/ needs.



SCIA Members In the News

Nicholls, CPRA Announce Plans for Coastal Center

Nicholls State University, Gov. John Bel Edwards, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the CPRA Board announced their intent to create a coastal center on the Nicholls campus to study the effects of land loss in the Terrebonne and Atchafalaya Basins.

Gov. Edwards and Nicholls President Dr. Jay Clune signed the memorandum of understanding at a press conference in Baton Rouge.

"Nicholls State University is located in the epicenter for coastal restoration, with our service area losing more coastal land than anywhere else on the planet," said Dr. Jay Clune, Nicholls President. "This partnership with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, its board and the State of Louisiana is vitally important as we focus more of our resources on preserving the land and Cajun culture in the Bayou Region."

Louisiana loses a football field of coastal islands and wetlands every 100 minutes and has experienced more coastal land loss than any other state in the nation since 1930 with more than 1,800 square miles turned to open water.

The Terrebonne Basin has the highest rate of coastal land loss in the state with more than 30,000 acres of wetlands lost since 1932. Meanwhile, the Atchafalaya Basin gained 4,000 acres of wetlands while every other basin in the state has lost land.

"This is the beginning of a partnership where we can focus our attention on the Atchafalaya River and its needs; and the potential for it to be a restoration tool for the Terrebonne Basin," said Gov. Edwards. "The Terrebonne Basin has the highest rate of land loss of any basin along our coast, and it presents some of the most difficult conditions for us to implement projects."

The coastal center will be similar to the Center for River Studies on the Water Campus in Baton Rouge, allowing Nicholls to become a leader in restoration research, education and outreach. Projects, models and displays of the Atchafalaya River and the two basins will be housed at the center.

The CPRA assumed responsibility for the Atchafalaya Basin Program from the Department of Natural Resources last year and has incorporated plans for the basin into the state's larger coastal master plan.

"Partnerships such as this are a necessary and beneficial aspect of the business of coastal management in Louisiana," said Chip Kline, executive assistant to the governor for coastal activities and chairman of the CPRA board. "Given the expertise among its faculty, this partnership is a natural fit for us and a promising way of furthering our relationship with the community."

Nicholls faculty actively participate in various aspects of the coastal program as members of the Governor's Advisory Commission, technical advisory committees and Master Plan stakeholder groups.

Nicholls also announced a partnership with the University of New

Orleans, allowing students to easily transfer to UNO to earn a civil engineering degree, and UNO students to transfer to Nicholls to work toward a professional land surveying certification. In October, Nicholls signed a research-based collaborative agreement with the Water Institute of the Gulf. Combined with today's announcement, Dr. Clune believes that Nicholls has positioned itself as a leader in present and future coastal restoration efforts.

"We are excited about the possibilities that come with a coastal center, including the development of a coastal engineering program that will keep our students here to help us save our coast, instead of having to go somewhere else out of state," Dr. Clune said

Danos awarded major Permian contract

Danos has been awarded a significant contract across multiple services lines with a Texas-based, independent exploration and production company. The project will leverage Danos' Amelia Integrated Services Complex to fabricate piping and structural components which will then be shipped to the installation site in Midland, Texas, for assembly and construction of a central tank battery.

"With this project, we have an opportunity to provide a turn-key solution for a valued customer," said owner Eric Danos. "By fabricating the components in our Amelia, Louisiana, facility and shipping it to the Permian for assembly, we are able to best use our resources to meet our customer's needs in managing all aspects of this project."

The three-month project will utilize several of Danos' service lines including fabrication, project management, construction, automation, coatings and scaffolding.

"Our team's ability to design and prefabricate the project material is particularly unique. It allows us to operate safer and more efficiently while involving our teams in different geographies," said Danos.

Approximately 75 of Danos' employees in both Louisiana and Texas will assist with completion of this project. Danos currently has 3,200 employees, making it one of the largest oil and gas service providers in the marketplace.



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SCIA Members In the News

Fletcher signs agreement with TPCG

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government President Gordon Dove and Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher) Chancellor Dr. Kristine Strickland signed an agreement on April 4, 2019, that will bring a coastal restoration program to Fletcher Technical Community College. Students can enroll in the 40-hour intensive course beginning this fall to train for coastal restoration jobs in and around Terrebonne Parish.



"We are excited to launch this new Coastal Workforce Training program in partnership with the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government through the RESTORE Act," commented Fletcher Chancellor Dr. Kristine Strickland. "This program will provide our community with opportunities to upskill and retrain for future jobs in our Parish. Our hope is that we will be able to provide a strong and vibrant local workforce for many of the upcoming projects coming to the Bayou Region."

Coastal 101 will be offered beginning this fall. The class will begin with an overview of current coastal restoration efforts in the state, safety guidelines, heavy equipment training, dredging and lessons on endangered species. Full scholarships to the program will be available to up to 25 Terrebonne Parish residents. Applications for this scholarship will be available this summer.

Danos appoints new executive

Danos has appointed Daryl Rousse, a 30-year industry veteran, as vice president of production services. The announcement comes after Danos' recent acquisition of Shamrock Energy Solutions, where Rousse served as chief operating officer for three years.



"Daryl is an excellent addition to our executive leadership team. His longstanding oil and gas career brings valuable insight to our organization and our production service line that has significantly increased in scale and complexity since the acquisition," said owner Paul Danos.

Prior to joining Shamrock, Rousse spent 26 years with Royal Dutch Shell, where he worked as the Gulf of Mexico pipeline operations manager for 16 years and later operations readiness and assurance lead for special projects. Additionally, he held the positions of chief operating officer of Odyssey Pipeline Company and president of Ursa Pipeline Company.

A native of Cut Off, Louisiana, Rousse's first job was working summers in high school and college at Danos. He and his wife Monica have two daughters and reside in Houma.

ConocoPhillips presents check to Fletcher's Integrated Production Technologies Program

ConocoPhillips presented a check to Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher) for \$8,000 Thursday, April 5, 2019. The funds will be allocated towards the IPT BOOST program for students enrolled in Fletcher's Integrated Production Technologies (IPT) program. The BOOST (Basic Offshore Operations Skills Training) program offers a unique, hands-on learning opportunity that was customized for Fletcher students to deepen their understanding of deep-water principles and expose them to industry culture during simulated "real-world" platform shifts. Fletcher IPT instructors collaborated with Shell trainers to create a curriculum that built upon the theories taught in the IPT program and blended technical classroom instruction with practical hands-on experience.

For the past four years, ConocoPhillips' donations to the Integrated Production Technologies program have totaled \$22,000. Their contribution to the IPT program has assisted many students with scholarships and realistic workforce experience through BOOST. Since 2013, ConocoPhillips has made contributions totaling \$43,000 to the College.

"Fletcher Technical Community College is grateful to ConocoPhillips for their very generous gift," commented Fletcher Chancellor, Dr. Kristine Strickland. "Business and industry's continued commitment to educating and training the future workforce of Louisiana is vital to our future. This grant will enable the College to ensure that our students have hands-on, real-world training opportunities that will prepare them to enter the workforce."

Chandler LeBoeuf, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement & Fletcher Foundation at Fletcher Technical Community College; John Harrington, Director, ConocoPhillips in Houma; Fletcher Chancellor Dr. Kristine Strickland; Gina Fanguy, Senior Surface Land Analyst; Clint Coleman, Fletcher Dean of STEM.



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