



NEWS RELEASE

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Finalists Named for DOI's 2006 Safety Awards for Excellence (SAFE)

[Winners to be Announced at MMS Industry Awards Ceremony in April](#)

WASHINGTON -- Fifteen offshore energy companies have been named national finalists for the Department of the Interior's 2006 Safety Awards for Excellence (SAFE) competition. Sponsored by the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the SAFE awards are presented annually to Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas operators and contractors who achieve excellence in safety and pollution prevention. Established in 1983, the SAFE Awards recognize and honor companies making concerted efforts to train and motivate their employees to conduct offshore operations in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

"Complex and risky offshore oil and gas activities are being conducted with ever-improving levels of safety and environmental protection," said Johnnie Burton, MMS Director. "These awards recognize those companies that are securing America's energy resources while setting new standards for safety and pollution prevention."

The SAFE Award is presented annually to offshore drilling and production contractors as well as to OCS oil and gas operators in two separate categories – "moderate activity" and "high activity." A "moderate activity" company annually produces at least one million barrels of oil equivalent and operates a minimum of 100 production system components. A "high activity" company annually produces at least 10 million barrels of oil equivalent and operates a minimum of 1,000 production system components. One award is presented in each category.

The 2006 SAFE categories and finalists (in alphabetical order) are:

High OCS Activity

Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
Shell Exploration and Production Co.
W&T Offshore, Inc.

Moderate OCS Activity

ConocoPhillips Co.
Energy XXI GOM, LLC
Eni Petroleum Co. Inc.
Murphy Exploration & Production Company-USA
Noble Energy, Inc.

Drilling Contractor

GlobalSantaFe Drilling Co.
Noble Corp.
Transocean

Production Contractor

Baker Energy
C&D Production Specialists
Danos & Curole Marine Contractors, Inc.
Island Operating Company, Inc.

SAFE winners will be announced Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at the MMS Industry Awards Luncheon at the Hilton Americas Hotel in Houston, Texas. Registration information is available by calling Debbie O'Brien at 703-787-1579, or online at: www.mms.gov/awards/

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-- MMS --

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