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Modern drilling rig in the Schönkirchen  
region, Austria.

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**Rethinking Interface Detection**

Interface detection is not new for the petroleum pipeline industry. But it needs higher accuracy, combined with density measurement and product identification. This drives the operators to find instrumentation that offers more than just basic interface functionality like the solution that has been placed on a Malaysian pipeline. The performance is highly satisfying, and the savings comprise a substantial amount of money in slop oil treatment every year since the clamp-on ultrasonic flowmeter has eliminated the need for water separation buffers, and the operational efficiency of the distribution and storage facilities is greatly improved.

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Front Cover Photo: **SIEMENS AG, COMOS**  
**Plant Engineering Software**

Using intelligent 3D models makes plant  
engineering and operation safer and more  
efficient. COMOS Walkinside is a powerful  
3D virtual reality visualization software  
solution which directly accesses all plant  
information to display the current status of  
a plant in visually appealing, realistic 3D  
graphics. The COMOS Walkinside  
Immersive Training Simulator (ITS) fully  
immerses operators in their plants.  
It simulates real-life scenarios and sup-  
ports multiple avatars to test team per-  
formance and communication.

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*Gas plant Nyhamna*

Landfall of the pipeline bringing natural gas from  
the Ormen Lange field, offshore Norway

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*Schizophyllan field test operating station at night*

Together with BASF, Wintershall is developing  
an organic fungus which can significantly improve  
the recovery rate from certain reservoirs. The  
fungus *Schizophyllum commune* develops a  
biopolymer naturally; an organically produced  
thickening agent. The substance thickens the  
water which is injected into the deposit to en-  
hance production. Since 2012, the first field test  
with the product has been taking place in the  
Bockstedt oil field in northern Germany, which  
Wintershall has been operating since 1954. The  
field test is expected to continue until the end of  
2015 and will research the effect of the biopoly-  
mer on oil production. The tankers deliver the  
biopolymer from a BASF plant in Ludwigshafen.

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*Natural gas processing plant Odolanow, Poland*

The plant processes nitrogen-rich natural gas  
to high-methane gas, purifies and liquefies  
helium, compresses methane gas, and  
produces LNG.

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Modern drilling site in Germany with installed  
noise barriers.

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Hydrotreatment area at Cartagena Industrial  
Complex, Spain

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**Statoil ASA, Stavanger**

*Installation of the Gudrun platform on the  
Norwegian continental shelf*

The Gudrun platform, which was officially  
opened on 19 August, is the first new Statoil-  
operated platform on the Norwegian continental  
shelf since Kristin in 2005.  
(See also report on page OG 120)

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Rig VDD 370-1 drilling well Roemerberg H2 in Speyer, Upper Rhine Valley, Germany.

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A panoramic view of a drilling rig in the  
El Borma zone, Tunisia.

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*Freeport, Texas Verbund site*

The Freeport Verbund site is the leading producer  
of basic chemicals, intermediates and fiber prod-  
ucts. Propylene from the steamcracker in Port  
Arthur is used for the manufacture of acrylic acid,  
a key starting material for numerous other prod-  
ucts.

Since early April, the steamcracker has the capa-  
bility to process ethane, found in abundance in  
U.S. shale gas, as well as butane and propane.  
(see also news on page 66)

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**Kempten/Germany**

Currently, approximately 40% of world oil  
production comes from mature fields with  
tendency to increase with time. A significant  
portion of operational expenditures in mature oil  
fields is related to lifting costs including the cost  
of maintenance of the Artificial Lift equipment.  
Smart technologies and the ceramic sand  
screen provided by ESK and RAG will bring new  
solutions for Artificial Lift in oil and gas  
production.

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# OIL GAS EUROPEAN MAGAZINE

INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF  
ERDÖL ERDGAS KOHLE

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Front Cover Photo: **MAX STREICHER GmbH &  
Co. KG aA, Deggendorf/Germany**

GRTgaz is extending the gas transmission  
network in France with the "Haute de France II"  
pipeline project. MAX STREICHER GmbH & Co.  
KG aA was commissioned with the pipeline  
construction (DN 1200) between Corbie and  
Cuvilly near Amiens. The lot covers a distance  
of 51.7 km and is situated in the so called  
"Bread Basket" of France. Countless opened  
and closed road or river crossings had to be  
executed.  
In the area around the Somme river a new  
trenchless construction method has been used.  
It combined established horizontal directional  
drilling (HDD) and microtunnelling methods.  
Construction period: March–November 2013.

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