Marine Well Containment Company

Marine Well Containment Company (MWCC) is an independent company with headquarters in Houston, Texas. The company provides well containment equipment and technology in the deepwater U.S. Gulf of Mexico. MWCC’s mission is to be continuously ready to respond to a deepwater well control incident in the U.S. Gulf and is committed to advancing its capabilities and technologies to keep pace with its members’ evolving needs. Membership is open to all oil and gas operators in the U.S. Gulf.

In July 2010, ExxonMobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips and Shell committed to providing a new containment response capability. These founding companies of MWCC recognized the need to be better prepared in the event of a deepwater well control incident. As a result of unprecedented industry collaboration, MWCC introduced the Interim Containment System in February 2011, improving previous response capabilities and helping the industry get back to work in the U.S. Gulf.

MWCC builds upon its previous system capabilities with the Containment System, which includes two Modular Capture Vessels (MCVs); enhanced Subsea Umbilical, Risers and Flowlines (SURF) equipment; addition of a new capping stack called a Subsea Containment Assembly (SCA); and expertise, personnel and facilities support through partnerships with Technip USA, Kiewit Offshore Services, WoodGroup PSN, and other leading oil and gas service providers.

Membership

MWCC has 10 member companies: Anadarko, Apache, BHP Billiton, BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Hess, Shell, and Statoil. Member companies are committed to deepwater drilling in the U.S. Gulf. A majority of wells drilled in the deepwater Gulf Coast are operated by MWCC member companies. Each member company has an equal share and an equal vote, and each contributes to the company’s overall operating costs as well as the overall cost of the Containment System.

Initial formation of the company was completed in March 2011, but membership remains open to all oil and gas operators in the U.S. Gulf. System equipment and services are available to members and non-members. Non-members can enter into agreements to cite the MWCC system in their permit application. MWCC charges a per-well fee to support some of the costs for developing and maintaining the system. For more information on membership or relying upon MWCC’s system as a non-member, contact us at info@marinewellcontainment.com.

Governance

MWCC operates as an independent, stand-alone company where members have equal ownership and voting rights. Several of the founding companies have provided senior company leaders to serve as the initial officers for MWCC.
Leadership Team

**Don Armijo, Chief Executive Officer**

Don Armijo serves as chief executive officer of Marine Well Containment Company where he is responsible for the execution of the company's mission and strategic plan. Previously, Armijo served as MWCC’s chief operating officer. Prior to this role, he was Shell’s global operations excellence manager and was accountable for delivery of project operations readiness / commissioning and start-up activities, as well as support to reliability improvement of Shell’s upstream and downstream assets. Armijo has over 31 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. Throughout his career Armijo has held engineering and producing operations leadership assignments with Shell in the United States, United Kingdom, Nigeria and the Netherlands.

**Astley Blair, Chief Financial Officer**

Astley L. Blair is chief financial officer for Marine Well Containment Company. In this role he leads MWCC’s Finance and Information Technology organizations. Previously, he worked as division finance officer for Chevron. In this role, Blair was responsible for the development and execution of the Global Supply and Trading strategy. He also led the Finance and Business Services organization in support of meeting its goals and objectives. Blair joined Texaco Ltd. in London in 1981 and served in various positions within the company, which was acquired by Chevron in 2001. Blair has more than 30 years of experience in finance and accounting covering financial statements, external reporting, auditing functions, tax and compliance.

**Frank Betts, Chief Operating Officer**

Frank Betts serves as chief operating officer of Marine Well Containment Company, where he leads the team to ensure the containment equipment is ready to be deployed, installed and operated when requested by the Responsible Party in a safe and reliable manner. Previously, Betts served as ExxonMobil's Upstream Nigeria maintenance manager, leading the execution of maintenance, inspection, prevention and preservation programs. With more than 29 years of experience in the oil and gas industry, Betts' background includes production engineering, maintenance, operations and project management in regions including Nigeria, Indonesia, Qatar, Angola and the United States. He graduated from Mississippi State University with a B.S. in chemical engineering.

**Jon Unwin, Health, Safety and Environment Officer**

Jon Unwin serves as health, safety and environment officer (HSEO) of Marine Well Containment Company. His responsibilities include MWCC’s health, safety, security, environment, and emergency response systems and capability. Prior to joining MWCC, Unwin served as the global manager of operational safety at Shell, providing strategy, direction and alignment on key risk areas and delivering solutions through global subject matter expert teams. A veteran with more than 25 years of industry experience, Unwin has held various leadership positions in operations, asset management, safety, health and environment at Shell. He graduated from the University of Newcastle with a Bachelor of Engineering in marine engineering.