

Cuming Corporation News

225 Bodwell Street Avon, MA 02322.1148 1.800.432.6464 Fax 508.580.0960 cumingcorp.com

C-FLOAT BUOYANCY - PROVEN TECHNOLOGY FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Cuming Corporation enters the new century with several recent landmark accomplishments for its customers.

Global Marine Sets Drilling Record

Our C-FLOAT syntactic foam recently demonstrated its quality and reliability on Global Marine's drillship *Glomar Explorer*. Using Cuming-manufactured riser buoyancy modules, the *Glomar Explorer* set a drilling record of 7,718 feet in the Gulf of Mexico during 1999. But that's only part of the story. We also supplied modules for two additional rigs, the *Glomar C.R. Luigs*, and the *Glomar Jack Ryan*. For the *Glomar C.R. Luigs*, we developed a new ultralight syntactic foam. This new product, the first in the offshore industry, is both strong enough and light enough to go to 10,000 feet. What's more, both the *Glomar C.R. Luigs* and the *Glomar Jack Ryan* were completed one month ahead of schedule. "We congratulate *Global Marine* on this deep-water drilling record and look forward to being part of its innovative efforts in 2000 and beyond," said Ray Wong, manager of flotation products.

R&B Falcon Takes Advantage of World's Largest Buoyancy Factory

When R&B Falcon determined that it needed flotation of uncompromising quality for six projects, they came to Cuming Corporation. These six projects employ Cuming buoyancy modules in Brazil, West Africa and the Gulf of Mexico. The rigs include *Deepwater Millennium*, *Deepwater Frontier*, *Deepwater Pathfinder*, *Deepwater Nautilus*, *Deepwater Discovery* and *Deepwater Horizon*.

The *Deepwater Millennium* posed a particular production challenge, because R&B Falcon had an extremely tight deadline for an extension of 2,500 feet," said Ray Wong. Problems with modules from another source had delayed plans for the *Millennium* to drill to 7,500 feet. As a result, the usual 2-3 months production time had to be condensed to just one month.

But Cuming Corporation's recent major expansion of our Avon, Massachusetts manufacturing facility enabled us to be completely responsive to R&B Falcon's timeline. As Ray explained, "In the last year we have doubled production capacity to become the world's largest and most modern factory for flotation and insulation products. With the *Millennium*, we set an industry record for completing a project of this magnitude in a month's time."

The other *Deepwater* projects, completed from late 1999 through second quarter 2000, also involve original risers or extensions. Like the *Millennium*, each project is custom designed and formulated to withstand the conditions of a particular riser system and ocean depth. ◀

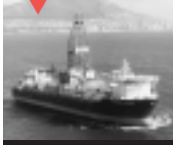
EUROPEAN SALES OFFICE OPENS

European Sales Manager Mike Bohleke is serving C-FLOAT and C-THERM customers throughout Europe, with projects in the North Sea, the United Kingdom and Norway, in the Mediterranean, and off the west coast of Africa. For information about how Cuming Corporation will support your projects in these areas, contact Mike at the address listed on the back. ◀



C-FLOAT syntactic foam modules have supported several recent drilling feats, such as Global Marine's depth record of 7,718 feet.

R&B Falcon's *Millennium*, for which Cuming supplied riser module extensions of 2,500 feet in one month's time.



OTHER CURRENT FLOTATION PROJECTS

DIAMOND OFFSHORE

- OCEAN CONFIDENCE
- OCEAN ENDEAVOR
- OCEAN WHITTINGTON
- OCEAN PROSPECTOR

NOBLE DRILLING

- PAUL ROMANO
- PAUL WOLF
- JIM THOMPSON
- AMOS RUNNER
- MAX SMITH
- HOMER FERRINGTON

ABB VETCO

- EXXON HOOVER

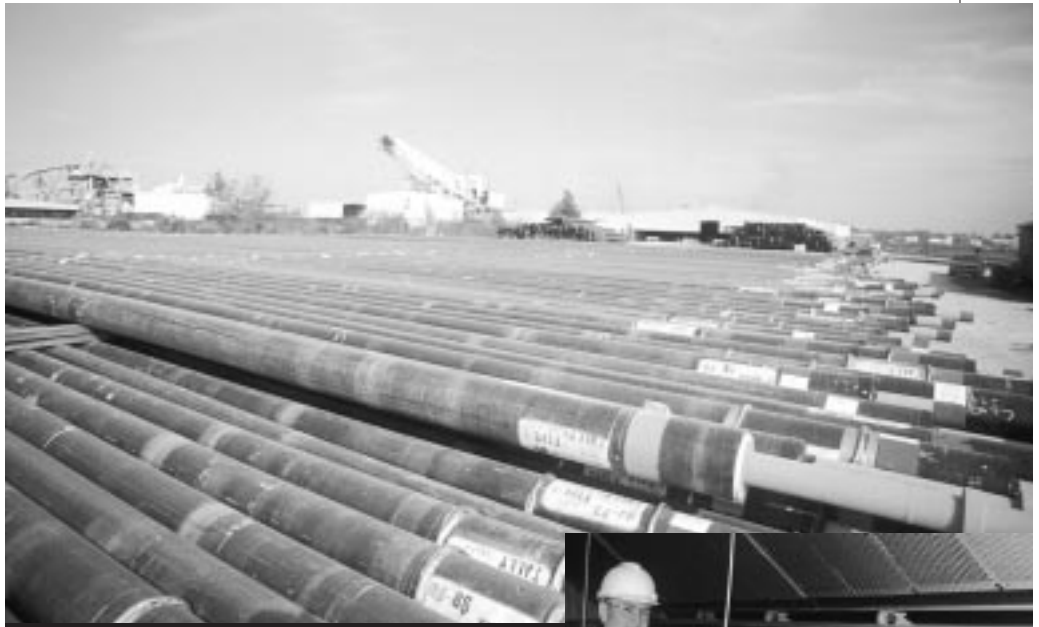


European Sales Manager Mike Bohleke

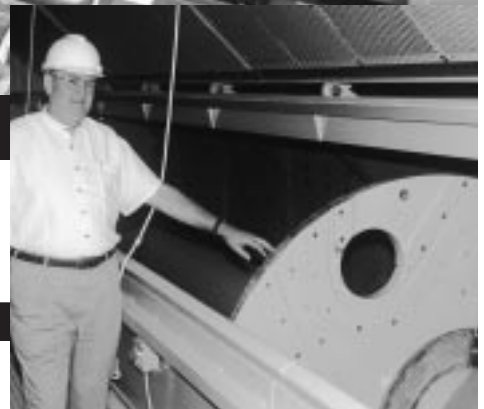
NEW INSULATION TECHNOLOGY KEEPS SHELL KING FLOWING

In the Gulf of Mexico, Shell *King's* six-mile long flowlines incorporate Cuming Corporation's C-THERM thermal insulation. This syntactic foam insulation, our newest product, offers highly efficient thermal insulation with excellent durability in deep water. The *King* insulation, cast onto 40-foot joints of FBE-coated steel pipe, is rated for 20 years' service at a depth of 3,300 feet.

Cuming Corporation is pleased to have been part of this pioneering project, the inaugural effort of our factory in New Iberia, Louisiana. We salute Shell for its leadership in promoting new technologies in marine oil and gas production. ◀



Insulated pipe quad-joints await shipping for the Shell *King* project from the Port of New Iberia.



Elmer Hershey, manager, insulation products, displays New Iberia's rotisserie oven, which cures six 40-foot lengths of pipe insulation at a time.

NEW IBERIA: ON-CALL FOR GULF AREA

Our recently-opened factory in New Iberia, Louisiana, specializes in servicing subsea pipelines and related equipment for the Gulf of Mexico and around the world. Headquarters for our flowline insulation operations, New Iberia is also home base for custom insulation projects. These include pipeline joint insulation, and "pack-in-place" insulation for subsea equipment.

According to Elmer Hershey, insulation products manager, "Cuming Corporation teams are actively handling on-site custom insulation and repair work throughout the Gulf. Customers have been very pleased with our diversified capabilities."

The \$3.0 million New Iberia facility offers 30,000 square feet of manufacturing space, with the potential for quadrupling capacity. We are located adjacent to Bayou Pipe Coating Company, a frequent collaborator. The factory is on the Port of Iberia, offering barging facilities to access the entire Gulf area. ◀

Technicians apply "pack in place" insulation to Pipeline End Manifolds (PLEMS) for the Shell *King* project.



Cuming Corporation's New Iberia, Louisiana facility, specializing in insulation for subsea pipeline and equipment.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- LOU WATKINS (insulation)
• RAY WONG (flotation)
225 BODWELL ST.
AVON, MA 02322
(800) 432-6464
(508) 580-2660
(508) 580-0960 FAX
lwatkins@cumingcorp.com
rwong@cumingcorp.com
- ELMER HERSHEY
4401 CURTIS LANE
NEW IBERIA, LA 70562
(337) 367-8383
(337) 367-8349 FAX
(337) 380-9910 MOBILE
ehershey@cumingcorp.com
- BOB HALEY
11767 KATY FREEWAY
SUITE 620
HOUSTON, TX 77079
(281) 496-4825
(281) 496-4827 FAX
(888) 914-8093 PAGER
(713) 253-4370 MOBILE
bhaley@cumingcorp.com
- MIKE BOHLEKE
SCHULSTRASSE 8
61276 WEILROD
GERMANY
+49-(0)6083-1251
+49-(0)6083-28380 FAX
mbohleke.cumingcorp@t-online.de

