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Shadow chancellor joins subsea 07 line-up Aberdeen Press and Journal, default, p 22 (01-31-2007)

By Ian Forsyth

Shadow chancellor George Osborne will deliver a keynote speech at Subsea UK's annual flagship event next week.

The Conservative MP joins a variety of speakers at Subsea 07, Europe's biggest subsea-industry conference and exhibition.

This year's theme focuses on the challenge of delivering the growing demands of the global industry.

The extent and key locations of the growth will be highlighted in a survey commissioned by Scottish Enterprise which will be unveiled at the event.

Other speakers include Jennifer Crow, chief executive of Scottish Enterprise Grampian; Paul Tooms, BP's global head of subsea; Knut Boe, senior vice-president of operations for Technip in Paris; Ciaran O'Donnell, chief executive of CSL; Tore Halverson, senior vice-president at FMC Technologies Energy Systems in Norway; and Toni Wilkes, group engineering and resource-development manager for Acergy in London.

John Westwood, managing director of Douglas Westwood, will reveal its latest study on the international subsea market.

Subsea UK chief executive David Pridden said: "This is a great line-up of political and industry speakers and we are confident of delivering a thought-provoking conference which will look at how we better utilise resources both now and in the future in light of the significant growth in the sector.

"We will also be examining the contracting strategies and working relationships needed for the future and finally the crucial issue of finding, training and retaining people."

Subsea 07 is on Thursday, February 8, at Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre. Nearly 90 exhibitors will be showcasing their technology and services, while more than 900 visitors are expected.

The evening before the event, a networking dinner and inaugural awards ceremony will take place.

The awards will recognise the work of both organisations and individuals involved in all aspects of the subsea industry.

The categories are: subsea company of the year, best young personality of the year and greatest individual contribution to the subsea industry.

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