

Norwegian hydropower company signs framework agreement with ADA

SN Power, the leading Norwegian hydropower company has entered into a framework agreement with specialist consultants ADA for the provision of commercial and project services.

With its head offices in Oslo, SN Power is an international company that invests, develops and operates run of the river hydropower projects around the world.

Norway is the world's fifth largest hydropower producer and the only industrialised nation meeting its domestic electricity demand almost exclusively through hydropower.

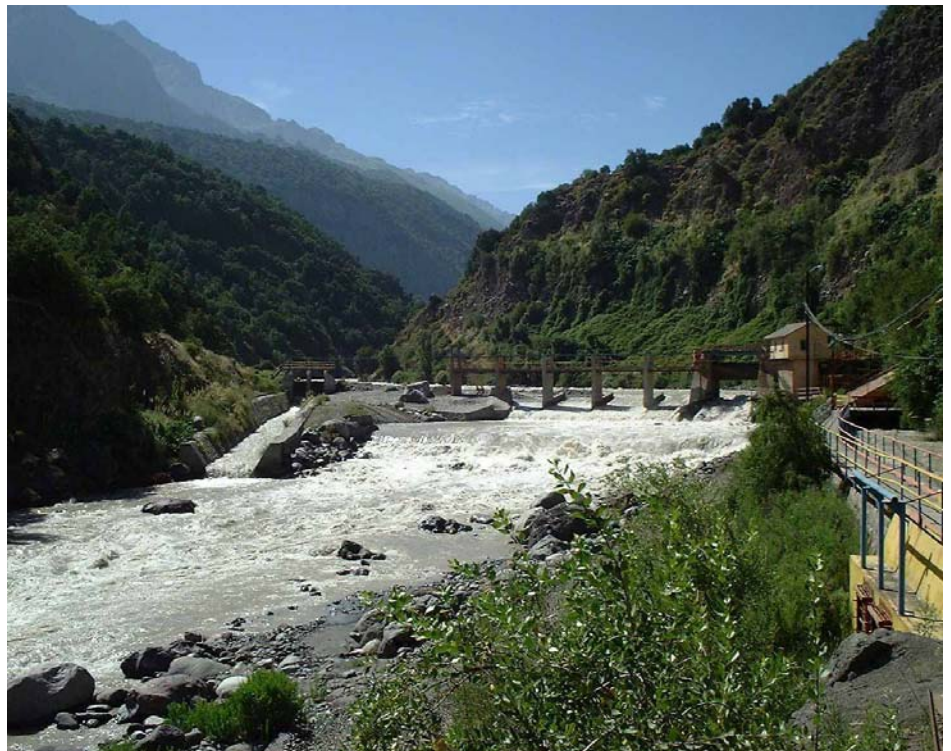
SN Power has tapped into this heritage operating power plants in Latin America and Asia with new projects in emerging markets such as Africa.

With large and complex operations of this nature, SN Power has enlisted the help of ADA to support them with their commercial and contractual matters.

Jarl Kosberg, Executive Vice President of projects and operations at SN Power said: "We have a very good working relationship with ADA and this framework agreement will allow us to work even closer together."

"Norway is a key market for us and we find the Norwegian work ethic is professional and fair. We enjoy working with them and look forward to further developing our relationships," said ADA Executive Director, Dave Armstrong.

Congratulations to ADA consultant Mike Cook and wife Lee, on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Hannah.



Tapping into Hydropower in Chile. (Photo : Pacific Hydro)

Lindsey Joins the ADA team

Lindsey Armstrong has joined the ADA team as Quality and Training Manager.

She is a qualified solicitor and has extensive experience of working as a business consultant advising and training Trustee Boards and Management teams in the Third Sector along with working for large charitable organisations.

Lindsey will lead the implementation of ADA's quality management system, along with managing ADAPT, ADA's Professional Training division, which delivers customised commercial awareness programmes for ADA clients.

Lindsey is also currently enhancing her academic qualifications by studying an MBA (Enterprise) at Teesside Business School in the UK.



North Sea reserves could be a goldmine



Don't tell Dave Armstrong that the North Sea holds little opportunity for the region's thriving sub sea sector.

ADA Executive Director believes oil fields off the coast of Teesside and across the world represent potential gold mines for the region's skilled engineers.

Dave started the commercial consultancy firm with Bob Davis in 1999, and says: "25 years ago people told me the North

Sea's oil reserves would run out in 25 years and they are still saying the same today. Sub-sea companies have barely scratched the surface in terms of exploration."

But he says huge oil fields in Africa and Brazil offer quicker returns on investment than the North Sea and so are financially more attractive to oil companies.

"Companies focus on the 'low hanging fruit' in bigger fields and where there is less taxation. There are massive challenges facing the industry. In some fields, heavy oil can be located several thousand feet underground."

ADA has extensive experience of the sub-sea sector, having worked with engineering and construction giant Aker

Solutions for five years.

This year the company was appointed to provide expertise on behalf of Aker Floating Production (AFP), which was contracted to undertake the supply, operation and maintenance of a floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) vessel and sub-sea production system.

These are to be deployed on the Reliance MA oil and gas field in the Bay of Bengal off the coast of India.

Featured in Evening Gazette NE Business section, Tuesday September 23rd 2008, courtesy of www.nebusiness.co.uk

"There are huge opportunities for the North East Region's thriving subsea sector."

Bob Davis features in mock adjudication

The Adjudication Society proudly presents 'a mock adjudication for the festive season', taking place at the Centre of Construction Law, The Great Hall, King's College, Strand, London on December 12th 2008.

His honour Judge Anthony Thornton QC will act as the Adjudicator, Tim Tapper and Bob Davis for the Claiming Party, Richard Swan and Martin Potter for the Responding Party, Mr. Richard Wilmot-Smith QC as the Greek Chorus.

Bob Davis, Chairman of the Society said "Our purpose is to encourage and develop adjudication as a method of resolving construction disputes, without denouncing other procedures, such as arbitration and conciliation, and to provide a regular and informal forum at which adjudication problems and practices may be discussed."

www.adjudication.org

Leeds office expansion

ADA has expanded its Leeds operation in the UK and moved into brand new offices at Thorpe Park. The company has taken possession of a 3,500 square foot property on the prestigious development.

"This relocation will give us more capacity to serve our customers," said Bob Davis, Executive Director of ADA.

"We pride ourselves on offering the highest possible standard of work to our clients and this has resulted in the need for more space for our growing team," added Bob.

New appointments include Lindsey Armstrong as Quality and Training Manager, Jeremy Wright as Business Development Manager and Ian Wilcox and Chris Hewkin join ADA's consultant team.

"ADA is moving from strength to strength



*ADA's new offices in Leeds, UK
(Photo: Business Homes)*

as our customers take advantage of the full range of services that we offer," said Bob.

The company has put the building blocks in place so it can grow from firm foundations and continue its success, delivering services from its offices in Leeds and Stokesley in the UK and with highly qualified and skilled specialists around the world.

ADA meets the King of Norway

King Harald V of Norway visited the North East of England in November to receive the Honorary Freedom of Newcastle.

ADA was invited to make a presentation at an event attended by the King and the new Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Mike O'Brien to highlight the links between the region and his country.

One NorthEast, the regional development agency, arranged the event to demonstrate how well the two areas work together and in particular within the oil and gas sector.

Dave Armstrong, Executive Director of ADA, was asked to speak of the work and relationships that ADA has developed

with its Norwegian customers at The Sage Gateshead.

"It was a real honour to be asked to speak at the event celebrating the Kings visit. Our company has developed very close working links with Norway over the years and we find them great to deal with," said Dave. "We really enjoy their work ethic and the country is a beautiful place to visit," he added.

ADA sees Norway as a land of opportunity, especially the oil, gas and energy sectors and is moving forward with development plans.

"We are growing and developing our market in Norway and hope that it leads to even more long term friendships",



Dave meets King Harald V of Norway.

concluded Jeremy Wright, ADA's Business Development Manager.

"It was a real honour to be asked to speak at the event celebrating King Harald V of Norway's visit."

Consultant Chris sails through 'chartered' waters



(Photo: David Harding, sailingscenes.com)

Chris Hewkin, consultant at ADA has qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor with flying colours.

The status, awarded by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), is recognition that Chris is dedicated to his profession and his own personal development.

Chris' achievements don't stop at his professional career, he is also part of the team from the United Kingdom that will compete in the 2009 Flying Fifteen World sailing Championships in Melbourne, Australia in January.

Sailing in the flying fifteen class, Chris and his team-mate David McKee have chalked up some impressive wins over the last four years. They came 6th in the 2005 World Championships in New Zealand and 3rd in the 2006 UK National Championships. There were only 20 places available for UK entrants for the 2009 Worlds and Chris and Dave fought off stiff competition to qualify in 3rd place.

"I enjoy the competition and get to sail against ex-Olympians. My best ever achievement is 2nd in the Worlds in 1997 and I would really like to go one better," said Chris.

Chris, who works as a consultant at ADA is involved with a variety of different areas of the profession including the preparation and negotiation of final accounts in both adversarial and non-adversarial dispute resolution and helping clients to solve their complex contractual issues.

Along with his new qualification he is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has a BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying and a Masters Degree in Construction Law and Arbitration.

"We take personal and professional development very seriously at ADA and encourage all our staff to improve their skills, knowledge and qualifications," said Bob Davis.

"I am delighted that Chris has qualified as Chartered Quantity Surveyor and wish him every success at the flying fifteen World Championships in January. We are sure he will return victorious," added Bob.

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ADA sponsors sell out networking event

ADA sponsored a networking event attended by 200 companies operating in the oil, gas and energy sectors.

The event, held at the Riverside Stadium, home of Middlesbrough Football Club was filled to capacity for a presentation given by Howard Simons of Sonhoe.

Sonhoe is planning to develop a heavy oil refinery which involves a deepwater jetty, a tank farm and a power station, all at Teesside in the North East of England.

The event was arranged by NOF Energy to communicate opportunities for members to be involved in the £2b project.

"We saw this event as an ideal way to further promote the services that we offer. We prefer to be involved with major projects right at the beginning so



Dave with Howard Simons of Sonhoe.

that we can help implement sound systems and contractual relationships avoiding disputes at all costs," said Dave Armstrong.

ADA is hoping to be involved with the Sonhoe project which will have a huge economic impact on the Tees Valley area, due to commence in 2009.

Challenging times

"Many projects have been suspended, put on hold, or even terminated as a result of the challenging economic climate. From a commercial point of view, the consequences can be catastrophic."

If you need help or support call us for a no obligation discussion on

+44 (0) 1642 714 555



ADA would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2009.

Natasha and her Race for Life

Natasha Thurland, ADA's Office Manager successfully completed the Cancer Research UK Race for Life, raising over £500 for the charity.

The event took place at Ormesby Hall in Middlesbrough where over 2,000 pink ladies walked, jogged or ran the five kilometre course.

Natasha, who competed in support and memory of several of her family members said:

"I planned to follow a strict training schedule and although I suffered a slight lapse whilst holidaying in Thailand I still achieved my goal of running the 5km course from beginning to end."

ADA agreed to sponsor Natasha and matched her fund raising efforts pound for pound.

"Most of us are unfortunately touched by cancer in one way or another, we are therefore all very proud of Natasha and her achievements and are delighted to support her chosen charity," said Dave.



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