JOHN ENERGY



- Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat state
- Established: 1987
- Rig count: 11 drilling rigs, 14 workover rigs
- Major clients: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Cairn India
- Overseas operations: Kazakhstan, Algeria
- Staff: 1,500



John Energy could be used as a case study on the evolution of a drilling company. In 1984 the Gujarati firm entered the water-well drilling business with only \$100 of capital. In 1990 John Energy bought its first workover rig and began a policy of steady expansion that has led to its current position as one of the leading drilling and workover service providers in India. Today the company operates 25 rigs and has a 15-percent share of the domestic onshore rig market.

John Energy supplied a custom-built workover skidding rig to work on the pad system employed by Cairn India in the country's western deserts. By 2010 the company had serviced more than 2,500 wells and drilled approximately 233,000 metres in the previous financial year.

John Energy has benefited from two key capital injections from Indian investment companies. The first, of \$11 million, came from Rare Enterprises in 2006, and the second, \$20-million from Sage Capital, came in April 2010. The money will help John Energy meet its goals of increasing its share of the offshore services market and broadening its overseas presence. Joint ventures with foreign firms are also central to John Energy's strategy for acquiring new technologies. The company has already gained experience of horizontal drilling through its work with Canada's Atlantic Drilling, and its rigs are compatible with the latest technologies in this area. John Energy has established a strong in-house training programme to develop its skills in the areas of drilling and completion.

Overseas, John Energy sees potential in Africa, where the company already has business experience through its drilling activities. Having secured its contract in Algeria with exploration and production company Sonatrach, a government-controlled firm, John Energy is now looking at future opportunities throughout the African continent.

Mahesh VYAS Managing Director

The development of a domestic shale gas exploration policy holds long-term potential for both India and John Energy. In the short term, however, rig rates will remain low. The market is becoming more competitive and there is a greater emphasis being placed on operational performance. John Energy's emphasis on using the comapny's training centre to develop our people.

