



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Intelligent Dummies can save at least 24 hrs rig time.**

*INNOVATIVE technology designed to simplify the commissioning of oil and gas wells has been launched after leading equipment developer PTC responded to a plea from the industry.*

Statoil raised a major issue to PTC– the need to pull and replace dummy valves from new wells during well commissioning, which typically incur more than 24 hours rig time and costing up to £1million when a new well is drilled or an existing well recompleted .

A replacement for the ‘dumb iron’ dummy valve has now been developed by PTC's industry-leading well completion technology specialists – dubbed the ‘Intelligent dummy’.

The ‘Intelligent Dummy’, like PTC's chemical injection valves, is a derivative of the PTC high integrity gas-lift valves, which are recognised as industry-leading technology in terms of their design and reliability.

With an Intelligent Dummy in place, a new well can be fully pressure tested before the Intelligent Dummy is opened remotely, allowing kill fluid in the well to be circulated out and replaced with a kick off fluid, before being permanently closed-off remotely.

All the valve manipulations occur in response to pressurisation of the fluids in the well at surface, without any need for either expensive well interventions, temperamental electronics, or complex hydraulic control systems.

Tom Norland says: "Dummy valves are inflexible and for every one deployed you are looking at a full day of rig-time, which in cost terms could range from £500,000 to £1million".

"We were asked to develop a circulating valve which would shear-open at a certain annulus pressure, then ( after circulating kill fluid from the well) close again when pressure is held on both the tubing and annulus".

"We called our evolution of the component the 'Intelligent Dummy' as a nod to its static predecessor, and following testing it has proven that it is capable of answering the design question we were asked."

"The valve has now been successfully run in a new subsea well, reducing the time to install and commission the completion by more than 24 hours. A variety of major OPCO's worldwide are now planning to install them in future wells".

Based in Stavanger, Aberdeen, Bergen, Houston and Rio de Janeiro, PTC designs and manufactures a range of patented equipment which delivers unrivalled reliability and performance – in-turn significantly increasing integrity, operational efficiency and productivity. Established in Norway in 2002, PTC employs more than 50 people world-wide, with a turnover in excess of £10million.

**Media Contact:**

Tom Norland

Phone: +44 (0) 1224 579345

Email: [tom.norland@ptc.as](mailto:tom.norland@ptc.as)