

Transocean Ltd.  
Form 10-K  
March 07, 2017  
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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 10 K

(Mark one)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

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Commission file number 000-53533

TRANSOCEAN LTD.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Zug, Switzerland

98-0599916

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(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

10 Chemin de Blandonnet

1214

Vernier, Switzerland

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: +41 (22) 930-9000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of class

Exchange on which registered

Shares, par value CHF 0.10 per share

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10 K or any amendment to this Form 10 K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b 2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non accelerated filer (do not check if a smaller reporting company)  
Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined by Rule 12b 2 of the Exchange Act).  
Yes No

As of June 30, 2016, 365,353,527 shares were outstanding and the aggregate market value of shares held by non affiliates was approximately \$4.3 billion (based on the reported closing market price of the shares of Transocean Ltd. on June 30, 2016 of \$11.89 and assuming that all directors and executive officers of the Company are "affiliates," although the Company does not acknowledge that any such person is actually an "affiliate" within the meaning of the federal securities laws). As of February 28, 2017, 389,597,755 shares were outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

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Portions of the registrant's definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days of December 31, 2016, for its 2017 annual general meeting of shareholders, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10 K.

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TRANSOCEAN LTD. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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Forward Looking Information

The statements included in this annual report regarding future financial performance and results of operations and other statements that are not historical facts are forward looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the United States (“U.S.”) Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward looking statements in this annual report include, but are not limited to, statements about the following subjects:

- § our results of operations and cash flow from operations, including revenues, revenue efficiency, costs and expenses;
- § the offshore drilling market, including the effects of declines in commodity prices, supply and demand, utilization rates, dayrates, customer drilling programs, stacking of rigs, reactivation of rigs, effects of new rigs on the market, the impact of enhanced regulations in the jurisdictions in which we operate and changes in the global economy or market outlook for our various geographical operating sectors and classes of rigs;
- § customer drilling contracts, including contract backlog, force majeure provisions, contract commencements, contract extensions, contract terminations, contract option exercises, contract revenues, early termination payments, indemnity provisions, contract awards and rig mobilizations;
- § liquidity and adequacy of cash flows for our obligations;
- § debt levels, including impacts of a financial and economic downturn, and interest rates;
- § newbuild, upgrade, shipyard and other capital projects, including completion, delivery and commencement of operation dates, expected downtime and lost revenue, the level of expected capital expenditures and the timing and cost of completion of capital projects;
- § effects of remediation efforts to address the material weakness discussed in “Part II. Item 9A. Controls and Procedures”;
- § the cost and timing of acquisitions and the proceeds and timing of dispositions;
- § the optimization of rig based spending;
- § tax matters, including our effective tax rate, changes in tax laws, treaties and regulations, tax assessments and liabilities for tax issues, including those associated with our activities in Brazil, Nigeria, Norway, the United Kingdom (“U.K.”) and the U.S.;
- § legal and regulatory matters, including results and effects of legal proceedings and governmental audits and assessments, outcomes and effects of internal and governmental investigations, customs and environmental matters;
- § insurance matters, including adequacy of insurance, renewal of insurance, insurance proceeds and cash investments of our wholly owned captive insurance company;
- § effects of accounting changes and adoption of accounting policies; and
- § investments in recruitment, retention and personnel development initiatives, pension plan and other postretirement benefit plan contributions, the timing of severance payments and benefit payments.

Forward looking statements in this annual report are identifiable by use of the following words and other similar expressions:

§ “anticipates” § “could” § “forecasts” § “might” § “projects”

§ “believes” § “estimates” § “intends” § “plans” § “scheduled”

§ “budgets” § “expects” § “may” § “predicts” § “should”

Such statements are subject to numerous risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including, but not limited to:

- § those described under “Item 1A. Risk Factors” in this annual report on Form 10-K;
- § the adequacy of and access to sources of liquidity;
- § our inability to obtain drilling contracts for our rigs that do not have contracts;
- § our inability to renew drilling contracts at comparable dayrates;
- § operational performance;
- § the cancellation of drilling contracts currently included in our reported contract backlog;
- § the effectiveness of our remediation efforts with respect to the material weakness discussed in “Part II. Item 9A. Controls and Procedures”;
- § losses on impairment of long lived assets;
- § shipyard, construction and other delays;
- § the results of meetings of our shareholders;
- § changes in political, social and economic conditions;
- § the effect and results of litigation, regulatory matters, settlements, audits, assessments and contingencies; and
- § other factors discussed in this annual report and in our other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), which are available free of charge on the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The foregoing risks and uncertainties are beyond our ability to control, and in many cases, we cannot predict the risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated by the forward looking statements. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those indicated. All subsequent written and oral forward looking statements attributable to us or to persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by reference to these risks and uncertainties. You should not place undue reliance on forward looking statements. Each forward looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement. We expressly disclaim any obligations or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward looking statement to reflect any change in our expectations or beliefs with regard to the statement or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any forward looking statement is based, except as required by law.

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### PART I

#### Item 1. Business

##### Overview

Transocean Ltd. (together with its subsidiaries and predecessors, unless the context requires otherwise, “Transocean,” the “Company,” “we,” “us” or “our”) is a leading international provider of offshore contract drilling services for oil and gas wells. As of February 9, 2017, we owned or had partial ownership interests in and operated 56 mobile offshore drilling units. As of February 9, 2017, our fleet consisted of 30 ultra deepwater floaters, seven harsh environment floaters, three deepwater floaters, six midwater floaters and 10 high specification jackups. At February 9, 2017, we also had four ultra deepwater drillships and five high specification jackups under construction or under contract to be constructed.

Our primary business is to contract our drilling rigs, related equipment and work crews predominantly on a dayrate basis to drill oil and gas wells. We specialize in technically demanding regions of the global offshore drilling business with a particular focus on deepwater and harsh environment drilling services. We believe our mobile offshore drilling fleet is one of the most versatile fleets in the world, consisting of floaters and high specification jackups used in support of offshore drilling activities and offshore support services on a worldwide basis.

Transocean Ltd. is a Swiss corporation with its registered office in Steinhausen, Canton of Zug and with principal executive offices located at Chemin de Blandonnet 10, 1214 Vernier, Switzerland. Our telephone number at that address is +41 22 930 9000. Our shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “RIG” (see “—Recent Developments”). For information about the revenues, operating income, assets and other information related to our business, our segments and the geographic areas in which we operate, see “Part II. Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Part II. Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data—Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—Note 21—Operating Segments, Geographic Analysis and Major Customers.”

##### Recent Developments

Transocean Partners—On December 9, 2016, Transocean Partners LLC (“Transocean Partners”) completed a merger with one of our subsidiaries as contemplated under the Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “Merger Agreement”), dated July 31, 2016, and as amended on November 21, 2016. Following the completion of the merger, Transocean Partners became a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Transocean Ltd. Each Transocean Partners common unit that was issued and outstanding immediately prior to the closing, other than the units held by Transocean and its subsidiaries, was converted into the right to receive 1.20 of our shares. To complete the merger, we issued 23.8 million shares from conditional capital.

Markets for our shares—Our shares were previously listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (“SIX”) under the symbol “RIGN”. Effective March 31, 2016, at our request, our shares were delisted from the SIX.

##### Drilling Fleet

Fleet overview—Our drilling fleet can be generally characterized as follows: (1) floaters, including drillships and semisubmersibles, and (2) jackups. Most of our drilling equipment is suitable for both exploration and development, and we normally engage in both types of drilling activity. All of our drilling rigs are mobile and can be moved to new locations in response to customer demand. All of our mobile offshore drilling units are designed to operate in locations away from port for extended periods of time and have living quarters for the crews, a helicopter landing deck

and storage space for drill pipe, riser and drilling supplies.

Drillships are generally self propelled vessels, shaped like conventional ships, and are the most mobile of the major rig types. All of our drillships are ultra deepwater capable and equipped with a computer controlled dynamic positioning thruster system, which allows them to maintain position without anchors through the use of their onboard propulsion and station keeping systems. These rigs typically have greater deck load and storage capacity than early generation semisubmersible rigs, which provides logistical and resupply efficiency benefits for customers. Drillships are generally better suited to operations in calmer sea conditions and typically do not operate in areas considered to be harsh environments. We have 15 ultra deepwater drillships that are, and four ultra deepwater drillships under construction that will be, equipped with our patented dual activity technology. Dual activity technology employs structures, equipment and techniques using two drilling stations within a dual derrick to allow these drillships to perform simultaneous drilling tasks in a parallel, rather than a sequential manner, reducing critical path activity, to improve efficiency in both exploration and development drilling. In addition to dynamic positioning thruster systems, dual activity technology, industry leading hoisting capacity and a second blowout preventer system, our four newbuild drillships under construction will be outfitted to accommodate a future upgrade to a 20,000 pounds per square inch (“psi”) blowout preventer.

Semisubmersibles are floating vessels that can be partially submerged by means of a water ballast system such that the lower column sections and pontoons are below the water surface during drilling operations. These rigs are capable of maintaining their position over a well through the use of an anchoring system or a computer controlled dynamic positioning thruster system. Although most semisubmersible rigs are relocated with the assistance of tugs, some units are self propelled and move between locations under their own power when afloat on pontoons. Typically, semisubmersibles are capable of operating in rougher sea conditions than drillships. We have

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two custom designed, high capacity, dual activity semisubmersible drilling rigs, equipped for year round operations in harsh environments, including those of the Norwegian continental shelf and sub Arctic waters. We have three semisubmersibles that are designed for mild environments and are equipped with the tri act derrick. The tri act derrick, which was designed to reduce overall well construction costs since it allows offline tubular and riser handling operations to occur at two sides of the derrick while the center portion of the derrick is being used for normal drilling operations through the rotary table. Five of our 23 semisubmersibles are equipped with our patented dual activity technology.

Jackup rigs are mobile self elevating drilling platforms equipped with legs that can be lowered to the ocean floor until a foundation is established to support the drilling platform. Once a foundation is established, the drilling platform is then jacked further up the legs so that the platform is above the highest expected waves. These rigs are generally suited for water depths of 400 feet or less. We have five newbuild high specification jackups under construction that are expected to be capable of constructing wells up to 35,000 feet deep and feature advanced offshore drilling technology, including offline tubular handling features and simultaneous operations support.

Fleet categories—We further categorize the drilling units of our fleet as follows: (1) “ultra deepwater floaters,” (2) “harsh environment floaters,” (3) “deepwater floaters,” (4) “midwater floaters” and (5) “high specification jackups.”

Ultra deepwater floaters are equipped with high pressure mud pumps and are capable of drilling in water depths of 7,500 feet or greater. Harsh environment floaters are capable of drilling in harsh environments in water depths between 1,500 and 10,000 feet and have greater displacement, which offers larger variable load capacity, more useable deck space and better motion characteristics. Deepwater floaters are generally those other semisubmersible rigs and drillships capable of drilling in water depths between 4,500 and 7,500 feet. Midwater floaters are generally comprised of those non high specification semisubmersibles that have a water depth capacity of less than 4,500 feet. High specification jackups have high capacity derricks, drawworks, mud systems and storage and generally have a water depth capacity of between 350 and 400 feet.

As of February 9, 2017, we owned and operated a fleet of 56 rigs, excluding rigs under construction, as follows:

- § 30 ultra deepwater floaters;
- § Seven harsh environment floaters;
- § Three deepwater floaters;
- § Six midwater floaters; and
- § 10 high specification jackups.

Fleet status—Depending on market conditions, we may idle or stack non contracted rigs. An idle rig is between drilling contracts, readily available for operations, and operating costs are typically at or near normal levels. A stacked rig typically has reduced operating costs, is staffed by a reduced crew or has no crew and is (a) preparing for an extended period of inactivity, (b) expected to continue to be inactive for an extended period, or (c) completing a period of extended inactivity. Stacked rigs will continue to incur operating costs at or above normal operating levels for approximately 30 days following initiation of stacking. Some idle rigs and all stacked rigs require additional costs to return to service. The actual cost to return to service, which in many instances could be significant and could fluctuate over time, depends upon various factors, including the availability and cost of shipyard facilities, cost of equipment and materials and the extent of repairs and maintenance that may ultimately be required. We consider these factors, together with market conditions, length of contract, dayrate and other contract terms, when deciding whether to return a stacked rig to service. We may, from time to time, consider marketing stacked rigs as accommodation units or for other alternative uses until drilling activity increases and we obtain drilling contracts for these units. We may not return some stacked rigs to work for drilling services or for these alternative uses.

Drilling units—The following tables, presented as of February 9, 2017, provide certain specifications for our rigs. Unless otherwise noted, the stated location of each rig indicates either the current drilling location, if the rig is operating, or the next operating location, if the rig is in shipyard with a follow on contract. As of February 9, 2017, we owned all of the drilling rigs in our fleet noted in the tables below, except for the following: (1) those specifically described as being owned through our interests in consolidated entities that were less than wholly owned and (2) Petrobras 10000, which is subject to a capital lease through August 2029.

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## Rigs under construction (9)

Name	Type	Expected completion	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or contracted status
Ultra-deepwater floaters					
Deepwater Pontus (a) (b) (c) (d) (e)	HSD	4Q 2017	12,000	40,000	To be determined
Deepwater Poseidon (a) (b) (c) (d) (e)	HSD	1Q 2018	12,000	40,000	To be determined
Ultra-deepwater drillship TBN1 (a) (b) (d) (e)					
	HSD	1Q 2020	12,000	40,000	Uncontracted
Ultra-deepwater drillship TBN2 (a) (b) (d) (e)					
	HSD	3Q 2020	12,000	40,000	Uncontracted
High-specification jackups					
Transocean Cassiopeia	Jackup	1Q 2020	400	35,000	Uncontracted
Transocean Centaurus	Jackup	2Q 2020	400	35,000	Uncontracted
Transocean Cepheus	Jackup	3Q 2020	400	35,000	Uncontracted
Transocean Cetus	Jackup	4Q 2020	400	35,000	Uncontracted
Transocean Circinus	Jackup	4Q 2020	400	35,000	Uncontracted

“HSD” means high specification drillship.

(a)To be dynamically positioned.

(b)To be equipped with dual activity.

(c)To be an Enterprise class or Enhanced Enterprise class rig.

(d)Designed to accommodate a future upgrade to a 20,000 pounds psi blowout preventer.

(e)To be equipped with two blowout preventers.

## Ultra deepwater floaters (30)

Name	Type	Year entered service/ upgraded (a)	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or standby status
Deepwater Conqueror (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)	HSD	2016	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Deepwater Proteus (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)	HSD	2016	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Deepwater Thalassa (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)	HSD	2016	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Deepwater Asgard (b) (c) (d) (f)	HSD	2014	12,000	40,000	Idle
Deepwater Invictus (b) (c) (d) (f)	HSD	2014	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Deepwater Champion (b) (c)	HSD	2011	12,000	40,000	Stacked
Discoverer Inspiration (b) (c) (d) (f)	HSD	2010	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Discoverer India (b) (c) (d)	HSD	2010	12,000	40,000	Idle

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Discoverer Americas (b) (c) (d)	HSD	2009	12,000	40,000	Stacked
Discoverer Clear Leader (b) (c) (d) (f)	HSD	2009	12,000	40,000	U.S. Gulf
Petrobras 10000 (b) (c)	HSD	2009	12,000	37,500	Brazil
Dhirubhai Deepwater KG2 (b)	HSD	2010	12,000	35,000	Myanmar
Dhirubhai Deepwater KG1 (b)	HSD	2009	12,000	35,000	Brazil
Discoverer Deep Seas (b) (c) (d)	HSD	2001	10,000	35,000	Stacked
Discoverer Spirit (b) (c) (d)	HSD	2000	10,000	35,000	Stacked
GSF C.R. Luigs (b)	HSD	2000	10,000	35,000	Stacked
GSF Jack Ryan (b)	HSD	2000	10,000	35,000	Stacked
Discoverer Enterprise (b) (c) (d)	HSD	1999	10,000	35,000	Stacked
Deepwater Discovery (b)	HSD	2000	10,000	30,000	Stacked
Deepwater Frontier (b)	HSD	1999	10,000	30,000	Stacked
Deepwater Millennium (b)	HSD	1999	10,000	30,000	Stacked
Deepwater Pathfinder (b)	HSD	1998	10,000	30,000	Stacked
Cajun Express (b) (g)	HSS	2001	8,500	35,000	Stacked
Deepwater Nautilus (h)	HSS	2000	8,000	30,000	Malaysia
Discoverer Luanda (b) (c) (d) (h)	HSD	2010	7,500	40,000	Angola
Development Driller III (b) (c)	HSS	2009	7,500	37,500	Idle
GSF Development Driller II (b) (c)	HSS	2005	7,500	37,500	Stacked
GSF Development Driller I (b) (c)	HSS	2005	7,500	37,500	Stacked
Sedco Energy (b) (g)	HSS	2001	7,500	35,000	Stacked
Sedco Express (b) (g)	HSS	2001	7,500	35,000	Stacked

“HSD” means high specification drillship.

“HSS” means high specification semisubmersible.

- (a) Dates shown are the original service date and the date of the most recent upgrade, if any.
- (b) Dynamically positioned.
- (c) Dual activity.
- (d) Enterprise class or Enhanced Enterprise class rig.
- (e) Designed to accommodate a future upgrade to a 20,000 pounds psi blowout preventer.
- (f) Two blowout preventers.
- (g) Tri act derrick.
- (h) Owned through our 65 percent interest in Angola Deepwater Drilling Company Limited (“ADDCL”).

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## Harsh environment floaters (7)

Name	Type	Year entered service/ upgraded (a)	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or standby status
Transocean Spitsbergen (b) (c)	HSS	2010	10,000	30,000	U.K. N. Sea
Transocean Barents (b) (c)	HSS	2009	10,000	30,000	Canada
Henry Goodrich (d)	HSS	1985/2007	5,000	30,000	Canada
Transocean Leader (d)	HSS	1987/1997	4,500	25,000	U.K. N. Sea
Paul B, Loyd, Jr.(d)	HSS	1990	2,000	25,000	U.K. N. Sea
Transocean Arctic (d)	HSS	1986	1,650	25,000	Norwegian N. Sea
Polar Pioneer (d)	HSS	1985	1,500	25,000	Stacked

“HSS” means high specification semisubmersible.

- (a) Dates shown are the original service date and the date of the most recent upgrade, if any.  
 (b) Dynamically positioned.  
 (c) Dual activity.  
 (d) Moored floater.

## Deepwater floaters (3)

Name	Type	Year entered service/ upgraded (a)	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or standby status
Transocean Marianas (b)	HSS	1979/1998	7,000	30,000	Stacked
Transocean 706 (c)	HSS	1976/2008	6,500	25,000	Brazil
Jack Bates (b)	HSS	1986/1997	5,400	30,000	India

“HSS” means high specification semisubmersible.

- (a) Dates shown are the original service date and the date of the most recent upgrade, if any.  
 (b) Moored floater.  
 (c) Dynamically positioned.

## Midwater floaters (6)

Name	Type	Year entered service/ upgraded (a)	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or standby status
Sedco 711	OS	1982	1,800	25,000	Stacked
Sedco 714	OS	1983/1997	1,600	25,000	Stacked
Sedco 712	OS	1983	1,600	25,000	U.K. N. Sea
Actinia	OS	1982	1,500	25,000	India

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Transocean Prospect	OS	1983/1992	1,500	25,000	Stacked
Transocean Searcher	OS	1983/1988	1,500	25,000	Stacked

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“OS” means other semisubmersible.

(a) Dates shown are the original service date and the date of the most recent upgrade, if any.  
High specification jackups (10)

Name	Year entered service/ upgraded (a)	Water depth capacity (in feet)	Drilling depth capacity (in feet)	Contracted location or standby status
Transocean Ao Thai	2013	350	35,000	Thailand
Transocean Andaman	2013	350	35,000	Thailand
Transocean Siam Driller	2013	350	35,000	Thailand
Transocean Honor	2012	400	30,000	Stacked
GSF Constellation II	2004	400	30,000	Stacked
GSF Constellation I	2003	400	30,000	U.A.E.
GSF Galaxy I	1991/2001	400	30,000	U.K. N. Sea
GSF Galaxy III	1999	400	30,000	Stacked
GSF Galaxy II	1998	400	30,000	Stacked
GSF Monarch	1986	350	30,000	Stacked

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(a) Dates shown are the original service date and the date of the most recent upgrades, if any.

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### Markets

Our operations are geographically dispersed in oil and gas exploration and development areas throughout the world. We operate in a single, global offshore drilling market, as our drilling rigs are mobile assets and are able to be moved according to prevailing market conditions. We may mobilize our drilling rigs between regions for a variety of reasons, including to respond to customer contracting requirements or capture demand in another locale. Consequently, we cannot predict the percentage of our revenues that will be derived from particular geographic or political areas in future periods.

As of February 9, 2017, our drilling fleet was located in the U.K. North Sea (11 units), U.S. Gulf of Mexico (nine units), Trinidad (nine units), Spain (four units), Brazil (three units), Malaysia (three units), Norway (three units), Thailand (three units), Canada (two units), Congo (two units), India (two units), Angola (one unit), Myanmar (one unit), Romania (one unit), South Africa (one unit) and United Arab Emirates (one unit).

We categorize the market sectors in which we operate as follows: (1) ultra-deepwater, (2) deepwater, (3) midwater and (4) jackup. The ultra deepwater, deepwater and midwater market sectors, collectively known as the floater market, are serviced by our drillships and semisubmersibles, seven of which are suited to work in harsh environments. We generally view the ultra-deepwater market sector as water depths beginning at 7,500 feet and extending to the maximum water depths in which rigs are capable of drilling, which is currently up to 12,000 feet. The deepwater market sector services water depths beginning at approximately 4,500 feet to approximately 7,500 feet, and the midwater market sector services water depths from approximately 300 feet to approximately 4,500 feet. The jackup market sector begins at the outer limit of the transition zone, which is characterized by coastal and state water areas, extending to water depths of approximately 400 feet.

The market for offshore drilling rigs and related services reflects oil companies' demand for equipment for drilling exploration, appraisal and development wells and for performing maintenance on existing production wells. Activity levels of exploration and production ("E&P") companies and their associated capital expenditures are largely driven by the worldwide demand for energy, including crude oil and natural gas. Worldwide energy supply and demand drives oil and natural gas prices, which, in turn, impact E&P companies' ability to fund investments in exploration, development and production activities.

The industry is presently experiencing a cyclical downturn. Sustained weak commodity pricing has resulted in our customers delaying investment decisions and postponing exploration and production programs. Although oil and natural gas prices have improved recently, such prices do not currently support sustained demand for drilling rigs across all asset classes and regions. As a result of this reduced demand, we have observed a sharp decline in the execution of drilling contracts for the global offshore drilling fleet and an unprecedented level of drilling contract early terminations and cancellations. We currently expect few drilling contracts to be awarded in 2017, exacerbating the excess rig capacity and resulting in continued downward pressure on dayrates. In this environment, older and less capable assets are more likely to be permanently retired, ultimately reducing the available supply of drilling rigs. During the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015 and 2014, we sold for scrap value 11, 17 and two drilling units, respectively, and at December 31, 2016, we had one additional rig classified as held for sale for scrap value.

Despite current market conditions, our long term outlook for the offshore drilling sector remains positive, particularly for high specification assets. Prior to the downturn, Brazil, the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, and West Africa emerged as key ultra deepwater market sectors, and licensing activity demonstrated an increased interest in deepwater fields as E&P companies looked to explore new prospects. We expect deepwater oil and gas production will continue to be a part of the long term strategy for E&P companies as they strive to replace reserves to meet global demand for hydrocarbons. A number of new deepwater and ultra deepwater development opportunities have been identified

globally. If commodity prices stabilize and rebound to sustainable levels, we anticipate that many of the projects will receive approval to move forward. Typically, these projects are technically demanding due to factors such as water depth, complex well designs, deeper drilling depth, high pressure and temperature, sub salt, harsh environments, and heightened regulatory standards; therefore, they require sophisticated drilling units. Generally, ultra deepwater rigs are the most modern, technologically advanced class of the offshore fleet and have capabilities that are attractive to E&P companies operating in deeper water depths, other challenging environments or with complex well designs.

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## Financial Information about Geographic Areas

The following table presents the geographic areas in which our operating revenues were earned (in millions):

	Years ended December 31,		
	2016	2015	2014
Operating revenues			
U.S.	\$ 1,977	\$ 2,416	\$ 2,410
U.K.	551	1,139	1,194
Brazil	453	673	651
Norway	214	650	1,036
Other countries (a)	966	2,508	3,894
Total operating revenues	\$ 4,161	\$ 7,386	\$ 9,185

(a) Other countries represents countries in which we operate that individually had operating revenues representing less than 10 percent of total operating revenues earned for any of the periods presented.

The following table presents the geographic areas in which our long lived assets were located (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2016	2015
Long-lived assets		
U.S.	\$ 6,181	\$ 7,451
Trinidad	3,977	1,766
Korea	1,459	2,048
Other countries (a)	9,476	9,544
Total long-lived assets	\$ 21,093	\$ 20,809

(a) Other countries represents countries in which we operate that individually had long lived assets representing less than 10 percent of total long lived assets for any of the periods presented.

## Contract Drilling Services

Our contracts to provide offshore drilling services are individually negotiated and vary in their terms and provisions. We obtain most of our drilling contracts through competitive bidding against other contractors and direct negotiations with operators. Drilling contracts generally provide for payment on a dayrate basis, with higher rates for periods while the drilling unit is operating and lower rates or zero rates for periods of mobilization or when drilling operations are interrupted or restricted by equipment breakdowns, adverse environmental conditions or other conditions beyond our control.

A dayrate drilling contract generally extends over a period of time covering either the drilling of a single well or group of wells or covering a stated term. At December 31, 2016, the contract backlog was approximately \$11.7 billion, representing a decrease of 27 percent and 48 percent, respectively, compared to the contract backlog at December 31, 2015 and 2014, which was \$16.0 billion and \$22.5 billion, respectively. See “Part II. Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Outlook—Drilling market” and “Part II. Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Outlook—Performance and Other Key Indicators.”

Certain of our drilling contracts may be cancelable for the convenience of the customer upon payment of an early termination payment. Such payments, however, may not fully compensate us for the loss of the contract. Contracts also customarily provide for either automatic termination or termination at the option of the customer, typically without the payment of any termination fee, under various circumstances such as non performance, in the event of extended downtime or impaired performance caused by equipment or operational issues, or periods of extended downtime due to force majeure events. Many of these events are beyond our control. The contract term in some instances may be extended by the customer exercising options for the drilling of additional wells or for an additional term. Our contracts also typically include a provision that allows the customer to extend the contract to finish drilling a well in progress. During periods of depressed market conditions, our customers may seek to renegotiate firm drilling contracts to reduce the term of their obligations or the average dayrate through term extensions, or may seek to repudiate their contracts. Suspension of drilling contracts will result in the reduction in or loss of dayrate for the period of the suspension. If our customers cancel some of our contracts and we are unable to secure new contracts on a timely basis and on substantially similar terms, or if contracts are suspended for an extended period of time or if a number of our contracts are renegotiated, it could adversely affect our consolidated results of operations or cash flows. See “Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risks related to our business—Our drilling contracts may be terminated due to a number of events, and, during depressed market conditions, our customers may seek to repudiate or renegotiate their contracts.”

Consistent with standard industry practice, our customers generally assume, and indemnify us against, well control and subsurface risks under dayrate drilling contracts. Under all of our current drilling contracts, our customers, as the operators, indemnify us for pollution damages in connection with reservoir fluids stemming from operations under the contract and we indemnify the operator for pollution from substances in our control that originate from the rig, such as diesel used onboard the rig or other fluids stored onboard the rig and above the

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water surface. Also, under all of our current drilling contracts, the operator indemnifies us against damage to the well or reservoir and loss of subsurface oil and gas and the cost of bringing the well under control. However, our drilling contracts are individually negotiated, and the degree of indemnification we receive from the operator against the liabilities discussed above can vary from contract to contract, based on market conditions and customer requirements existing when the contract was negotiated. In some instances, we have contractually agreed upon certain limits to our indemnification rights and can be responsible for damages up to a specified maximum dollar amount, which is, in any case, immaterial to us. The nature of our liability and the prevailing market conditions, among other factors, can influence such contractual terms. In most instances in which we are indemnified for damages to the well, we have the responsibility to redrill the well at a reduced dayrate. Notwithstanding a contractual indemnity from a customer, there can be no assurance that our customers will be financially able to indemnify us or will otherwise honor their contractual indemnity obligations. See “Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risks related to our business—Our business involves numerous operating hazards, and our insurance and indemnities from our customers may not be adequate to cover potential losses from our operations.”

The interpretation and enforceability of a contractual indemnity depends upon the specific facts and circumstances involved, as governed by applicable laws, and may ultimately need to be decided by a court or other proceeding, which will need to consider the specific contract language, the facts and applicable laws. The law generally considers contractual indemnity for criminal fines and penalties to be against public policy. Courts also restrict indemnification for criminal fines and penalties. The inability or other failure of our customers to fulfill their indemnification obligations, or unenforceability of our contractual protections could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows. See “Part II. Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data—Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—Note 13—Commitments and Contingencies.”

## Significant Customers

We engage in offshore drilling services for most of the leading international oil companies or their affiliates, as well as for many government controlled oil companies and independent oil companies. For the year ended December 31, 2016, our most significant customers were Chevron Corporation (together with its affiliates, “Chevron”), BP plc. (together with its affiliates, “BP”), Royal Dutch Shell plc (together with its affiliates, “Shell”) and Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. (“Petrobras”), representing approximately 24 percent, 12 percent, 12 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of our consolidated operating revenues. No other customers accounted for 10 percent or more of our consolidated operating revenues in the year ended December 31, 2016. Additionally, as of February 9, 2017, the customers with the most significant aggregate amount of contract backlog associated with our drilling contracts were Shell and Chevron, representing approximately 63 percent and 20 percent, respectively, of our total contract backlog. See “Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risks related to our business—We rely heavily on a relatively small number of customers and the loss of a significant customer or a dispute that leads to the loss of a customer could have a material adverse impact on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.”

## Employees

We require highly skilled personnel to operate our drilling units. Consequently, we conduct extensive personnel recruiting, training and safety programs. At December 31, 2016, we had approximately 5,400 employees, including approximately 400 persons engaged through contract labor providers. Approximately 28 percent of our total workforce, working primarily in Angola, Brazil, Norway and the U.K. are represented by, and some of our contracted labor work under, collective bargaining agreements, substantially all of which are subject to annual salary negotiation. These negotiations could result in higher personnel expenses, other increased costs or increased operational restrictions, as the outcome of such negotiations apply to all offshore employees not just the union members. Additionally, failure to reach agreement on certain key issues may result in strikes, lockouts or other work stoppages that may materially impact our operations.

Joint Venture, Agency and Sponsorship Relationships and Other Investments

In some areas of the world, local customs and practice or governmental requirements necessitate the formation of joint ventures with local participation. We may or may not control these joint ventures. We are an active participant in several joint venture drilling companies, principally in Angola, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nigeria. Local laws or customs in some areas of the world also effectively mandate establishment of a relationship with a local agent or sponsor. When appropriate in these areas, we enter into agency or sponsorship agreements. At December 31, 2016, joint ventures in which we participate were as follows:

We hold a 65 percent interest in ADDCL, a consolidated Cayman Islands joint venture company formed to own Discoverer Luanda, which operates in Angola. Our local partner, Angco Cayman Limited, a Cayman Islands company, holds the remaining 35 percent interest in ADDCL. Angco Cayman Limited has the right to exchange its interest in the joint venture for cash at an amount based on an appraisal of the fair value of the drillship, subject to certain adjustments.

We hold a 24 percent direct interest and a 36 percent indirect interest in Indigo Drilling Limited (“Indigo”), a consolidated Nigerian joint venture company formed to engage in drilling operations offshore Nigeria. Our local partners, Mr. Fidelis Oditah and Mr. Chima Ibeneche, each hold a 12.5 percent direct interest, and our other partners, Mr. Joseph Obi and Mr. Ben Osuno, together own a 15 percent indirect interest, in Indigo.

Additionally, we hold interests in certain joint venture companies in Angola, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria and other countries that have been formed to perform certain management services and other onshore support services for our operations.

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### Technological Innovation

Since launching the offshore industry's first jackup drilling rig in 1954, we have achieved a long history of technological innovations, including the first dynamically positioned drillship, the first rig to drill year round in the North Sea and the first semisubmersible rig for year round sub Arctic operations. We have repeatedly achieved water depth world records in the past. Twenty drillships and semisubmersibles in our existing fleet are, and our four drillships that are under construction will be, equipped with our patented dual activity technology, which allows our rigs to perform simultaneous drilling tasks in a parallel rather than sequential manner and reduces critical path activity while improving efficiency in both exploration and development drilling. Additionally, three rigs in our existing fleet are equipped with the tri act derrick, which allows offline tubular and riser activities during normal drilling operations and is patented in certain market sectors in which we operate.

We continue to develop and deploy industry leading technology. In addition to our patented dual activity drilling technology, some of our most recent newbuild drillships include industry leading hookload capability, compensated cranes for performing subsea installations, hybrid power systems and reduced emissions and advanced generator protection. Seven drillships in our existing fleet are, and our four drillships that are under construction will be, outfitted with two blowout preventers and triple liquid mud systems. Three drillships in our existing fleet are, and our four drillships that are under construction will be, designed to accept 20,000 psi blowout preventers in the future. The effective use of and continued improvements in technology to address our customers' requirements are critical to maintaining our competitive position within the contract drilling services industry. We continue to develop technology internally, such as the digital transformation program focused on utilizing analytics and data science to continuously improve operational integrity and efficiency while optimizing cost. In addition, we are focused on a breakthrough drilling innovation program that includes a fault resistant and fault tolerant blowout preventer control system.

### Environmental Compliance

Our operations are subject to a variety of global environmental regulations. We monitor our compliance with environmental regulation in each country of operation and, while we see an increase in general environmental regulation, we have made and will continue to make the required expenditures to comply with current and future environmental requirements. We make expenditures to further our commitment to environmental improvement and the setting of a global environmental standard. We assess the environmental impacts of our business, focusing on the areas of greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, discharges and waste management. Our actions are designed to reduce risk in our current and future operations, to promote sound environmental management and to create a proactive environmental program. To date, we have not incurred material costs in order to comply with recent environmental legislation, and we do not believe that our compliance with such requirements will have a material adverse effect on our competitive position, consolidated results of operations or cash flows. For a discussion of the effects of environmental regulation, see "Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risks related to our business—Compliance with or breach of environmental laws can be costly, expose us to liability and could limit our operations."

### Available Information

Our website address is [www.deepwater.com](http://www.deepwater.com). Information contained on or accessible from our website is not incorporated by reference into this annual report on Form 10-K and should not be considered a part of this report or any other filing that we make with the SEC. We make available on this website free of charge, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file those materials with, or furnish those materials to, the SEC. You may also find on our website information related to our corporate governance, board committees and company code of business conduct and ethics. The SEC also maintains a website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), which contains reports, proxy

statements and other information regarding SEC registrants, including us.

We intend to satisfy the requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8 K to disclose any amendments to our Code of Integrity and any waiver from any provision of our Code of Integrity by posting such information in the Governance page on our website at [www.deepwater.com](http://www.deepwater.com).

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Item 1A.Risk Factors

Risks related to our business

§ Our business depends on the level of activity in the offshore oil and gas industry, which is significantly affected by volatile oil and gas prices and other factors.

Our business depends on the level of activity in oil and gas exploration, development and production in offshore areas worldwide. Demand for our services depends on oil and natural gas industry activity and expenditure levels that are directly affected by trends in oil and, to a lesser extent, natural gas prices. Oil and gas prices are extremely volatile and are affected by numerous factors, including the following:

- § worldwide demand for oil and gas, including economic activity in the U.S. and other large energy consuming markets;
- § the ability of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (“OPEC”) to set and maintain production levels, productive spare capacity and pricing;
- § the level of production in non OPEC countries;
- § the policies of various governments regarding exploration and development of their oil and gas reserves;
- § international sanctions on oil producing countries, or the lifting of such sanctions;
- § advances in exploration, development and production technology;
- § the further development of shale technology to exploit oil and gas reserves;
- § the discovery rate of new oil and gas reserves;
- § the rate of decline of existing oil and gas reserves;
- § laws and regulations related to environmental matters, including those addressing alternative energy sources and the risks of global climate change;
- § the development and exploitation of alternative fuels;
- § accidents, adverse weather conditions, natural disasters and other similar incidents relating to the oil and gas industry; and
- § the worldwide security and political environment, including uncertainty or instability resulting from an escalation or outbreak of armed hostilities, civil unrest or other crises in the Middle East or other geographic areas or acts of terrorism.

Demand for our services is particularly sensitive to the level of exploration, development and production activity of, and the corresponding capital spending by, oil and natural gas companies, including national oil companies. Any prolonged reduction in oil and natural gas prices could depress the immediate levels of exploration, development and production activity. Perceptions of longer term lower oil and natural gas prices by oil and gas companies could similarly reduce or defer major expenditures given the long term nature of many large scale development projects. Lower levels of activity result in a corresponding decline in the demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our revenue and profitability. Oil and gas prices and market expectations of potential changes in these prices significantly affect this level of activity. However, increases in near term commodity prices do not necessarily translate into increased offshore drilling activity since customers’ expectations of longer term future commodity prices typically drive demand for our rigs. The current commodity pricing environment has had a negative impact on demand for our services, and it could continue. The price of crude oil as reported on the New York Mercantile Exchange has weakened significantly and, despite recent price improvements, has not returned to the higher levels experienced prior to December 31, 2014. Consequently, customers have delayed or cancelled many exploration and development programs, resulting in reduced demand for our services. Also, increased competition for customers’ drilling budgets could come from, among other areas, land based energy markets worldwide. The availability of quality drilling prospects, exploration success, relative production costs, the stage of reservoir development and political and regulatory environments also affect customers’ drilling campaigns. Worldwide military, political and economic events have contributed to oil and gas price volatility and are likely to do so in the future.

§ The offshore drilling industry is highly competitive and cyclical, with intense price competition. The offshore contract drilling industry is highly competitive with numerous industry participants, none of which has a dominant market share. Drilling contracts are traditionally awarded on a competitive bid basis. Although rig availability, service quality and technical capability are drivers of customer contract awards, bid pricing and intense price competition are often key determinants for which a qualified contractor is awarded a job.

The offshore drilling industry has historically been cyclical and is impacted by oil and natural gas price levels and volatility. There have been periods of high customer demand, limited rig supply and high dayrates, followed by periods of low customer demand, excess rig supply and low dayrates. Changes in commodity prices can have a dramatic effect on rig demand, and periods of excess rig supply may intensify competition in the industry and result in the idling of older and less technologically advanced equipment. We have idled and stacked rigs, and may in the future idle or stack additional rigs or enter into lower dayrate drilling contracts in response to market conditions. We cannot predict when or if any idled or stacked rigs will return to service.

During prior periods of high dayrates and rig utilization rates, we and other industry participants have responded to increased customer demand by increasing the supply of rigs through ordering the construction of new units. In periods of low oil and natural gas price levels, growth in new construction has historically resulted in an oversupply of rigs and has caused a subsequent decline in dayrates and rig utilization rates, sometimes for extended periods of time. Presently, there are numerous recently constructed high specification floaters and other drilling units capable of competing with our rigs that have entered the global market, and there are more that are under construction.

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The entry into service of these new units has increased and will continue to increase supply. The increased supply has contributed to and may continue to contribute to a reduction in dayrates as rigs are absorbed into the active fleet and has led to accelerated stacking of the existing fleet.

Two of our four ultra deepwater drillships and our five high specification jackups currently under construction have not been contracted for work. Combined with the rapid increase in the number of rigs in the global market completing contracts and becoming idle, the number of new units expected to be delivered without contracts has intensified and may further intensify price competition. Any further increase in construction of new units would likely exacerbate the negative impact of increased supply on dayrates and utilization rates. Additionally, lower market dayrates and intense price competition may drive customers to demand renegotiation of existing contracts to lower dayrates in exchange for longer contract terms. In an oversupplied market, we may have limited bargaining power to negotiate on more favorable terms. Lower dayrates and rig utilization rates could adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

§ Our drilling contracts may be terminated due to a number of events, and, during depressed market conditions, our customers may seek to repudiate or renegotiate their contracts.

Certain of our drilling contracts with customers may be cancelable at the option of the customer upon payment of an early termination payment. Such payments may not, however, fully compensate us for the loss of the contract. Drilling contracts also customarily provide for either automatic termination or termination at the option of the customer typically without the payment of any termination fee, under various circumstances such as non performance, as a result of significant downtime or impaired performance caused by equipment or operational issues, or sustained periods of downtime due to force majeure events. Many of these events are beyond our control. During periods of depressed market conditions, we are subject to an increased risk of our customers seeking to repudiate their contracts, including through claims of non performance. We are at continued risk of experiencing early contract terminations in the current weak commodity price environment as operators look to reduce their capital expenditures. During the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, our customers early terminated or cancelled contracts for eight and five of our rigs, respectively, and these rigs currently remain idle. Our customers' ability to perform their obligations under their drilling contracts, including their ability to fulfill their indemnity obligations to us, may also be negatively impacted by an economic downturn. Our customers, which include national oil companies, often have significant bargaining leverage over us. If our customers cancel some of our contracts, and we are unable to secure new contracts on a timely basis and on substantially similar terms, or if contracts are suspended for an extended period of time or if a number of our contracts are renegotiated, it could adversely affect our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows. See "Item 1. Business—Contract Drilling Services."

§ Our current backlog of contract drilling revenue may not be fully realized, which may have a material adverse impact on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

At February 9, 2017, our contract backlog was approximately \$11.3 billion. This amount represents the firm term of the drilling contract multiplied by the contractual operating rate, which may be higher than the actual dayrate we receive or we may receive other dayrates included in the contract, such as waiting on weather rate, repair rate, standby rate or force majeure rate. The contractual operating dayrate may also be higher than the actual dayrate we receive because of a number of factors, including rig downtime or suspension of operations.

Several factors could cause rig downtime or a suspension of operations, including:

- § breakdowns of equipment and other unforeseen engineering problems;
- § work stoppages, including labor strikes;
- § shortages of material and skilled labor;
- § surveys by government and maritime authorities;
- § periodic classification surveys;
- § severe weather, strong ocean currents or harsh operating conditions; and

§ force majeure events.

In certain drilling contracts, the dayrate may be reduced to zero or result in customer credit against future dayrate if, for example, repairs extend beyond a stated period of time. Our contract backlog includes signed drilling contracts and, in some cases, other definitive agreements awaiting contract execution. We may not be able to realize the full amount of our contract backlog due to events beyond our control. In addition, some of our customers have experienced liquidity issues in the past and these liquidity issues could be experienced again if commodity prices decline to lower levels for an extended period of time. Liquidity issues and other market pressures could lead our customers to go into bankruptcy or could encourage our customers to seek to repudiate, cancel or renegotiate these agreements for various reasons (see “—Our drilling contracts may be terminated due to a number of events, and, during depressed market conditions, our customers may seek to repudiate or renegotiate their contracts.”) Our inability to realize the full amount of our contract backlog may have a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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§ We may not be able to renew or obtain new drilling contracts for rigs whose contracts are expiring or are terminated or obtain drilling contracts for our uncontracted newbuilds, which could adversely affect our consolidated statements of operations.

Our ability to renew expiring drilling contracts or obtain new drilling contracts will depend on the prevailing market conditions at the time. If we are unable to obtain new drilling contracts in direct continuation with existing contracts or for our uncontracted newbuild units, or if new drilling contracts are entered into at dayrates substantially below the existing dayrates or on terms otherwise less favorable compared to existing contract terms, our revenues and profitability could be adversely affected.

The offshore drilling markets in which we compete experience fluctuations in the demand for drilling services. A number of existing drilling contracts for our drilling rigs that are currently operating are scheduled to expire before December 31, 2017. Seven of the units we currently have under construction as part of our newbuild program, two ultra deepwater drillships and our five high specification jackups, are being constructed without customer drilling contracts. We will attempt to secure drilling contracts for these units prior to their completion. We may be unable to obtain drilling contracts for our rigs that are currently operating upon the expiration or termination of such contracts or obtain drilling contracts for our newbuilds, and there may be a gap in the operation of the rigs between the current contracts and subsequent contracts. In particular, if oil and natural gas prices remain low, as is currently the case, or it is expected that such prices will decrease in the future, at a time when we are seeking drilling contracts for our rigs, we may be unable to obtain drilling contracts at attractive dayrates or at all.

§ We must make substantial capital and operating expenditures to maintain our fleet, and we may be required to make significant capital expenditures to maintain our competitiveness and to comply with laws and the applicable regulations and standards of governmental authorities and organizations, or to execute our growth plan, each of which could negatively affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

We must make substantial capital and operating expenditures to maintain our fleet. These expenditures could increase as a result of changes in the following:

- § the cost of labor and materials;
- § customer requirements;
- § fleet size;
- § the cost of replacement parts for existing drilling rigs;
- § the geographic location of the drilling rigs;
- § length of drilling contracts;
- § governmental regulations and maritime self-regulatory organization and technical standards relating to safety, security or the environment; and
- § industry standards.

Changes in offshore drilling technology, customer requirements for new or upgraded equipment and competition within our industry may require us to make significant capital expenditures in order to maintain our competitiveness. In addition, changes in governmental regulations, safety or other equipment standards, as well as compliance with standards imposed by maritime self-regulatory organizations, may require us to make additional unforeseen capital expenditures. As a result, we may be required to take our rigs out of service for extended periods of time, with corresponding losses of revenues, in order to make such alterations or to add such equipment. In the future, market conditions may not justify these expenditures or enable us to operate our older rigs profitably during the remainder of their economic lives.

In addition, we may require additional capital in the future. If we are unable to fund capital expenditures with our cash flow from operations or sales of non-strategic assets, we may be required to either incur additional borrowings or raise capital through the sale of debt or equity securities. Our ability to access the capital markets may be limited by our financial condition at the time, by changes in laws and regulations or interpretation thereof and by adverse market

conditions resulting from, among other things, general economic conditions and contingencies and uncertainties that are beyond our control. If we raise funds by issuing equity securities, existing shareholders may experience dilution. Our failure to obtain the funds for necessary future capital expenditures could have a material adverse effect on our business and on our consolidated statements of financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

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§ The recent downgrades in our credit ratings by various credit rating agencies could impact our access to capital and materially adversely affect our business and financial condition.

During the year ended December 31, 2015, three credit rating agencies downgraded their credit ratings of our non credit enhanced senior unsecured long term debt (“Debt Rating”) to Debt Ratings that are below investment grade. During the year ended December 31, 2016 and in January 2017, the same three credit rating agencies further downgraded our Debt Rating. Our Debt Rating levels could have material adverse consequences on our business and future prospects and could:

- § limit our ability to access debt markets, including for the purpose of refinancing our existing debt;
- § cause us to refinance or issue debt with less favorable terms and conditions, which debt may require collateral and restrict, among other things, our ability to pay distributions or repurchase shares;
- § increase certain fees under our credit facilities and interest rates under indentures governing certain of our senior notes;
  - § negatively impact current and prospective customers’ willingness to transact business with us;
- § impose additional insurance, guarantee and collateral requirements;
- § limit our access to bank and third-party guarantees, surety bonds and letters of credit; and
- § suppliers and financial institutions may lower or eliminate the level of credit provided through payment terms or intraday funding when dealing with us thereby increasing the need for higher levels of cash on hand, which would decrease our ability to repay debt balances.

The downgrades have caused some of the effects listed above, and any further downgrades may cause or exacerbate, any of the effects listed above.

§ We have a substantial amount of debt, including secured debt, and we may lose the ability to obtain future financing and suffer competitive disadvantages.

At December 31, 2016 and 2015, our total consolidated debt was \$8.5 billion. This substantial level of debt and other obligations could have significant adverse consequences on our business and future prospects, including the following:

- § we may be unable to obtain financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, debt service requirements, distributions, share repurchases, or other purposes;
- § we may be unable to use operating cash flow in other areas of our business because we must dedicate a substantial portion of these funds to service the debt;
- § we could become more vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions, including increases in interest rates, particularly given our substantial indebtedness, some of which bears interest at variable rates;
- § we may be unable to meet financial ratios in the indentures governing certain of our debt or in our bank credit agreements or satisfy certain other conditions included in our bank credit agreements, which could result in our inability to meet requirements for borrowings under our credit agreements or a default under these indentures or agreements, impose restrictions with respect to our access to certain of our capital, and trigger cross default provisions in our other debt instruments;
- § if we default under the terms of our secured financing arrangements, the secured debtholders may, among other things, foreclose on the collateral securing the debt, including the applicable drilling units; and
- § we may be less able to take advantage of significant business opportunities and to react to changes in market or industry conditions than our less levered competitors.

See “Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources—Sources and Uses of Liquidity—Debt Issuances.”

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We rely heavily on a relatively small number of customers and the loss of a significant customer or a dispute that leads to the loss of a customer could have a material adverse impact on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

We engage in offshore drilling services for most of the leading international oil companies or their affiliates, as well as for many government controlled oil companies and independent oil companies. For the year ended December 31, 2016, our most significant customers were Chevron, BP, Shell and Petrobras, accounting for approximately 24 percent, 12 percent, 12 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of our consolidated operating revenues. As of February 9, 2017, the customers with the most significant aggregate amount of contract backlog were Shell and Chevron, representing approximately 63 percent and 20 percent, respectively, of our total contract backlog. The loss of any of these customers or another significant customer, or a decline in payments under any of our drilling contracts, could, at least in the short term, have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows.

In addition, our drilling contracts subject us to counterparty risks. The ability of each of our counterparties to perform its obligations under a contract with us will depend on a number of factors that are beyond our control and may include, among other things, general economic conditions, the condition of the offshore drilling industry, prevailing prices for oil and natural gas, the overall financial condition of the counterparty, the dayrates received and the level of expenses necessary to maintain drilling activities. In addition, in depressed market conditions, such as we are currently experiencing, our customers may no longer need a drilling rig that is currently under contract or may be able to obtain a comparable drilling rig at a lower dayrate. Should a counterparty fail to honor its obligations under an agreement with us, we could sustain losses, which could have a material adverse effect on our business and on our consolidated statement of financial condition results of operations or cash flows.

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§ Worldwide financial, economic and political conditions could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Worldwide financial and economic conditions could restrict our ability to access the capital markets at a time when we would like, or need, to access such markets, which could have an impact on our flexibility to react to changing economic and business conditions. Worldwide economic conditions have in the past impacted, and could in the future impact, the lenders participating in our credit facilities and our customers, causing them to fail to meet their obligations to us. If economic conditions preclude or limit financing from banking institutions participating in our credit facilities, we may not be able to obtain similar financing from other institutions. A slowdown in economic activity could further reduce worldwide demand for energy and extend or worsen the current period of low oil and natural gas prices. A further decline in oil and natural gas prices or an extension of the current low oil and natural gas prices could reduce demand for our drilling services and have a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The world economy is currently facing a number of challenges. An extended period of negative outlook for the world economy could reduce the overall demand for oil and natural gas and for our services. These potential developments, or market perceptions concerning these and related issues, could affect our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows. In addition, turmoil and hostilities in the Middle East, North Africa and other geographic areas and countries are adding to overall risk. An extended period of negative outlook for the world economy could further reduce the overall demand for oil and natural gas and for our services. Such changes could adversely affect our business and our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

§ Our operating and maintenance costs will not necessarily fluctuate in proportion to changes in our operating revenues.

Our operating and maintenance costs will not necessarily fluctuate in proportion to changes in our operating revenues. Costs for operating a rig are generally fixed or only semi variable regardless of the dayrate being earned. In addition, should our rigs incur unplanned downtime while on contract or idle time between drilling contracts, we will not always reduce the staff on those rigs because we could use the crew to prepare the rig for its next contract. During times of reduced activity, reductions in costs may not be immediate because portions of the crew may be required to prepare rigs for stacking, after which time the crew members may be assigned to active rigs or released. As our rigs are mobilized from one geographic location to another, the labor and other operating and maintenance costs can vary significantly. In general, labor costs increase primarily due to higher salary levels and inflation. Equipment maintenance costs fluctuate depending upon the type of activity the unit is performing and the age and condition of the equipment, and these costs could increase for short or extended periods as a result of regulatory or customer requirements that raise maintenance standards above historical levels. Contract preparation costs vary based on the scope and length of contract preparation required and the duration of the firm contractual period over which such expenditures are amortized.

§ Our shipyard projects and operations are subject to delays and cost overruns.

As of February 9, 2017, we had four ultra deepwater floater and five high specification jackup newbuild rigs under construction. We also have a variety of other more limited shipyard projects at any given time. These shipyard projects are subject to the risks of delay or cost overruns inherent in any such construction project resulting from numerous factors, including the following:

- § shipyard availability, failures and difficulties;
- § shortages of equipment, materials or skilled labor;
- § unscheduled delays in the delivery of ordered materials and equipment;
- § design and engineering problems, including those relating to the commissioning of newly designed equipment;
- § latent damages or deterioration to hull, equipment and machinery in excess of engineering estimates and assumptions;

- § unanticipated actual or purported change orders;
- § disputes with shipyards and suppliers;
- § failure or delay of third-party vendors or service providers;
- § availability of suppliers to recertify equipment for enhanced regulations;
- § strikes, labor disputes and work stoppages;
- § customer acceptance delays;
- § adverse weather conditions, including damage caused by such conditions;
- § terrorist acts, war, piracy and civil unrest;
- § unanticipated cost increases; and
- § difficulty in obtaining necessary permits or approvals.

These factors may contribute to cost variations and delays in the delivery of our newbuild units and other rigs undergoing shipyard projects. Delays in the delivery of these units would impact contract commencement, resulting in a loss of revenue to us, and may also cause customers to terminate or shorten the term of the drilling contract for the rig pursuant to applicable late delivery clauses. In the event of termination of any of these drilling contracts, we may not be able to secure a replacement contract on as favorable terms, if at all.

Our operations also rely on a significant supply of capital and consumable spare parts and equipment to maintain and repair our fleet. We also rely on the supply of ancillary services, including supply boats and helicopters. Shortages in materials, manufacturing defects, delays in the delivery of necessary spare parts, equipment or other materials, or the unavailability of ancillary services could negatively impact our future operations and result in increases in rig downtime and delays in the repair and maintenance of our fleet.



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§ We could experience a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows to the extent the Macondo well's operator fails to indemnify us or is otherwise unable to indemnify us for compensatory damages related to the Macondo well incident as required under the terms of our settlement agreement.

The combined response team to the Macondo well incident was unable to stem the flow of hydrocarbons from the well prior to the sinking of Deepwater Horizon. The resulting spill of hydrocarbons was the most extensive in U.S. history. Under the Deepwater Horizon drilling contract and in accordance with our settlement agreement with the operator, BP agreed to indemnify us with respect to certain matters, and we agreed to indemnify BP with respect to certain matters (see "Part II. Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data—Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements—Note 13—Commitments and Contingencies—Macondo well incident commitments and contingencies—BP Settlement Agreement"). We could experience a material adverse effect on our consolidated statement of financial position, results of operations or cash flows to the extent that BP fails to fully satisfy its indemnification obligations, including by reason of financial or legal restrictions, or our insurance policies do not fully cover these amounts. In addition, in connection with our settlement with the Department of Justice (the "DOJ"), we agreed that we will not use payments pursuant to a civil consent decree by and among the DOJ and certain of our affiliates (the "Consent Decree") as a basis for indemnity or reimbursement from non insurer defendants named in the complaint by the U.S. or their affiliates.

§ Our agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency may prohibit us from entering into, extending or engaging in certain business relationships. In addition, if we do not comply with the terms of our agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, we may be subject to suspension, debarment or statutory disqualification.

On February 25, 2013, we and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") entered into an administrative agreement (the "EPA Agreement") related to the Macondo well incident, which has a five year term. In the EPA Agreement, we agreed to, among other things, continue the implementation of certain programs and systems; comply with certain employment and contracting procedures; engage independent compliance auditors and a process safety consultant; and give reports and notices with respect to various matters. Subject to certain exceptions, the EPA Agreement prohibits us from entering into, extending or engaging in certain business relationships with individuals or entities that are debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment or similarly restricted. In addition, if we fail to comply with the terms of the EPA Agreement, we may be subject to suspension, debarment or statutory disqualification.

§ The continuing effects of the enhanced regulations enacted following the Macondo well incident and of agreements applicable to us could materially and adversely affect our worldwide operations.

Following the Macondo well incident, enhanced governmental safety and environmental requirements applicable to both deepwater and shallow water operations were adopted for drilling in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. In order to obtain drilling permits, operators must submit applications that demonstrate compliance with the enhanced regulations, which require independent third party inspections, certification of well design and well control equipment and emergency response plans in the event of a blowout, among other requirements. Operators have previously had, and may in the future have, difficulties obtaining drilling permits in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. In addition, the oil and gas industry has adopted new equipment and operating standards, such as the American Petroleum Institute Standard 53 related to the installation and testing of well control equipment. These new safety and environmental guidelines and standards and any further new guidelines or standards the U.S. government or industry may issue or any other steps the U.S. government or industry may take, could disrupt or delay operations, increase the cost of operations, increase out of service time or reduce the area of operations for drilling rigs in the U.S. and non U.S. offshore areas.

Other governments could take similar actions related to implementing new safety and environmental regulations in the future. Additionally, some of our customers have elected to voluntarily comply with some or all of the new inspections, certification requirements and safety and environmental guidelines on rigs operating outside of the

U.S. Gulf of Mexico. Additional governmental regulations and requirements concerning licensing, taxation, equipment specifications and training requirements or the voluntary adoption of such requirements or guidelines by our customers could increase the costs of our operations, increase certification and permitting requirements, increase review periods and impose increased liability on offshore operations. The requirements applicable to us under the Consent Decree and the EPA Agreement cover safety, environmental, reporting, operational and other matters and are in addition to the regulations applicable to other industry participants and may require additional agreements and corporate compliance resources that, together with our cooperation guilty plea agreement by and among the DOJ and certain of our affiliates (the "Plea Agreement"), could cause us to incur additional costs and liabilities. The continuing effects of the enhanced regulations may also decrease the demand for drilling services, negatively affect dayrates and increase out of service time, which could ultimately have a material adverse effect on our revenues and profitability.

§ Compliance with or breach of environmental laws can be costly, expose us to liability and could limit our operations.

Our business in the offshore drilling industry is affected by laws and regulations relating to the energy industry and the environment, including international conventions and treaties, and regional, national, state, and local laws and regulations. The offshore drilling industry depends on demand for services from the oil and gas exploration and production industry, and, accordingly, we are directly affected by the adoption of laws and regulations that, for economic, environmental or other policy reasons, curtail exploration and development drilling for oil and gas. Compliance with such laws, regulations and standards, where applicable, may require us to make significant capital expenditures, such as the installation of costly equipment or operational changes, and may affect the resale values or useful lives of our rigs.