

Pingo adds compactors

Four new pieces of heavy equipment have been added to Pingo Corporation's growing fleet of North Slope machinery.

Three Dynapac compactors and a 966 Caterpillar loader will be used primarily in the Kuparuk oilfield where Pingo has a major road maintenance contract.

Pingo is a North Slope oilfield service company owned by six arctic villages. Since its formation two years ago, the corporation has specialized in providing construction, maintenance and operations services for North Slope oil producers at Prudhoe Bay and Kuparuk.

The addition of the \$72,000 compactors and the \$132,000

loader increases the value of Pingo's heavy equipment fleet to \$1.75 million. The new equipment was purchased from McClellan Equipment Co. of Anchorage and Portland.

"Owning our own equipment increases the profitability of our operations and enables us to perform short contract work that would otherwise be impossible if we had to rent heavy equipment or order it," said Pingo President Thomas Napageak.

Pingo's North Slope fleet also includes two 966 Cat loaders, a pair of 16-G Cat

motor graders, fuel trucks, tankers, snow blowers, a Kenworth semi-tractor and numerous smaller vehicles.

"Despite a general slowdown on the Slope, Pingo's operations are continuing to grow," Napageak said. Increased responsibilities in the Kuparuk oilfield, developed and operated by ARCO Alaska, and new joint venture agreements with Crowley Maritime Corporation and the Alaska Welding Center are expanding business opportunities. "More business means more jobs," he said.