

Doyon selects candidates for roustabout

Doyon Drilling, Inc. has announced selection of ten men to participate in a roustabout training program aimed at making DDI the topnotch drilling crew on the North Slope.

The announcement came from Neil Scannell, president of DDI, a subsidiary of Doyon, Limited.

"We feel that we have selected people who are career oriented and ready to meet the standards our company has set," Scannell said.

Training is to begin this month and graduates will have the opportunity to fill jobs as they open up with DDI on the slope. DDI recently won a major drilling contract with ARCO Alaska Inc.

"Our hearty congratulations to the ten trainees and five alternates selected for the program," Scannell said. "And our thanks also to all those who expressed an interest and took time to apply and be interviewed."

Those selected are Robert Solomon, Fairbanks; David Thomas, Fort Yukon; Bobby Miller, Takotna; Bill Anderson, McGrath; Tom Edwards,

McGrath; Harry Gochenauer, Grayling; Charles Jerue, Anchorage; William Dayton, Koyukuk; Keith Jonathan, Tanacross, and Steve Szmyd, Fairbanks.

The alternates are Royo Nelson, Koyukuk; Sam Kitka, Stevens Village; Leonard Deacon, Grayling; Kirby Thomas, Tanacross, and Sonnie Cockerham, Fairbanks.

The trainees will undergo a 16-week course at the Alaska Vocational Technical Center in Seward, a course involving classroom training and actual work on drill rigs.

Classroom studies will include safety and emergency medical fundamentals of petroleum industry, technical vocabulary, tool identification, rig components, valve and pump operation and maintenance introduction to welding.

Each trainee will receive a weekly stipend, tuition fees, room and board, basic hand tools, coveralls and books, plus transportation to and from the training site.

Under Scannell's leadership, DDI recently completed negotiations on a three-year drilling contract won by the joint

venture of DDI and Nugget Alaska Drilling Inc., with ARCO Alaska Inc.

The contract calls for a \$21 million drilling rig and camp at the Kuparuk Field. That rig, now under construction, is to be at work in the Kuparuk Field by Sept. 10, Scannell said.

Bob Rodriguez, a man with more than 18 years experience in all phases of mining, has joined Doyon, Limited as vice president of minerals.

Rodriguez comes to Doyon from Century Geophysical Corporation, Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he served as vice president of operations.

Rodriguez will be working closely with Doyon's land department to coordinate efforts for development of minerals on Doyon lands.

Mineral evaluation is still in progress, to help Doyon in establishing priorities for final land selections. "Our philosophy on gold is to encourage shareholder participation while trying to make money on Doyon lands," Rodriguez said. "Gold and placer mining is an ideal way to do that.

"And we're looking at long

term use," he said. "We want to see money flowing from these lands 100 years from now, as well as 20 years from now," he said.

Doyon's policy toward reclamation of these lands is also still under discussion. "We will adhere to federal and state regulations, but will probably

want to also assure on a case by case basis that the regulations are adequate to protect the future of the land," Rodriguez said.

"In development of this policy, we will seek input from individual miners and other interested groups on how this policy might evolve," he said.