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**NEW ENERGYPOINT RESEARCH SURVEY SHOWS STEEP DECLINE
IN OIL & GAS INDUSTRY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**

**Second Biennial Survey Reflects Increased Industry Participation;
Rowan Companies Rated Highest**

HOUSTON (August 2006) – While the oil and gas industry experiences strong growth amidst some of the most favorable market conditions in a generation for oilfield service suppliers, customer satisfaction has declined, as indicated by the results of EnergyPoint Research’s 2006 Drilling & Wellsite Contractors Customer Satisfaction Survey.

The independent biennial survey reflects comprehensive ratings of 30 major drilling and wellsite contractors obtained from 1,858 evaluations by 476 respondents worldwide, representing a 60 percent increase in participation over EnergyPoint Research’s inaugural survey in 2004. The suppliers were evaluated across several key metrics of performance and customer satisfaction.

“The primary message from this year’s survey is that survey respondents are overall less satisfied with the quality of services they are receiving from oilfield service suppliers compared to just two years ago,” said Doug Sheridan, managing director of EnergyPoint Research. “Record activity levels, scarcity in personnel and resources, and rising costs all took their toll on customer satisfaction levels this year. However, certain oilfield service providers nonetheless managed to garner outstanding marks in part by maintaining a long-term focus on customer relationships.”

Houston-based Rowan Companies finished first overall in this year’s expanded survey led by the performance of the company’s U.S. domestic offshore drilling operations and its fleet of high-spec offshore jackup rigs. Survey respondents also lauded the company’s land-based drilling services and its field personnel in general.

The combined ratings for Frank’s International and Frank’s Casing & Rental placed the Frank’s affiliates second overall in the survey, as respondents praised the companies’ effectiveness and efficiency in the category of casing and production tubing installation.

Rounding out the top three is Helmerich & Payne, the only land-based driller to finish in the top quartile of the survey in a year when most of its direct competitors saw their standings with respondents fall precipitously, according to Sheridan.

Ratings for Alberta-based Precision Drilling, which ranked first in EnergyPoint's 2004 survey, fell to ninth place overall after the transformational sale of its energy services group and international drilling operations to Weatherford.

In the two years since conducting its inaugural study, EnergyPoint's independent customer satisfaction surveys have emerged as an industry standard for objective market-based ratings and rankings of providers of oilfield product and services. "We believe the unique insights and information our surveys provide regarding the performance of oilfield suppliers offers significant benefit to both oil and gas industry customers and suppliers," says Sheridan.

The executive summary MarketPartners® Report on the 2006 Drilling & Wellsite Contractors Customer Satisfaction Survey is available on EnergyPoint Research's web site at www.energypointresearch.com.

About EnergyPoint Research, Inc.

EnergyPoint Research provides independent research regarding the oil and gas industry's satisfaction with the products and services it purchases and utilizes. Founded in 2003, the company offers oil and gas industry professionals and their employers opportunities to provide confidential feedback in important areas to oilfield product and service providers through objective and independent evaluation processes. For more information regarding EnergyPoint Research, visit its website at www.energypointresearch.com.

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