



## **PRESS RELEASE**

May 2010

### **Collaboration JPL/NASA and the Norwegian Energy Industry**

Last fall, SIMTANO (1) was tasked to manage a study to investigate what steps would be required for setting up collaboration between JPL/NASA (2) and Norwegian Energy (mostly offshore oil and gas) companies and research organizations.

The study was funded by the Norwegian Government through Innovation Norway (3), and major companies in the oil and gas sector. Support for the study was also provided by JPL/NASA. The study was completed and report delivered in January 2010.

The first collaboration project has been selected. In this planned project, JPL/NASA will support Seabed Rig (4) in developing software for controlling a fully robotized state-of-the-art oil and gas installation sitting on the seabed.

Since the report was published it has gathered attention from the Norwegian Government, City of Stavanger, the US Embassy in Norway, Greater Stavanger (5) the Norwegian Research Council (6), the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (7), industry, and the press.

It was first presented at the "Autonomy in Integrated Operations", February 10-11, 2010, and now recently at the Offshore technology Conference (OTC) (8) in Houston, May 4, 2010. The report and the presentation from this event are available at SIMTANO's website (1)

At the latter event, the US Ambassador to Norway, the Mayor of Stavanger (Norway), the Norwegian Research Council, Innovation Norway, IRIS (9), the Offshore Northern Seas (Conference and Exhibition) - ONS (10), the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, NASA JSC, press, and representatives from some of the major energy (oil and gas companies) in Norway were present.

The presentation was met with great enthusiasm and excitement. A representative from JPL/NASA was there to talk about the first collaboration project. As a next step representatives from JPL/NASA and NASA JSC are going to Norway in August to visit with the central high-tech energy companies there. While there, they will also be invited to the ONS. It's ranked as the world's largest or second largest offshore oil and gas event.

This type of collaboration has a lot potential, and could be of great benefit to both NASA and the Norwegian Energy Industry. As we go forward, we plan to expand beyond NASA and the Norwegian Energy Industry and turn it into a collaboration effort between the space and energy sectors. This would include green-energy such as wind, waves, and tides. We see that this could also open up very exciting collaboration opportunities industry to industry.

For questions, please contact Knut I. Oxnevad directly at [oxnevad@simtano.com](mailto:oxnevad@simtano.com) or via tel: 818-943-7917. Notes provided on next page.



Notes:

- (1) [www.simtano.com](http://www.simtano.com)
- (2) [jpl.nasa.gov](http://jpl.nasa.gov)
- (3) [www.innovasjon Norge.no](http://www.innovasjon Norge.no)
- (4) [www.seabedrig.no](http://www.seabedrig.no)
- (5) [www.greaterstavanger.com/](http://www.greaterstavanger.com/)
- (6) [www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home\\_page/1177315753906](http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home_page/1177315753906)
- (7) [www.bayareahouston.com](http://www.bayareahouston.com)
- (8) [www.otcnet.org/2010/](http://www.otcnet.org/2010/)
- (9) [www.iris.no/](http://www.iris.no/)
- (10) [www.ons.no](http://www.ons.no)