

Iran's Largest Land-Sea Seismic Survey Project Completed



Director of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) Mohyeddin Jafari

TEHRAN — The exploration director of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) Mohyeddin Jafari announced the completion of the largest two- and three-dimensional land-sea seismic survey project in the Paniz region of Khuzestan province, utilizing wireless technology.

Jafari stated that the Paniz seismic survey project, the largest of its kind in the country, covered an area of 400 square kilometers in 2D and 2,220 kilometers in 3D.

The project was carried out in collaboration with NIOC's exploration management as the employer and Negin Afaq Oil and Energy Development Company as the contractor. For the first time, wireless technology was used in the acquisition of 3D seismic data, significantly saving time and exploration costs.

He added that the project's challenging and highly variable

swampy surface conditions required the employer and contractor teams to implement unique, innovative solutions at various stages to prevent work stoppages. Through collaboration with other seismic survey companies, the final data acquisition for the project was completed in March 2025.

The collected data will now undergo final processing, with the hope that the project's outcomes will lead to the identification of new exploration targets and create value for the country.

Launch of Arvand Seismic Survey Project

Jafari also announced the start of the operational phase of the Arvand seismic survey project, covering 1,700 square kilometers. The project utilizes wireless geophone technology to complete 3D data for the region and study reservoir formations in the Bang-

estan and Khami groups.

This project is one of the final pieces of the 3D data puzzle in the southwestern Abadan Plain, with its operational phase now underway.

He noted that NIOC's exploration management has implemented advanced seismic data acquisition technology using a wireless recording system known as NODAL, aiming to maximize efficiency while minimizing financial and time costs.

Regarding the collaboration between the Iranian contractor and its foreign partner, Jafari emphasized that Kish Petroleum Engineering Services Company, along with its foreign partner, has already secured all prerequisites for the project ahead of the contractual deadline and has begun the Arvand project's data acquisition phase with promising progress.

NISOC, NIOC Sign Exploration Agreement

TEHRAN — The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) and the Exploration Directorate of the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) signed a cooperation agreement to collaborate on exploration, development, and production processes.

Ebrahim Piramoun, CEO of NISOC, stated during a joint meeting with the NIOC Exploration Directorate on Monday (March 10) that NISOC, as the main hub of oil production in the country, holds a vast amount of exploration data and needs to identify and discover new structures in various sectors.

He emphasized that accelerating the finalization of exploration issues and transitioning to development discussions are among their top priorities. Piramoun noted that the Exploration Directorate can determine key production strategies, and data sharing between the two entities will pave the way for effective collaboration and sustainable development.

He added that the exploration process never stops; instead, it enters a new phase after each stage, continually aiding in increasing production and field development.

Identification of 5b barrels of oil in unconventional resources

Jafari, head of the NIOC Exploration Directorate, praised NISOC's performance in boosting production and described the company as a cornerstone of Iran's oil industry.

He stated that NISOC holds a prominent position in the oil industry, and he hopes that increased synergy will lead to joint efforts to advance the industry's goals.

Jafari outlined the scope of the Exploration Directorate's activities, noting that exploration is conducted in all onshore and offshore



areas, including the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, except for the Caspian Sea. Significant progress has been made in conventional resources, and approximately 5 billion barrels of oil have been identified in unconventional resources, with ongoing studies to make their extraction economically viable.

He also highlighted the importance of exploring stratigraphic traps in the Zagros region, stating that while considerable knowledge has been gained in this area, there is still a need to discover new resources. Effective seismic measures have been taken, and geophysical studies of the Haftkel field have been completed, with their conclusion expected in the new year.

NISOC and the NIOC Exploration Directorate signed the cooperation agreement to collaborate on exploration, development, and production processes. The primary goal of the agreement is to share experiences, knowledge, information, facilities, and capabilities to optimize resource utilization and enhance project effectiveness.

Other objectives include avoiding duplication of efforts and increasing the scientific and technical ca-

pacities of both parties to facilitate and expedite upstream oil processes (exploration, characterization, development, and production).

With the signing of the MoU, both parties committed to expanding their collaboration in various areas, including data sharing, leveraging technical and scientific capacities, and implementing research and development projects. This cooperation is expected to play a significant role in accelerating oil field development and optimizing the exploitation of existing resources.

The meeting explored potential areas of collaboration, including planning for the production of successful exploratory wells, utilizing drilling rig capacities, executing joint seismic projects, technology exchange, leveraging software and hardware facilities, and cooperating on reservoir and geophysical studies.

Additionally, organizing training courses, scientific workshops, and joint research projects were put on the agenda to enhance scientific and operational capabilities, thereby accelerating development and production in the country's oil industry.

IRISL Reports Record Rise in TEU Activity

TEHRAN - The Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line Group (IRISL) has reported a major rise in its handling of the twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEU) containers in the current calendar year compared to the year that ended in late March 2024.

The IRISL said that it had handled 100,000 more TEUs this calendar year, allowing it to significantly boost its annual TEU handling record.

The company said the rise in TEU handling had come despite the continued pressure of U.S. sanctions on Iran's economy and its trade relations with the rest of the world.

It said there has been a major rise in TEU activity in Chabahar, which is Iran's only ocean port on the Sea of Oman, adding that TEU volume in the port would reach nearly 100,000 units at the end of the current calendar year in late March.

The IRISL said TEU volume in Chabahar is expected to rise by 50% in the next calendar year, adding that the shipping company has



also expanded its activity in major regional and international ports, including in Russia and in countries that are members of the Commonwealth of Independent States bloc in the Eurasia region.

Iran has seen a major rise in its maritime trade in recent years amid efforts by the country to diversify its economy away from crude oil exports.

Ports in the south and north of Iran have also reported increased

loading and unloading activity as regional and international customers have become increasingly inclined to use cargo transit routes that pass through the country.

Figures released last month by Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization showed that the total loading and unloading of TEUs in Iranian ports had increased by 12% year on year in the 11 months to late February to reach nearly 2.843 million units.

MAPNA Receives Order to Export EV Chargers

TEHRAN - Iran's energy engineering group MAPNA has received an order for exports of electric vehicle (EV) chargers.

A senior MAPNA official said that the group will export 1,000 EV chargers to a country that he said is a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in the Eurasia region.

Muhammad Hussein Refan said that MAPNA is trying to expand its exports of EV chargers as part of efforts to scale up production and installation of such devices in Iran.

Refan said that a total of 414 EV chargers have already been installed inside 132 charging stations across Iran, adding that the stations are offering services to some 2,000 electric vehicle owners.

He said that some 5,000 more Iranian EV owners have been using home devices to charge their vehicles.



The remarks came during a ceremony in Tehran where MAPNA unveiled three new products related to its EV charging network in Iran.

The company said the new products will accelerate the deployment of EV chargers and will boost EV ownership in the country.

The use of imported EVs has

been on the rise in the capital Tehran and in other large cities amid a rapid process to electrify transport in Iran.

Iranian automotive companies have also accelerated their plans to manufacture electric cars. However, authorities have indicated that imports will increase to respond to the growing demand for EVs inside the country.

EU to Impose Counter Tariffs on \$28bn of U.S. Goods

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — The European Union will impose counter tariffs on \$28 billion (€26 billion) worth of U.S. goods from next month, the European Commission said on Wednesday, ramping up a global trade war in response to blanket US tariffs on steel and aluminum.

U.S. President Donald Trump's increased tariffs of 25 percent on all steel and aluminum imports took effect on Wednesday as prior exemptions, duty free quotas and product exclusions expired.

The European Commission said it will end the current suspension of tariffs on US

products on April 1 and will also put forward a new package of countermeasures on U.S. goods by mid-April.

The suspended tariffs apply to products ranging from boats to bourbon to motorbikes, and the EU said it would now start a two-week consultation to pick other

product categories.

The new measures will target around €18 billion in goods, with the overall objective to ensure that the total value of the EU measures corresponds to the increased value of trade impacted by the new U.S. tariffs, the EU said.

The proposed target prod-

ucts include industrial and agricultural products, such as steel and aluminum, textiles, home appliances, plastics, poultry, beef, eggs, dairy, sugar and vegetables.

"Our countermeasures will be introduced in two steps. Starting with 1 April and fully in place as of 13 April," Ur-

sula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, said in a statement.

"We are ready to engage in meaningful dialogue. I have entrusted Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic to resume his talks to explore better solutions with the U.S.," von der Leyen added.