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FMC set for victory at Laggan-Tormore

New York-listed FMC Technologies is set to land a prestigious order to supply the subsea production system for Total's groundbreaking \$2.5 billion (\$3.7 billion) Laggan-Tormore development in the UK Atlantic Margin.

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Hess eyes new probe near border

US OIL company Hess is looking at drilling a fresh exploration well late this year in Ghana's ultra-deep waters near the Ivory Coast border, writes Barry Morgan.

26 March 2010 01:08 GMT

Hess' exploration & appraisal manager Niall McCormack said the company intends "in late 2010 or early 2011 to drill one or two wells in Ghana".

While unwilling to be drawn on the structures in Ghanaian acreage targeted by Hess after extensive seismic evaluation, McCormack noted that at least a 200 million barrel find was needed to make a field fit in an area where the per-barrel cost of exploration approached the \$50 mark.

"Ghana is a key part of Hess' interest in Africa and a good place to operate — so hopefully I will return to Accra next year," McCormack said.

Meanwhile, Italy's Eni aims to sink a well on its South Cape Three Points block, deploying the drillship Deepwater Pathfinder before the end of June.

The Vanco Energy/Lukoil joint venture hopes to appraise its Cape Three Points Deep discovery Dzata-1 after studying results from its upcoming 2000 square kilometre 3D seismic survey.

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