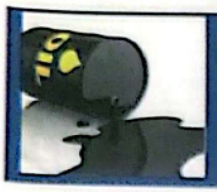
OIL & GAS JOURNAL

JOBS, OPPORTUNITIES, CONTRACTS, CASH



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WHAT THE CRUDE OIL PIPELINE WILL REQUIRE

Oil production means many opportunities in the market from construction workers, equipment suppliers, transport to food and accommodation, but service providers require a great amount of preparedness, writes Billy Rwothungeyo

It is going to be a pipeline like no other. The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) will be the longest electrically heated pipeline in the world, due to the waxy nature of Uganda's crude oil.

The 1445km long and 24-inch diameter starts at Kabaale hub in Hoima, before it continues the long journey down to the port of Tanga in Tanzania.

The $3.5b project has taken a major stride, with the completion of the Front End Engineering Design (FEED) carried out by Gulf Interstate Engineering. The American firm was contracted by project partners – Total E and P Uganda, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) Uganda, Tullow Oil Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) and the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) – to carry out the study.

OPPORTUNITIES

Stakeholders now await the Final Investment Decision (FID) for the export pipeline, before the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) phase commences.

While many of these opportunities will materialise after the FID, it is important for stakeholders to start preparing for them now.

SUPPLY OF MANPOWER AND SAFETY GEAR

The EACOP will require a massive amount of labour. "There will be people grading, laying the pipe and digging trenches, among others," Mark Lamb, who is EACOP's engineering representative, told local suppliers at a national supplier engagement on January 17th.

The pipeline has a boundary of approximately 390km and there are risks of safety incidents along the different stages of construction along the route.

The laying of a pipeline can be dangerous without adequate safety precautions. One can sustain eye injuries while welding or cutting materials. General contact with materials without the correct safety equipment is unsafe. So the construction of the EACOP will require the supply of personal protective equipment, which will range from hard hats to safety boots and gloves.

Each construction worker, vendor, supplier and site visitor will be required to undergo a site safety training session before accessing different sites and, thereafter, wear the protective gear. So if you have a business that supplies safety equipment, get ready for big business.

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ABOUT CRUDE OIL

Crude oil is a naturally occurring, unrefined petroleum product composed of hydrocarbon deposits and other organic materials.



A type of fossil fuel, crude oil can be refined to produce usable products such as gasoline, kerosene, diesel and various forms of petrochemicals.

Crude oil is typically obtained through drilling, where it is usually found alongside other resources, such as natural gas and saline water.

Although it is often called "black gold", crude oil has ranging viscosity and can vary in colour from black an yellow, depending on its hydrocarbo composition.

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