

UAE

Gearing up to protect the UAE's sour gas workers

UNITED SAFETY'S ELIE DAHER AND MIKE GILBERT DISCUSS THE COMPANY'S ROLE IN PROVIDING LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT TO THE UAE'S OIL & GAS WORKERS

The complexity of the gas at the UAE's Shah and Bab fields will present a number of serious challenges to companies charged with excavating and sweetening it.

United Safety's executive vice president and chief marketing officer, Elie Daher, believes that the oil & gas industry as a whole is about to sharpen its focus on health and safety in 2014.

"The overall risk profile of the oil & gas sector is on an upward trajectory. Projects are becoming more complex and costly sophisticated technologies are needed," he said.

United Safety has recently won a number of key contracts in the UAE to enforce safety at the country's sour gas plants.

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Amongst the products being deployed in the UAE is United Safety's Air Qruise technology series; a breathing management system that can be incorporated into a range of vehicles that enable the user to work, travel and transit

safely through toxic environments. In concentrations as low as 100 parts per million, H₂S gas paralyses the olfactory nerve, destroying a person's ability to smell it. This can lead to workers failing to detect a leak until it is too late. The Qruise technology removes this risk and deploys breathing apparatus instantly once the presence of harmful gases has been detected.

"H₂S is a major challenge in many projects in the UAE. We have some Air Qruise Trooper units working in the Shah gas fields, one of the most challenging sour gas projects in the world," said United Safety's vice president

for the Middle East and North Africa, Mike Gilbert.

Gilbert believes that new technology will continue to evolve to meet the challenges presented by the UAE's complex sour gas fields.

"The next step will see even more specialised solutions, like our Rover concept which enables safe transit in hazardous environments where there are concerns with ignition hazards and toxic gas.

"We are 100% committed to the health and well-being of our UAE clients for a long time to come. It's an exciting time. I see a bright and safer future here for the entire industry," he said. **Oil & Gas**