

that are 15 tons each, a plate-cutting machine, jib cranes, welding machines, rollout machine and covered climate control warehousing within the facility, positioning us well as a contractor within the country.”

The fabrication shop was designed in two phases to accommodate its financing in 2014 and 2015. Phase one was approved and started construction in 2014, with a plan to have the phase finished by the beginning of the second quarter of 2015. That phase will include piping and prefabrication.

The last eight platforms had pipe and prefabrication done off-site. The construction of the fabrication shop will allow direct supervision, eliminating any schedule constraints. A training center was completed in November, and, because TOFCO has the mechanical welding equipment available, increased the number of welding stations from four to 17.

“The expansion TOFCO is experiencing right now is a good sign and is the result of an upturn in new platform construction in the oil and gas market in Trinidad,” Earles said. “There are more discoveries being announced all the time, and those discoveries will eventually lead to the construction of new offshore platforms. On the other side of the business, TOFCO is also expanding its capabilities and services in the brownfield arena, and the company’s new fabrication building and addition of electrical and instrumentation capabilities will be a major part of allowing it to do that.”

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