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## Thor in international waters

The Faroe shipping company Thor, based in the small village of Hósvík, is one of a very small band of Faroe companies, plying most of their trade abroad or more appropriately in international waters. With their 14 offshore vessels, Thor is today undertaking activities, which just a few years ago were hardly imaginable. The Thor people have displayed the courage and stubbornness required to pioneer new venues and subsequently the Thor management team took the decision some years ago, to broaden their scope of activities to apart from fishing to also encompass the offshore oil industry. This proved to be a correct decision and today the company operates offshore vessels all around the world, from the North Sea to Africa and Brazil. Approximately 150 people are employed by Thor to crew their fleet of vessels. To enable the company to monitor future expansion developments in the offshore industry, Thor hold the opinion that it is necessary to attend exhibitions and conferences to keep their finger on the pulse of the industry. This was the reason for Thor once again being part of the Faroe stand at Offshore Europe in Aberdeen lately. Mr Gunnbjørn Joensen, the CEO at Thor told oljan.fo, that they estimate it is very important for them to attend such conferences, where they can meet cooperation partners and clients, etc., who may utilise their services some day. We have attended such conferences for many years now. We meet with clients and other Faroese attending these conferences. It is also important for us to meet those who are involved in the oil related environment, says Mr Joensen. Mr Joensen makes no secret of the fact that the company has experienced some very hard times of late, but they have now managed to make some progress and leave all that behind them. Apart from Thor, another Faroe shipping company attended and this was Supply Service from Leirvík. Personally, Mr Joensen definitely believes there is room

for two such shipping companies, as there is a great need for more vessels in the offshore industry. Mr Joensen says the experience they have managed to accumulate over the past few years, ought to be beneficial when the oil companies hopefully find oil and gas in the Faroes sometime in the future. Gunnbjørn Joensen, stjóri og Per Gulklett, ráðgevi hjá Thor her saman við Petur Joensen, stjóra á Jarðfeingi á oljumessuni í Aberdeen. Mynd oljan.fo/Jan Müller