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The Cosl Pioneer drilling rig preparing for the Faroes

The Chinese drilling platform, the Cosl Pioneer, which has been chartered to drill the Statoil Faroe exploration well this summer, has commenced upon its last task, before it sets sail towards the Brugdu prospect in the Faroes. The Norwegian oil company Statoil, which has chartered the rig long-term, has been given approval from the Norwegian authorities, to utilise the rig for a larger project on the Glitne oilfield in the North Sea. The rig is set to drill a production well and this work commenced on the 29th of January. The project is expected to last for 106 days. After the completion of the above task, the Cosl Pioneer will set sail towards the Faroes, where it will drill the Brugdu 2 prospect for Statoil, ExxonMobil and Atlantic Petroleum. No fixed date has been set for this project yet, but it is expected the project will get off the ground this summer, possibly in June or July. This Faroe project has an estimated duration period of 130 days. Drilling will commence in a water depth of between 400 to 500 metres and will extend down to a total depth of between 4000 and 5000 metres. Both in Norway and the Faroes preparations are underway to undertake this extensive drilling project, which judging by all accords will become the most extensive and most expensive of all the Faroe wells drilled to date over the last ten years or so. This new Chinese drilling platform is one of four platforms, which has been built for the European market. The second platform in line is the Cosl Innovator and it is currently underway from China to Europe. Onboard are 25 Faroe tradesmen, who have been tasked with undertaking the final touches and completing the platform prior to arrival. They are all employed by Pam Offshore, who have been chartered for this task.