Statoil has signed an agreement with Fishbones AS for the use of the Multilateral Stimulation Technology (MST) “Dreamliner”. The technology will first be implemented at Smørbukk Sør Extension in the Norwegian Sea, and is expected to increase the recovery factor considerably.

Together with Lundin and ENI, Statoil has since October 2011 been actively involved in the development and qualification of Fishbones new Dreamliner technology.

In order to boost production, a number of 10-12 meters long laterals with a diameter of 12mm will be drilled simultaneously from the wellbore and into the reservoir using Fishbones’ patented MST technology. Numerous concepts to penetrate the reservoir were considered and trialed, and the JIP group landed on a solution with rotating turbines powered by the drilling fluid.

Current plan calls for 150-240 laterals on Smørbukk Sør Extension and Statoil expects this solution to increase production significantly, says the project Petek leader Bård Haukland.

Smørbukk South Extension is itself a pilot in the development of reservoirs with low permeability. Fishbones technology is very appropriate for these very low permeable reservoirs, where hydraulic fracturing of the reservoir is not an option. The Smørbukk Sør project is planning a multilateral well with Fishbones technology installed in one of the branches.

The development and qualification of the new technology has taken place in close cooperation between Statoil, ENI and Lundin, and has been supported by Innovation Norway and the Norwegian Research Council. The technology has undergone extensive testing at Fishbones’ facilities in Stavanger and at field locations in Norway and Luxembourg.

The cooperation with Fishbones has been very good and we have mutually challenged each other to reach our goal, says Project Manager Steinar Torvund from Statoil.

Implementation of this new technology for the Smørbukk Sør Extension project, initially in itself a technologically challenging pilot, has necessitated a very thorough assessment of downside risk.

After careful consideration, Statoil has concluded that the downside is acceptable, while the upside could be significant both for our project and for future projects, says project manager for Smørbukk Sør Extension, Ove Andre Pettersen.

Fishbones receives ONS Innovation Award

Fishbones was presented the Innovation Award for small and medium sized enterprises for its stimulation technology by the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, Mr. Tord Lien, at the ONS Innovation Award Ceremony end of August.

The jury members described the innovative method for stimulating reservoirs as having great potential for large value creation for the enterprises involved, both innovator and users.

Being an alternative to hydraulic fracturing, the environmental gains can be considerable, the jury stated.

Fishbones is very pleased to receive this prestigious recognition in tough competition with 53 other entries.