

OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY

Afentra Secures 35% Operated Interest in Onshore Angola KON4 Block

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Afentra has been awarded a 35% operated interest in the KON4 block, located onshore in Angola's Kwanza basin, following formal approval of the Risk Service Contract (RSC). The award marks a notable step for Afentra as it transitions into an operator role in one of Sub-Saharan Africa's established hydrocarbon provinces.

Angola's Kwanza basin has a long production history, and onshore blocks such as KON4 represent an ongoing effort by Luanda to attract independent operators capable of revitalising mature and underdeveloped acreage. The RSC structure, which is distinct from traditional production sharing agreements, places operational responsibility and associated technical risk squarely on Afentra, while the Angolan state retains a defined interest in produced volumes. For incoming service and equipment providers, RSC frameworks typically require the operator to demonstrate clear field development planning relatively quickly after contract formalisation.

The Kwanza basin onshore environment presents a specific operational profile. Unlike Angola's prolific deepwater pre-salt plays, onshore Kwanza acreage involves conventional land drilling, workover activity, and surface production infrastructure — areas where a broad range of international oilfield service companies compete actively. Afentra's transition to operator status on KON4 signals that procurement and contracting activity for wells, well services, and surface facilities could follow as the company advances its work programme obligations under the RSC.

Angola continues to be one of the most active upstream markets in Sub-Saharan Africa, underpinned by a regulatory environment that has been progressively reformed since 2018 to encourage new entrants and independent operators alongside the majors. The formal approval of Afentra's RSC for KON4 is consistent with this trend, and the country's national oil company Sonangol remains a key stakeholder across licensing rounds and existing block partnerships. For service companies already established in-country — particularly those with workshop, logistics, or technical support infrastructure in Luanda — a new operated block entry by an independent such as Afentra represents a concrete tendering opportunity as field appraisal and development planning gets underway.

The award also reflects a broader pattern of smaller independents taking on operated positions in African onshore and shallow acreage that larger IOCs have divested or de-prioritised. This trend has been observed across Angola, Nigeria, and Gabon, and consistently generates demand for well services, production testing, facilities engineering, and environmental compliance work — segments where Norwegian-affiliated service companies carry relevant technical credentials.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies with onshore Angola capabilities — particularly in well services, drilling fluids, and production facilities — should register Afentra as a new procurement contact following RSC formalisation. Companies without existing Angola presence should monitor KON4's work programme timeline before committing resources, as onshore RSC obligations vary in pace. Those already operating out of Luanda are best positioned to engage early on contracting opportunities.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Afentra's operated RSC will require a defined well programme; drilling contractors and wellbore services companies should initiate early engagement as work obligations are scoped.
- **Service:** Well intervention, production testing, and wireline service providers active in Angola are well-placed to bid as Afentra moves from contract formalisation to field activity.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** This is an onshore block, so subsea and FPSO players have no direct role here, but should monitor whether Afentra's Angola strategy extends to offshore acreage over time.
- **Pipeline:** Surface gathering and pipeline tie-in engineering may be required depending on field layout and proximity to existing Kwanza basin infrastructure — worth monitoring as development planning progresses.

[Original source: Offshore Technology →](#)

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