OIL FIELD AFRICA REVIEW · AFRICA · DRILLING

Invictus mobilises Exalo Rig 202 for Musuma-1 drill

Saga deep read · 06 November 2026 · Score 74

Invictus Energy has completed the rig move from the Mukuyu-2 wellsite and commenced rig-up operations for Exalo Rig 202 at the Musuma-1 wellsite, marking the start of active preparation for its next drilling campaign. Mobilisation of well services equipment is underway in parallel, with personnel and equipment being progressively deployed to site.

The concurrent execution of rig-up and well services mobilisation indicates an effort to compress pre-drilling timelines. Moving Exalo Rig 202 directly from Mukuyu-2 to Musuma-1 suggests the two locations are part of a sequential, campaign-style drilling programme, allowing the operator to maintain rig continuity rather than releasing and re-contracting the unit between wells.

Invictus Energy is the operator driving this campaign. The article does not specify the block designation, the depth prognosis for Musuma-1, or the anticipated spud date, though the progressive deployment of personnel and equipment points to drilling operations being imminent. The Musuma-1 well follows activity at Mukuyu-2, suggesting the operator is prosecuting a multi-well exploration or appraisal sequence.

The mobilisation of well services — covering functions such as mud logging, wireline, cementing, and directional drilling — alongside rig-up represents the final pre-spud phase. The involvement of Exalo Rig 202, a land drilling unit operated by the Polish state-controlled contractor Exalo Drilling, confirms the campaign is a land or surface-

location operation. No contract values, well depths, or acreage details are disclosed in the available reporting.

For the broader market, the progression from Mukuyu-2 to Musuma-1 without a rig stand-down reflects growing operator confidence in the prospectivity of the acreage and signals that results from prior drilling activity were sufficiently encouraging — or at least not discouraging enough — to proceed. Activity of this nature, where a junior explorer prosecutes back-to-back wells using a retained rig, typically draws increased attention from regional well services and equipment providers ahead of each new spud.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a live well services mobilisation, meaning specialist drilling services providers — including directional drilling, cementing, mud engineering, and wireline — may still find procurement windows open for Musuma-1 campaign supply. Norwegian well services companies with land or transition-zone experience should monitor Invictus Energy announcements and establish contact with the operator's well services procurement function before spud. Those without an existing in-country presence should explore local partnership routes to remain eligible for future wells in the sequence.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Exalo Rig 202 is on site — specialist drilling fluids, bits, and downhole tool suppliers should confirm whether supply contracts for Musuma-1 are fully awarded or still open.
- **Service:** Well services mobilisation is active; directional drilling, cementing, and mud-logging providers should contact Invictus Energy's well operations team immediately to assess remaining scope.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** No offshore scope is indicated at this stage; monitor for any resource declaration that could trigger a development phase with surface or export infrastructure requirements.
- **Pipeline:** A multi-well campaign in a frontier land basin may eventually require gathering and export pipeline design; early engagement supports positioning for FEED-stage work if commercial volumes are confirmed.

- **LNG:** If Musuma-1 targets or encounters gas, early technical dialogue on small-scale or modular LNG concepts could position suppliers ahead of any resource-to-market study.

Original source: Oil Field Africa Review →

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