

2014 SNAME Arctic Section Luncheon Series

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Arctic Offshore Development Concepts - History and Evolution

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ABSTRACT

This presentation is an overview of the history and evolution of Arctic offshore development concepts. The presentation was prepared with cooperation from Frank Bercha, Merv Edgecombe and Roger Pilkington. Roger will be presenting. With over 40 years in the Arctic offshore industry, Roger brings depth and specialized perspective to this important topic.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



Following his Ph.D. work and a Post Doctoral Fellowship in Germany, Roger commenced working with an Arctic consulting company in 1973. In 1975 he joined Dome Petroleum, a company which pioneered drilling with ships in the ice covered waters of the Beaufort Sea. His work there involved operational support of drill ships, R&D in ice, ice forecasting, and field projects to learn more about the ice conditions in the arctic and extending the use of the drillships. Roger was responsible for the instrumentation of the first artificial island which resulted in the development of several novel pressure measuring systems. In 1983 Roger joined Gulf, where he was Supervisor of Systems Support; namely Gulf's new circular drillship and the bottom founded Molikpaq. In 1988, Roger and 3 colleagues started Canatec. For the past 9 years, Roger has been part of a team of Canadians and Russians that has worked in the Sea of Okhotsk to assist Shell with their oil production operations in ice covered waters. In 2004, he was part of an international team that drilled a 432m core out of the Lomonosov Ridge, about 120 miles from the North Pole. The Ice Team, of which Roger was a part, made the geotechnical operations routine despite continuously moving ice over 3m thick. Roger has been involved in numerous operations support projects and in house studies of the ice conditions in the north. He has developed an ice display software package, which is being well used by industry. He has over 30 publications and holds 6 patents.