



Ireland Section

SPE Ireland

Newsletter 02

September 2015

Happy 1st Birthday SPE Ireland!

The Society of Petroleum Engineers Ireland Section has had a busy first year.



SPE Ireland 2014/15
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Happy 1st Birthday SPE Ireland

Chairman's Note

The SPE Ireland section is now 1 year old, having been established 30th July 2014. Our aim is to build an organization which will help enhance our members' careers in the oil & gas industry, by promoting and providing a forum for the exchange of technical ideas and information about the industry through our meetings and networking events. Given the challenges the industry has seen since we formed our section, the SPE is more relevant than ever to help our members stay connected to the industry and to each other.

Busy First Year

We've had a busy first year starting with a social event soon after establishment, which over 40 of our members attended. This was followed by our inaugural Oil & Gas Industry Event in January 2015. This evening event was attended by over 130 delegates associated with the Irish oil and gas industry. The Irish Government Minister of State for Natural Resources, Joe McHugh, gave an opening address. SPE President Helge Hove Haldorsen gave an inspirational lecture on SPE's role in the future of the oil and gas industry. Tony O'Reilly, CEO of Irish based explorer Providence Resource plc, discussed the status of hydrocarbon exploration offshore Ireland, whilst IHS Cera Vice President Paul Markwell gave a talk about the role of technology in the future of the industry. To round out the program for our first year we had two Distinguished Lecture events, the first on Unconventional Well Performance, and the second on Diamond Drillbits. SPE Ireland is non-profit, these events relied on the encouragement and financial sponsorship support from the industry to make them happen. Many thanks to our sponsors for helping us get off to a successful first year.

UCD Student Chapter

The Ireland section quickly formed links with one of Dublin's major universities, University College Dublin (UCD), and supported the formation of a Student Chapter. SPE has a strong focus on supporting student activities, and we look forward to encouraging and support the Student Chapter not only through section support with career talks and information, but also through the financial support available through the SPE International Student Scholarship Support Programme and the Enhanced Faculty Travel Programme. With graduate employment intakes reduced this year as the industry responds to the macro oil price environment, it is more important than ever that we continue to provide the encouragement and support to our students whilst this industry cycle works itself out.

The Year Ahead

We are pleased to announce that we have secured three Distinguished Lectures for the coming program period, details of which can be found further down this newsletter. We are also working hard to plan further lectures and events of interest to our members and will update on those plans in due course. Overall, we are looking forward to an even busier year ahead!

Donal J. Meehan, Chairman, SPE Ireland

About Us

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The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) is a not-for-profit professional association whose members are engaged in energy resources development and production. SPE serves more than 110,000 members in 141 countries worldwide. SPE is a key resource for technical knowledge related to the oil and gas exploration and production industry and provides services through its publications, events, training courses and online resources at www.spe.org

2014/15 Events Review

SPE Ireland Networking

SPE Ireland kicked off life with an initial social gathering in Doheny & Nesbitts pub in Dublin in November 2014. The turn out was fantastic, and the craic was mighty!

This event was sponsored by Providence Resources.



Distinguished Lecture Program

The distinguished lecture (DL) series has hosted two lectures thus far. Jim Crafton shared his vast knowledge of unconventional well performance with the gathered audience in February 2015 with his talk entitled "Unconventional Well Performance - We Shale Succeed".



DL program events were sponsored by Tullow Oil



SPE Ireland Inaugural Industry Event

SPE Ireland held its first Industry Event on 28th January 2015, in the Banking Hall of the Westin Hotel, Dublin.

Networking drinks took place before and after the event, with over 130 leaders and future leaders of the Irish oil and gas industry in attendance.



Left to Right: Helge Hove Haldorsen, Tony O'Reilly, Joe McHugh, Paul Markwell, Conor Ryan, Carlos Chalbaud, JJ Maduda.

The event saw a distinguished speaker panel of Minister Joe McHugh, SPE President Helge Hove Haldorsen, Providence Resources CEO Tony O'Reilly and IHS VP Paul Markwell, speak about the future of oil and gas exploration globally and offshore Ireland.

This event was sponsored by IHS.



The registered delegates attending the January 2015 Event represented the following companies

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Ardilaun Energy, ARUP, Barrelmore Consulting, BG Group, Cameron, ConocoPhillips, Cork Institute of Technology, Davy, EcoGreenSurveys, EK Consulting Engineers Ltd., EMC Information Systems International, Energy Institute, Engineers Ireland, Europlan Services, Exxonmobil, Fastnet Oil & Gas, Gaslink, GDF Suez, Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), I H S, Irish Offshore Operators Association, JoSH Consulting, Keane Offshore Integrity Ltd., Kentz, Kepler Systems, Kinsale Energy, Lansdowne Oil and Gas, Lex Risk Solutions, LHM Casey McGrath, Lockton, Murray Consulting, OFS, Petrel Resources, Petroceltic, Petroleum Affairs Division, PhilipLee, PM Group, Providence Resources, PWC, Raglan Capital, RPS Group, Schlumberger, Shannon LNG, Shell E&P Ireland, Siemens, SLR Consulting, Sunday Business Post, Sunday Independent, Suretank, Target Well Control, Tenaris, Trinity College Dublin, Tullow Oil, University College Dublin, WoodGroup MCS Kenny, Woodside.

Upstream News Ireland

Kinsale Energy – Midleton Exploration

Kinsale Energy Limited commenced drilling on the Lansdowne Oil & Gas generated Midleton exploration prospect, well 49/11-3, on 29th July 2015 using the Ocean Guardian drilling rig. The well lies approximately 20km from the Kinsale Head gas field along a trend of inverted structures on the northern margin of the North Celtic Sea Basin. By 13th August the well had reached total depth of 3,393 feet below sea level. Good quality reservoirs were encountered in the Greensand and Upper Wealden formations of the Lower Cretaceous, some gas was present in the Greensand but the volumes were not considered commercial and the Upper Wealden was water wet. The well was therefore plugged and abandoned.



Picture: Ocean Guardian rig

United Oil & Gas – Going for Growth

Ireland's newest oil & gas company got off the ground earlier this year. The company is headed up by founder and Managing Director Brian Larkin. Brian is a qualified accountant who also sports an MBA from DCU. He has gained significant oil and gas experience through his previous finance and commercial positions in Providence Resources and more recently Tullow Oil. He has worked on a variety of exploration, development and production projects from South America, to Europe, West Africa and Asia.

Dr. Jonathan Leather is the Technical Director for United Oil & Gas. Jonathan is a vastly experienced

oil and gas veteran who holds a Geology Degree from Oxford, a Phd from Trinity College Dublin, as well as an MBA from Warwick Business School. He previously held positions on Tullow's Global Exploration Leadership team, and managed Tullow's Subsurface Technology Group. Prior to working for Tullow, Jonathan worked for Shell on projects ranging from the North Sea to Nigeria, the Middle East and Asia.

Within 5 years, United Oil & Gas aim to build a highly profitable and large production portfolio. During this time, the management team will actively manage the acquired portfolio, leveraging their technical, operational, and financial expertise to provide enhanced returns.

More progress for Corrib project

The recent announcement, that Shell Ireland has officially applied to the Government for permission to operate the pipeline from the Corrib gas field off the coast of Mayo, brings the successful conclusion of this major infrastructure project one step closer.

The pipeline is a joint venture by the Corrib Gas Partners which comprises Shell E&P Ireland Limited, Statoil, and Vermillion. The pipeline is approximately 92km long with 83km offshore.

The letter which accompanied the application confirmed that the infrastructure was now complete and the project was now in an 'advanced state of readiness.'

Shell has submitted an Environmental Impact Statement, a Natura Impact Screening Statement, and other surveys as part of the application. The application process allows the public to give their views on the application. Unsurprisingly, following years of delay, the project promoters have called for the application to be processed swiftly.

Falcon are Flying

Dublin headquartered Falcon Oil & Gas announced 1st September 2015 that it has completed operations on its Kalala-1 well in its Beetaloo Basin unconventional gas project. The results of the well are stated to have been positive based on preliminary analysis of the data acquired and the well has now been suspended. Drilling on the second well in the program is scheduled to commence next week. Falcon is carried through the drilling by Operator Origin Energy, and partner Sasol E&P.

Atlantic Licensing Round Deadline Approaching Fast

The deadline for the 2015 Atlantic Margin Oil and Gas Exploration Licensing Round is now just weeks away, with applications due in to the Department by September 16th. The round will include all of Ireland's major Atlantic basins: Porcupine, Goban Spur, Slyne, Erris, Donegal and Rockall. The form of concession on offer will be a two year Licensing Option.

At this stage it is not known what level of interest there has been in the Round. The number and strength of applications should serve as a litmus test for the health of the Irish offshore sector and whether the licensing terms, announced in 2014, are seen as being attractive in a low oil price environment.

For the 2015 Round the overall Atlantic Margin is divided into three regions. The maximum number of blocks that can be applied for in each region is as follows:

- For the Donegal Basin , Erris Basin and Slyne Basin Region, a limit of four blocks applies;
- For the Porcupine Basin and Goban Spur Basin Region, applications can be made for up to six blocks;
- For the Rockall Basin Region, up to ten blocks can be applied for in what is an under-explored region.

Exploration drilling will not take place under these Licensing Options. Where holders of Licensing Options wish to move forward to seek an exploration licence, the licence on offer will be a Frontier Exploration Licence of a fifteen year duration, with a first phase of three years, and three subsequent phases of four years each.

New CompEx Centre in Cork

Jones Engineering Services & ExVeritas have partnered up and delivered Ireland's first CompEx Centre. Explosive atmospheres occur in onshore and offshore petrochemical plants and refining plants. Failure to ensure safe working practices in these circumstances could result in the ignition of explosive gases or dust clouds leading to injury or even fatalities and the destruction of capital asset investments damaged by explosive blasts and fire.

The CompEx Scheme is now the global solution for validating core competency of employees and contract staff of major users in the gas, oil & chemical sectors, both with offshore and onshore activities. Competency Validation and Certification for electrotechnical and mechanical craftspersons and Application Design Engineers working in explosive atmospheres is available in over 12 modules (see Course Units) and the CompEx Certification Body, JTLimited is accredited to ISO/IEC 17024:2012 Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for bodies operating certification of persons who work in explosive atmospheres. Irish Practitioners, Operatives,

Technicians can now be validated for core competency for CompEx ExF Foundation & Ex01-04 Gas & Vapour Modules at Little Island, Cork.

Fastnet swaps Oil for the Medicine Cabinet

Fastnet Equity, formerly Fastnet Oil & Gas, has gained shareholder approval to exit the oil and gas sector, with the company transferring to the biopharma industry. Fastnet has exploration assets offshore Morocco and Ireland.

The move is reportedly based on a reluctance to invest in further drilling activity or exploration-focused merger and acquisition deals given the current depressed oil price market.

On existing assets, the company has said it plans to surrender its share of the Foum Assaka licence, offshore Morocco, and may dispose of its Celtic Sea assets.

Reports in the Irish Examiner indicate that Fastnet is considering spinning out the Irish assets, which also include 3D seismic data from the largest ever such programme undertaken in the Celtic Sea.

Fastnet Equity is reported to have a war chest of €14m for investment in healthcare projects.

History of the SPE

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In 1957, the organization was officially founded as SPE, a constituent society of AIME. SPE became a separately incorporated organization in 1985.

Our history begins within the American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME). AIME was founded in 1871 in Pennsylvania, USA, to advance the production of metals, minerals, and energy resources through the application of engineering. In 1913, a standing committee on oil and gas was created within AIME and proved to be the genesis of SPE. The Oil and Gas Committee of AIME soon evolved into the Petroleum Division of AIME as membership grew and as interest among the members was more clearly delineated among the mining, metallurgical, and petroleum specializations.

North Sea Regional Section Officer Conference, April 2015

Officers from the SPE North Sea Region met in Bergen, Norway during April 2015, for the annual Regional Section Officer Meeting to discuss section plans for the year ahead.



From Left to Right: Theo Rijper (Netherlands Section), Roald Johansen (Northern Norway Section), Bjorn Sissener (Bergen Section), Carlos Chalbaud (North Sea Regional Director), Donal Meehan (Ireland Section), Catherine Eliassen (Stavanger Section), Kurt Jorgensen (Northern Norway Section), Tore Nordenborg (Stavanger Section), Roberto Chiarotti (SPE), Jade Abbott (SPE), Ross Taylor (Aberdeen Section), Sue Frye (SPE), Vita Kalashnikova (Oslo Section).

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info@unitedoilandgas.eu

SPE Distinguished Lecture Program

Each year SPE selects a group of professionals, nominated by their peers and selected by the Distinguished Lecturer Committee for quality, timeliness and relevance of presentations, to share their knowledge and expertise with SPE members through visits to local sections.

Created in 1961 with just three lecturers, the Distinguished Lecturer Program is funded primarily by the SPE Foundation through member donations and a contribution from Offshore Europe. We also appreciate the companies that allow their professionals to serve as lecturers and the additional support from AIME. More than 450 presentations are offered each year. For more information and to access previous years presentations and video lectures visit; www.spe.org/dl

Optimism in Reservoir Production Forecasting—Impact of Geology, Heterogeneity, Geostatistics, Reservoir Modeling, and Uncertainty

The oil and gas industry uses static and dynamic reservoir models to assess volumetrics and to help evaluate development options via production forecasts. Elegant geological models are generated using sophisticated software without a full understanding of the limitations imposed by the data or the underlying stochastic algorithms. Key issues facing reservoir modelers that have been evaluated include use of reasonable semivariogram model parameters (a measure of heterogeneity), model grid size, and model complexity. However, reservoir forecasts tend to be optimistic. Knowing what workflow aspects may contribute to forecast optimism should enable the industry to generate

2015/16 DL Program Dates

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12th November 2015

Optimism in Reservoir Production Forecasting: Impact of Geology, Heterogeneity, Geostatistics, Reservoir Modeling, and Uncertainty

– William Meddaugh

22nd February 2016

How to Predict Reservoir Performance with Subsurface Uncertainty at Multiple Scales

– Xiao-Hui Wu

24th March 2016

Making Better Appraisal & development Decisions: Using Decision Risk Analysis & Value of Information

– Pete Naylor

more reliable forecasts and make better use of capital.

William Meddaugh is the RL Bolin Distinguished Professor of Petroleum Geology at Midwestern State University. Before joining the university in 2013, he had a 32-year career at **Chevron**, specializing in technical project management. He is the author or coauthor of more than 30 SPE and peer reviewed technical papers on forecast optimism, reservoir characterization, and modeling. Meddaugh holds a PhD in geology from Harvard University. He is an associate editor of SPE Reservoir Evaluation & Engineering.

How to Predict Reservoir Performance With Subsurface Uncertainty at Multiple Scales

Subsurface uncertainty is one of the main challenges in using reservoir models to predict field performance for development and depletion planning purposes. The importance of reliable characterization of subsurface uncertainty and its impact on reservoir performance predictions is essential to sound decision making in the upstream industry, especially for large projects in complex geologic settings. Despite recent advances in reservoir modeling and simulation, reliable quantification of the impact of subsurface uncertainty remains difficult in practice. This lecture presents an analysis of the challenge and possible resolutions. Relying on computing power alone may not address the challenge. We must look at reservoir modeling and performance prediction holistically, from modeling objectives to appropriate techniques of incorporating reservoir heterogeneity into models.

Xiao-Hui Wu is a senior earth modeling adviser at **ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company**.

He has experience in geologic modeling, unstructured gridding, upscaling, reduced order modeling, and uncertainty quantification. Wu holds a PhD in mechanical engineering from the University of Tennessee and has done post-doctoral studies in applied mathematics at the California Institute of Technology. He has been a technical editor of the SPE Journal and served on the SPE Reservoir Simulation Symposium program committee.

Making Better Appraisal & Development Decisions: Using Decision Risk Analysis & Value of Information

Behavioral science suggests that human nature favors decisions that satisfy, not necessarily those that optimize. Often value is left on the table, particularly when risks and uncertainties are involved. Decision risk analysis (DRA) is an approach that helps its users to optimize, not just survive. DRA is a structured process involving both facilitation and modeling that helps stakeholders optimize their decision making in the face of risks and uncertainties. This presentation on DRA focuses on a tool in the armory known as value of information (VOI) analysis. If an operator is facing a number of decisions with outcomes that are uncertain, and there is an opportunity to acquire additional information, which costs money and/or time, then VOI analysis will be helpful.

Pete Naylor is the head of DRA at **BG Group**. For the past 15 years, he has led DRA projects aimed at optimizing investment decisions. He has 30 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. Naylor holds a BSc in physics from the University of Birmingham and a PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Exeter. He is a fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. Naylor received an SPE Regional Service Award in 2010 and has published more than 35 papers.

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Engineers Ireland & Society of Petroleum Engineers Ireland

Subsea Compression - Game Changer for the Atlantic Margin

Combining economic and engineering models GE Oil & Gas have created an advanced prediction of the macroeconomics for subsea compression, mapping the critical design criteria and key drivers. An overview of the system and technology being developed will be presented. GE Oil & Gas have been at the forefront in developing this technology and its development is considered to be a possible game changer for the commercialisation of new fields in frontier areas such as those in the Atlantic Margin off the west coast of Ireland. GE Oil & Gas through its subsidiaries have provided some of the key sub-sea infrastructure for the Corrib field, which when designed was the longest sub-sea tie-back at that time.

The speaker, **Ashish Jain**, holds the position of Principal Engineer in the Subsea Power & Processing team of GE Oil & Gas and is based in GE's Sandvika, Norway office. Ashish has the responsibility for all the technologies required to execute the development, qualification, construction and testing of subsea processing systems and products. Ashish joined GE in 2008 as Process & Flow Assurance Engineer and since then he has worked on development of several subsea process technologies. He started his career as topside Process Engineer with Tebodin Middle East in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Ashish graduated as a Master of Technology in Chemical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Bombay) in 2005.

Engineers Ireland & SPE Ireland



Subsea Compression - Game Changer for the Atlantic Margin

Date: Wednesday 7th October 2015

Time: Lecture starts 18:30 (sharp)

Venue: Engineers Ireland, 22 Clyde Road,
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

UCD Student Chapter

SPE Student Summit 2015

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7 September 2015: Students arrive in Aberdeen

- **8 September 2015:** First day of Summit: Students will be invited to attend the opening session of Offshore Europe. Afternoon spent in Technical and Soft Skill sessions. Evening, Reception and icebreaker.
- **9 September 2015:** Day will be a mix between technical and soft skill sessions
- **10 September 2015:** Group Presentations by students on prevalent topics
- **11 September 2015:** Students able to attend Offshore Europe sessions and exhibition floor

SPE Regional Student Development Summit in conjunction with Offshore Europe 2015

The North Sea region has an extremely active Student membership and shows great potential for membership growth. To capitalise on Offshore Europe being held in Aberdeen this year and also linking in with the focus on talent development, SPE is planning to hold the first North Sea based SPE Regional Student Development Summit which is planned to run from the 8 – 10 September, 2015 in Aberdeen.

The objective for this event is to give students a forum to gain a better understanding of the Oil and Gas Industry through technical sessions on topics prevalent in the region, soft skills session to assist them in learning industry standards and career pathways, networking with peers, and group technical projects.

The SPE Regional Student Development Summit is aimed at students currently studying in their final 2 years of their Bachelor or Master's degree. SPE international will cover the cost of travel and accommodation expenses for all selected students.

The UCD Chapter is sending three keen student chapter members to the North Sea SPE Regional Student Development Summit 2015. We hope they have a great time!

Faculty Enhancement Travel Grant

This program provides financial support for attendance of university faculty at SPE conferences, workshops and forums. Each region may award up to USD 8,000 annually, and regional grant recipients will be selected twice a year. The next application deadline is 15 November 2015, find out more at www.spe.org/members/facultygrant .

Student Chapter Meetings

The UCD Student Chapter have organized a few meetings over their first year. Cahir O'Neill (IHS) and Ray Gogan (BG Group) provided an informal industry information session. Donal Meehan (Providence) gave a lecture regarding his role as a reservoir engineer. Myles Watson (Providence) gave a talk on to the chapter on his role as a young geoscience professional in early stages of his career in the oil and gas industry. If anyone is interested in presenting to the Student Chapter, please email spe-ireland@spemail.org.



Myles Watson giving a talk to the SPE UCD Student Chapter

Star Scholarship and Fellowship

The Star scholarships and fellowships support those pursuing degrees related to the oil and gas industry. SPE dedicates more than USD 1 million to be awarded by our 16 regions. Recipients are awarded scholarships for up to four years of studies. Applications for 2016/17 academic year will open shortly, find out more and keep up to date at www.spe.org/scholarships/star .

Student Membership Is Free

Student Chapter members join free by selecting the Chevron sponsored membership option:

www.spe.org/join

*Country

*Dues

\$15.00 - 1 Year Membership

Free - 1 Year Membership - I agree the membership cost will be paid by the corporate sponsor.



2014/15 SPE UCD Chapter Board

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President – Mr. Fionnan Louis Kearney Cunningham

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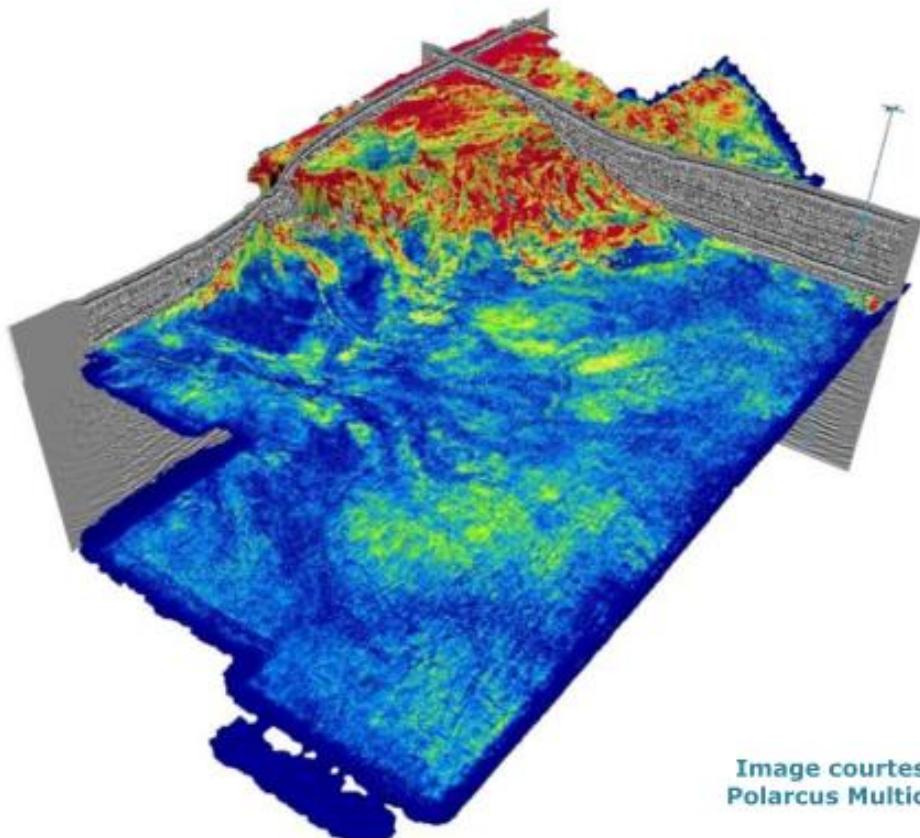


Image courtesy of
Polarcus Multiclient

**Drombeg Lower Cretaceous Fan,
FEL 2/14 Porcupine Basin Ireland**

Your SPE

SPE & iPESGB Link Up

SPE Ireland and iPESGB, the Irish branch of the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain, have agreed to work together for the benefit of both memberships. This involves inviting members from each group to each other's meetings and events, as well as possibly collaborating on joint events in the future. For further information on iPESGB contact Annemarie Smyth : asmyth@providenceresources.com .

SPE – Industry Jobs

SPE has partnered with Oilpro.com to list industry jobs on SPE.org. www.spe.org/industry/jobs .

SPE – Join Now

The SPE membership year is January through December. Members joining after 1 September pay for next year's dues and receive the remaining months of the current year at no additional cost.

The current conditions of the industry may find some members without employment. It is important for SPE to be there for our members in good times and bad. Those who are unemployed and unable to pay dues can request a dues waiver by emailing service@spe.org .

Past Chairman Thanks

SPE Ireland would like to thank our previous and inaugural chairman, Jerry Gilbert, for his effort and dedication in helping get SPE Ireland up and running. Jerry remains on the board in the Past Chair role.

Your SPE – Get Involved!

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The SPE Ireland region is very much a new entity. We have had a good start, but in order to succeed, we will need members to get involved.

Join the Committee

Come along to an Evening Event

Suggest an Event

Share your feedback / ideas

Sponsor an event or publication

SPE Ireland offers a great way of addressing the oil and gas industry in Ireland. We are happy to discuss sponsorship opportunities with your company.

Contact us at: spe-ireland@spemail.org

SPE Ireland Board

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SPE Ireland Events Diary

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18-Sep-2015 : SPE Ireland Section AGM

7-October 2015: Engineers Ireland & SPE present- Subsea Compression: Game Changer for the Atlantic Margin

12-Nov-2015: Distinguished Lecture - Optimism in Reservoir Production Forecasting: Impact of Geology, Heterogeneity, Geostatistics, Reservoir Modeling, and Uncertainty

22-Feb-2016: Distinguished Lecture - How to Predict Reservoir Performance with Subsurface Uncertainty at Multiple Scales

24-March-2016: Distinguished Lecture: Making Better Appraisal & development Decisions: Using Decision Risk Analysis & Value of Information

Keep up to date with events at: <http://connect.spe.org/ireland/home>

SPE Ireland is working to schedule further events with industry speakers. Details will be provided when these events are confirmed. If your company is interested in potentially giving an evening talk, please contact us: spe-ireland@spemail.org

Ireland Section AGM

The SPE Ireland Section AGM is being held on Friday 18th of September 2015 at 6PM, at the offices of Providence Resources PLC. Formalities will include electing the board committee for the upcoming year, as well as discussing a review of

activities to date and ideas and plans for the future. Come along and get involved! The AGM meeting will be followed by a few drinks in a local pub, sponsored by United Oil & Gas.

SPE Ireland Contact Information

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Join SPE Ireland: www.spe.org/join

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Contact Email: spe-ireland@spemail.org

Linkedin Group – SPE Ireland

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