

DSATS Meeting, December 15, 2011, Teleconference, 8:30 to 9:30 am

Agenda

1. DSATS Europe Update (Fionn Iversen)

a. IEEE I2MTC

Keynote:

Still trying to locate a keynote speaker for the “Sustainable Energy” track, and the US DOE are locating a speaker. Should that fail then we will need to pursue other avenues.

Papers:

660+ papers received including 44 for industrial tracks, with some still coming in. So there will be enough for 1 to 2 sessions, and the conference chair is quite happy with the response.

Status tutorial:

Currently either 4 x 90 min or 1 x90 min session planned (still to be resolved), but there is a request to focus on both drilling and mining that needs to be resolved. Fionn, Geoff and Gerhard to coordinate, and tutorial could be quite good with input. Current plan is to focus on (a) general drilling, (b) explore surface and downhole sensors, (c) define the state of the art, and (d) describe future challenges.

Fred commented that we need to find a way through advertising to reach the crowd of attendees and attract people to our track and technical sessions.

b. IFAC 2012 Trondheim

Geoff Downton has accepted as Keynote speaker.

c. European University Projects , Academic/Industry Forum on Automated Drilling (AIFAD)

Main focus has been on the IEEE conference, so there is not much new on the forum which will be a web-based venue (with periodic physical meetings) for discussing drilling automation. See November minutes for details.

2. Risk & Reliability (John de Wardt)

Will start in on this activity in the New Year, using the ABS document

3. Discuss Need for Better Sensors

Issue on Sensors for Automation” came up in Denver, and it may be possible to develop guidelines for reliability. We really need input from people who know and understand measurements to contribute in this area (possible Jim Rodgers). It was suggested that NASA might be able to contribute on sensors (reliability and redundancy), and that the DSATS group should develop links into NASA and SW Research. One suggestion is to start a discussion on the

DSATS home page. Fred asked for a Leader for the “Sensor for Automation” topic – all interested please contact Fred.

4. Communications and Language (Clinton Chapman)
Clint has been out of the country, no progress on communications.
5. IADC and DSATS Standards Workgroup (Fred Florence)
Fred indicates that it will be Jan 2012 before any real effort will be started; looking for volunteers to help!
6. University Competition Update (Fred Florence)
Due to Fred’s travel schedules no movement on this subject. Looking for volunteers to help!
7. Automation Roadmap (Fred Florence)
Difficult to address within DSATS, so Fred would like to remove this task. Maybe the Board could address this topic?
8. Events Update

Session on Drilling Systems Automation, March 5th, 2012, San Diego (John de Wardt):

<http://www.spe.org/events/dc/2012/>

Still missing 1 speaker

Reception sponsor – Integrated Drilling Equipment – Shasta settling on an estimate

Turnout expected to be high

IFAC Workshop, May 31 to June 1, 2012, Trondheim (Fionn Iversen):

<http://www.ifac-oilfield.no/>

See item 1b.

IEEE I2MTC conference, May 13 to 16, 2012, Graz, Austria (Fionn Iversen):

<http://imtc.ieee-ims.org/>

See item 1a.

DSATS sponsored SPE Advanced Technology Workshop (John de Wardt):

Co-chairs are John de Wardt, DE WARDT AND CO; Michael Behounek, Apache; Clinton Chapman, Schlumberger; Mario Zamora helping to backfill committee.

Location in Vail, Colorado

Brochure will be available in a few weeks

Still seeking speakers

9. Other Business
 - John de Wardt raised the issue that nominations to fill positions for next year have to be addressed quickly. Issue for the Board of Directors; Fred to remind them.
 - A suggestion for a change in panel format was made to try to get more cohesion in the panel. Rather than four separate topics, and to get the panel to be more responsive to the audience, ask each panelist for his/her response on a set of topics and then open up the discussion to the floor.
 - Mario pointed out the need to get non-engineers involved with automation to make sure the people-side, or human factors, are included in automation design. For

example, how does an equipment operator deal with boredom and maintain attention when working in an automated environment? Fred pointed out that Psychological Aspects of Automation might be an interesting talk for San Diego.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30am