

SPE review

magazine of the Aberdeen and London sections
of the Society of Petroleum Engineers

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Society of Petroleum Engineers

ISSUE CONTENTS:

Contacts	02
London Section Sponsors	02
ATCE 2011 report	03
Student focus	04-05
Upcoming technical meetings	06
ITF Showcase	06
SPE ICoTA Well Intervention Conference	08-09
Iraq Seminar report	10
Recruitment	11 & 13
London Section YPs	12
Continuing Education events	14
Forthcoming events	15
Consultants listing	15



ACE-ING IT AT ATCE!

SPE Aberdeen Past Chair (2010) Chris Nussbaum (left) proudly receives the President's Global Award for Best Section on behalf of his fellow members, at ATCE 2011, in Denver, USA. The Section has been honoured by the award for the second year in a row. Also present at the prestigious event was SPE North Sea Region STAR Scholarship winner Nurkenay Bulekbayeva, Vice President of the Section's University of Aberdeen SPE Student Chapter – see *Nurkenay's Diary* on page 3.



DOUBLE CROWN FOR SPE LONDON SECTION

SPE London Section was also recognised by the global SPE organisation at ATCE 2011, receiving two international awards: the Most Innovative Section Award, granted to only three sections around the world, and the Outstanding Section YP Committee Award, which commended the London YPs for having the 'Most Improved Committee' – see page 3.

SPE London YP Committee Past Chair (2010) Alejandro Primera receives the Outstanding Section YP Committee Award from Alain Labastie



SPE review

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), a not-for-profit professional association of 100,000+ members from more than 118 countries worldwide, is a key resource for technical knowledge related to the oil and gas exploration, drilling and production industry.

The SPE provides services through its global events, publications and website at www.spe.org.

SPE review is published 10 times per year by the Aberdeen and London sections of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. It is sent to over 4,500 UK SPE members, and quarterly to an additional 6,000+ European members. If you have read this issue and would like to join the SPE and receive your own copy of **SPE review**, as well as many other benefits – or you know a friend or colleague who would like to join – please visit www.spe.org for an application form.

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CONTACTS

Communications Management Committee: Miriam Archer, Jonathan Calvert, Mohammad Khan, Gbenga Oluyemi, Ian Phillips

For queries about editorial contributions to **SPE review** or to book advertising space, please contact:

Editorial: Judy Mackie, M&M Media, +44 (0)1224 318088, spe.editor@mmm-media.co.uk

Advertising: Allan Montgomery, M&M Media, +44 (0)1224 318088, spe.advertising@mmm-media.co.uk

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ABERDEEN Telephone: +44 (0)1224 329111 Email: aberdeen@opc.co.uk
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ACE-ING it at ATCE!

Continued from page 1



It is an SPE tradition to share the outstanding achievement of sections and volunteers during the Annual Conference and Exhibition (ATCE), and this year the 2011 SPE President, Alain Labastie, continued the custom during the President's Luncheon and Annual Meeting of Members in Denver, USA.

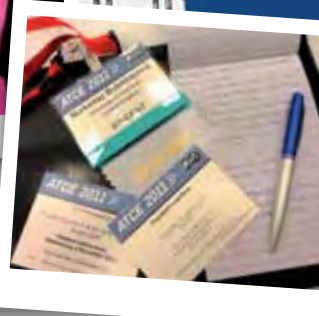
Double Crown for SPE London Section

SPE London promotes technical excellence at its traditional monthly Programme meetings and Continuing Education seminars. The **Most Innovative Section Award** recognises SPE sections that use new ideas, methods or ways of thinking to improve and grow their section activities. It was awarded to London mainly because of its Women in Energy programmes. The leadership of Clara Altobelli (Serica Energy) and efforts of the Continuing Education Committee were key to the achievement of this award.

The London Section has also encouraged and supported the YP Committee, now recognised as a 'role model' committee in Europe and a world leader. The group was led by Arnaud Mille (Centrica) during 2010 and Alejandro Primera (Schlumberger) in 2011. Last year the group was recognised with an international 'Honourable Mention' in the **Outstanding Section YP Committee Award**, and this year it has received recognition as the 'Most Improved Committee'. The committee is maintaining great momentum with its new award and re-energised team, led by Stephen Howell (BG) and Ernesto Guevara (BP).

STAR Scholar's ATCE 2011 Diary

This year's SPE North Sea Region STAR Scholarship winner and Vice President of the University of Aberdeen SPE Student Chapter, Nurkenay Bulekbayeva, was sponsored by SPE Aberdeen Section to attend ATCE 2011 (30 October - 2 November). Here, she shares some of her experiences at the event.



Around 1,500 of the 27,000 international SPE student members flew to Colorado to observe the biggest event of the SPE calendar year - ATCE 2011.

Sunday 30 October

Participated in a number of student events. At the Student Meet & Greet, former SPE President DeAnn Craig addressed us and we played an ice-breaking networking game. In the Student General Session, Dr Fikri Kucuk (Stanford University) presented on the future of the industry and potential challenges the next generation of professionals might face.

Afternoon: Five YPs from the Student Development Committee shared how they accomplished their career goals; in the Student Mini Series event. For me, the most informative session was the Student Chapter Officer workshop, where officers from more than 15 SPE Student Chapters collaborated and discussed best practices for creating effective and successful student communities. We also received rules and tips on how to win the Gold Standard Chapter Award. Felt I'd gained a lot of valuable information to share with my colleagues at the university.

Monday 31 October

Watched PetroBowl, where SPE student chapter teams compete against each other in a fast-paced quiz competition featuring technical and non-technical questions associated with the oil and gas industry. Winner was the University of Texas and this year's contest was the biggest in the history of PetroBowl, with 24 teams participating (11 came from outside the US).

NOTE: PetroBowl is definitely a competition our local student chapters should participate in at next year's ATCE, in San Antonio, USA.

Afternoon was full of new concepts and technical information. Listened to presentations on Unleashing Unconventional Reservoirs and Acidizing and Liquid-rich Shale, by specialists in the area, as part of the Technical Sessions.

Tuesday 1 November

Continued learning at Fracturing Technologies presentation, and was particularly interested in the talk by CA Ehlig-Economides, of Texas A&M, on the Uses of Water as a Proppant.

Evening: attended the Annual Reception and Banquet - had the opportunity to make a lot of contacts and meet SPE 2011 President Alain Labastie.

Wednesday 2 November

Today was especially memorable for me - was awarded the STAR Scholarship for the North Sea Region at the President's Luncheon and Annual Meeting of Members. Met the STAR recipients from other regions and saw many distinguished members receiving their awards for the priceless work they've done for community, industry and the world through their technical research, service to SPE and desire to volunteer and share knowledge.

Was especially proud to see Chris Müssbaum, Past Chair of SPE Aberdeen, receive the Section Excellence Award in recognition of our Section's hard work to become the best in the North Sea Region!

FOOTNOTE: Another highlight of the event was the exhibition, where I spent many hours learning about the latest technologies and creative solutions to current challenges in the industry.

Not only has my trip to Denver been informative both technically and educationally - I've also had a lot of fun and met many interesting people who I'm more than happy to have as colleagues and mentors in my future career.

I'm very grateful to SPE for giving me this great opportunity to develop as a professional by awarding me with the STAR Scholarship and supporting my visit to ATCE 2011. It's essential that industry understands the importance of supporting its next generation and I'm more than confident ours does so better than any other.

Student Focus...

OPC Well Testing Award winner announced

Congratulations to SPE London member Alistair Green, winner of this year's OPC Well Test Analysis Award, sponsored by Oilfield Production Consultants (OPC) Ltd.



Left to right: Alain Gringarten, Piers Johnson, Alistair Green and Tim Whittle.

Alistair, a Reservoir Engineer with BG Group, who recently graduated with distinction after completing an MSc Petroleum Engineering degree at Imperial College London during a one-year sabbatical, won the prize for his thesis project, 'Multi-phase Well Testing to Calibrate Relative Permeability Measurements for Reservoir Simulation'. He has chosen to donate his £500 cash prize to charity.

Piers Johnson, OPC Managing Director, commented: "OPC is pleased to continue to offer this prestigious prize and we wish to congratulate Alistair, whose thesis was chosen as being a significant contribution to reservoir characterisation from well test interpretation. I also commend Alistair for his generous gesture of donating the cash prize to charity."

Alain C Gringarten, Director of the Centre for Petroleum Studies at Imperial College and award judge, added: "We are grateful to OPC for

their continuing support. They are an example of what companies can do to encourage and reward excellence at universities."

Alistair, who works with the Reservoir Fluids Team at BG Group's Head Office, in Reading, said: "I am delighted to have received this award after a challenging year of study. I'd like to thank OPC for the award and for the cash prize, which will be donated equally to Wateraid and Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity."

"Thanks also to BG Group, who agreed to match the prize money, resulting in a total of £1,000 being donated to these charities. BG have been very supportive over the last year, and I am appreciative of the guidance provided by Tim Whittle during the MSc project."

OPC is an independently owned, globally renowned leader in the provision of professional expertise, management and support to the E&P industry.

No substitute for experience – SPE London funds valuable MSc fieldwork

A donation from SPE London – one of a number of grants awarded to the Section's affiliated universities by the Section's Student & Scholarship Committee – helped to fund University of Derby MSc fieldwork in the North-east of England earlier this year.

Students from the MSc course in Applied Petroleum Geoscience spent six days in May examining the reservoir characteristics and geometry of Jurassic and Carboniferous analogues for North Sea reservoirs between Scarborough and Northumberland, with a

detour inland to Old Quarrington, near Durham.

Our first picture shows the students logging a potential reservoir section for which they will assign facies using sedimentary character. The second, taken at the end of the trip, shows the group at the 90 Fathom Fault, in

Northumberland.

The University thanked SPE London for its generous contribution and said the students were very grateful for the assistance.



The students measure a Jurassic-aged section at Cloughton, north of Scarborough.



The 90 Fathom Fault, at Cullercoats, Northumberland, with younger students to the right (yellow Permian rocks, farthest right) and slightly older students to the left (near older, grey Carboniferous rocks).

Student teambuilding rocks!

Manchester Climbing Centre was the exhilarating venue for the University of Manchester SPE Student Chapter's first teambuilding social event of the session. The 15 participants learned how to group belay and rock climb, putting their faith in the hands of the team in tackling the indoor centre's challenging walls.

The fun event gave students the opportunity to get to know each other better, learn new skills and test each other's confidence in a challenging situation.

The next social event will put the Petroleum Engineering students on ice, as they take to the Altrincham ice rink.

Marianna Sinakova, Chair of the UoM Student Chapter which is affiliated to SPE London, says: "This session we aim to provide our Chapter with a variety of teambuilding events to increase participation and develop teamwork skills in a fun setting. The rock-climbing social was the first successful event of many and the afternoon of smiles said it all."



Another successful careers event

By Noor Ibrahim, University of Aberdeen SPE Student Chapter

On 27 October, the University of Aberdeen SPE Student Chapter joined forces with SPE Aberdeen's Another Perspective (AP) Committee to host an interactive two-hour session: 'Women in STEM – You vs the Oil and Gas Industry'.

The evening event – free to all SPE Aberdeen's affiliated university students and held at the University of Aberdeen campus – attracted 70 female and male attendees and comprised a series of short presentations by AP members Stephanie Nwoko, Maria Trujillo, Dalila Sfarni, Lisa Mott, Sarah Brown, Kerry O'Neill, Alessandra D'Alessandria and Leigh-Ann Russell, who have a variety of roles with a range of operator and service companies.

The speakers also represented different

educational backgrounds, countries and cultures, and each gave an overview of their background and career history, as well as providing useful advice to the prospective oil and gas professionals in the audience.

The motivational session, which received excellent feedback from the participants, achieved its aim in giving students an insight into landing a dream job, creating a work-life balance and making the most of a career in the oil and gas industry.



The presentations and Q&A sessions were followed by an informal networking buffet, where the students had the opportunity to ask the panellists more questions.

Inspiring the next generation!

In October and November, Aberdeen Young Professional volunteers played a key supporting role at two of the popular annual TechFest-SetPoint Maths In The Pipeline events, of which SPE Aberdeen is a sponsor.

Held at the BP and TOTAL offices in Aberdeen, the inspirational sessions gave S4 pupils a unique glimpse into the oil and gas industry, with hands-on exercises demonstrating the importance of Mathematics in a real-life industry sector. SPE Aberdeen volunteers were involved in presenting workshops and the events culminated in a business challenge that had the teams of pupils competing to present the best field development plan to a panel of industry professionals.

"Maths In The Pipeline is an exciting challenge for pupils and teachers. It gives SPE volunteers the opportunity to pass on our passion for engineering and science, as well as help to inspire confidence in the pupils to pursue further maths and science education, which can lead to a full range of dynamic careers in the oil and gas industry," says Nadezda Shnuchkina, SPE Schools Careers Guidance Committee (SCG) Vice Chair.

SCG YP Coordinator Oludare Elebiju agrees: "Volunteering at the events was a great privilege. It was an amazing and fulfilling experience working collectively with other YPs and senior industry professionals to demonstrate to the school pupils the practical application of maths skills in our daily tasks across several disciplines in the oil and gas industry."

Pictured with the winning team of pupils at BP are (back row, left to right): Henry Webb (BP) and SPE Aberdeen SCG volunteers Nadezda Shnuchkina (Axis-WT), John Abolarin (Total), Ashwini Bhagwat (Wood Group), Ibiye Iyalla (Robert Gordon University), Javier Torres (Halliburton), Oludare Elebiju (Wipro) and Bilal Shafique (SPE YP)



Maths In the Pipeline at TOTAL presented another SPE Aberdeen volunteering opportunity!



London

Tony Martin, of Baker Hughes Pressure Pumping, will deliver the pre-dinner presentation **'Horizontal /multi fractured wells'** at SPE London's first meeting of the New Year, on **31 January, at the Geological Society, Piccadilly**.

Although the concept of placing multiple hydraulic fractures along a horizontal wellbore did not originate in the North Sea, it was first proved on a commercial scale in the Danish sector in the late 1980s. In spite of this success, it remained a relatively small portion of the fracturing market until the recent massive expansion in shale oil and gas activity in North America, where it has become an enabling technology. This boom in activity has produced a corresponding boom in innovation and several new and highly successful techniques are now being employed. Recently we have seen some of these new technologies being deployed back to the North Sea, closing a remarkable circle of events that has taken over 20 years. This talk will concentrate on the techniques associated with placing multiple hydraulic fractures along horizontal wellbores, as well as their applicability to the reservoirs and environment of the North Sea.

Tony Martin is Baker Hughes' Director for Offshore Stimulation. His job involves long-term strategic development of the company's offshore stimulation business, as well as technical support for existing operations. Tony graduated from Imperial College in 1990 with a Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering and has spent his career within the service sector. A specialist in hydraulic fracturing and acid-based stimulation, he is an SPE Distinguished Lecturer and winner of the 2009 SPE South, Central and East Europe Region Technology Award for Production and Operations.

As the support function for Baker Hughes's geoscientist-based field operations, the Pressure Pumping business segment focuses on Production Enhancement (including Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing), Cementing and Coiled Tubing, and is responsible for R&D, technical support, equipment design and manufacturing, business development, asset management, logistics and quality.

Following the networking buffet, **SPE Distinguished Lecturer Dr Ding Zhu, of Texas A&M University**, will present **'The Role of Flow Control Devices in Optimising Horizontal Well Performance'**.

The need to produce oil and gas efficiently, economically and environmentally-friendly has promoted the development of long extended reach horizontal and multilateral wells, which enable greater reservoir contact and lower draw-downs to achieve similar rates as conventional wells. However, this increased wellbore length has led to uneven drawdown distribution along such a well, often leading to early breakthrough of water or gas, and causing reduction in oil recovery and

uneven sweep of the drainage area. The problem becomes more severe when a heterogeneous reservoir is involved. To eliminate this problem, flow control devices have been used widely as a part of completion to control and optimise individual well or overall reservoir performance. The presentation will investigate how and when an inflow control device should be used and illustrate why it is critical to understand the reservoir conditions and wellbore dynamics together when designing a well completion with inflow control devices.

Dr Ding Zhu is Associate Professor and holder of the WD Von Gonten Faculty Fellowship in Petroleum Engineering at Texas A&M University. She received a BSc in Mechanical Engineering from the Beijing University of Science and Technology and MSc and PhD degrees in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. Her main research areas include general production engineering, well stimulation and complex well performance. She is a co-author of more than 80 technical papers and the SPE book *Multilateral Wells*.

Before dinner: 5-6.30pm

Dinner: 6.30-7.30pm

After dinner: 7.30-9pm

Booking: www.katemcmillan.co.uk; tel: 07736 070066; katespe@aol.com

Cost: £34 for SPE/PESGB/El members, £44 non-members, £19 unemployed members, £5 students booking by Friday 27 January (£19 after).

Aberdeen

On **25 January**, SPE Aberdeen's first evening meeting of the year, at the **Douglas Hotel, Market Street, Aberdeen**, will feature the presentation **'An introduction to well intervention, service offering and current market conditions'**, by **Chris Reid, of Aker Qserv**. The presentation will be followed by a networking dinner.

Edinburgh

'In Salah Gas CO₂ sequestration project' will be the topic presented by **Allan Mathieson, of Hampton Energy**, at SPE Aberdeen's Edinburgh evening meeting, at the **University of Edinburgh, Faculty Room South, David Hume Tower, George Square, on 8 February**. The meeting will be followed by a networking buffet.

Bookings for Aberdeen and Edinburgh meetings: www.rodgerandco.com; tel: 01224 495051; spe@rodgerandco.com

Further information at: www.spe-uk.org

New technology solutions spark industry interest

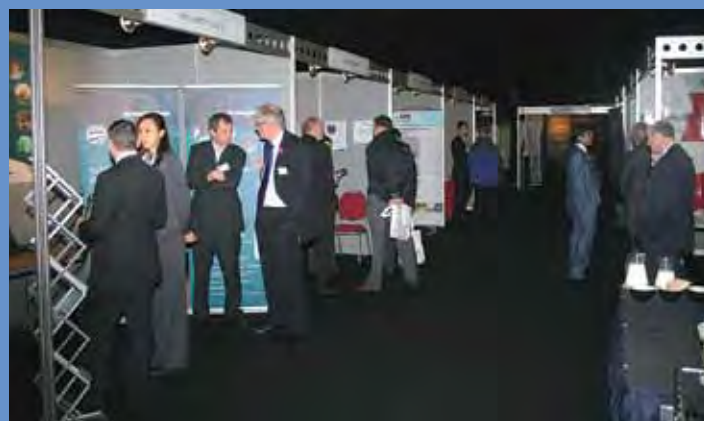
More than 300 decision-makers from operator and service companies saw some of the industry's most cutting-edge innovations in action last month at ITF's Annual Technology Showcase, at Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre.

SPE Aberdeen members were there to support the one-day event, which highlighted new technology solutions from 50 organisations, designed to solve pressing industry challenges.

David Liddle, SPE Aberdeen Programme Committee Chair and Director of Strategic Technology at ITF, says: *"We were impressed with the many local and international technology companies who attended. Sharing knowledge and collaborating will help to conquer some of the unique challenges facing our global industry."*

A not-for-profit organisation, ITF is owned by its 25 operator and service company members, has invested more than £60 million in

funding new technology developments from early stage projects through to commercialisation, and has launched more than 170 joint industry projects to date.



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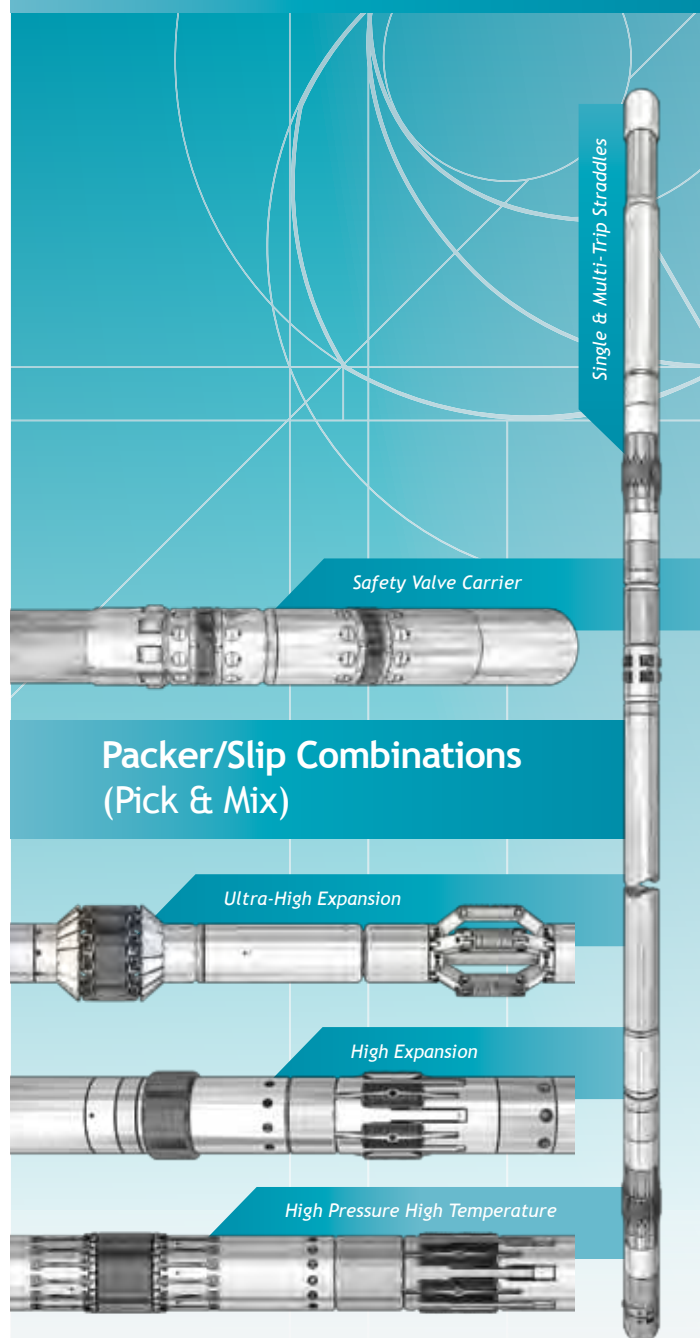
Jim Laidlaw, UK sales director, says: "We have combined ultra-high expansion packers with other products to pass through very tight restrictions.

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Emerging technologies inspire at Europe's premier well intervention event

17th SPE ICoTA European Well Intervention Conference

15-16 November, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre

A larger-than-ever turnout of 340 international oil and gas professionals, 20 conference presentations demonstrating the oil and gas industry's commitment to 'Ensuring a North Sea future through well intervention', and a sellout exhibition featuring 47 of the world's most innovative technology and service companies – confirmed that this long-standing SPE ICoTA professional development opportunity continues to successfully engage its expert audience as the leading European forum for learning and knowledge-sharing across the now critically-important well intervention sector.

The busy two-day event had a strong focus on the exciting new technologies emerging into the market, and the scene was set for this at the conference by keynote speaker Stuart Brown, Global Well Intervention Theme Lead with Shell. Among the innovations and 'world-firsts' demonstrated and discussed by the participating operator and service companies were composite coiled tubing and advanced coiled tubing camera technology, fibre optic data collection services, and conductive slickline and well integrity diagnostic technologies.



The learning and sharing continued during the many lively exhibition-based networking sessions, which brought delegates and exhibitors together in an informal atmosphere. The exhibition visitors also included students and career guidance teachers, who received a valuable introduction to the well intervention sector from enthusiastic exhibitors (see opposite page).



In summing up the successful event, Conference Chairman Callum Munro, of BP, said: "Once again this SPE/ICOTA event has proved it is the premier European well intervention conference. We have increased both our delegate and exhibitor numbers and showcased a range of quality technical presentations supporting the themes of Subsea, Coiled Tubing, Wireline and Well Integrity. The development and commercialisation of new technology will ensure safe, efficient and reliable well interventions can take place in the most demanding environments here in the North Sea, and beyond."



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SPE ICoTA 17th European Well Intervention Conference contd.

Attendees' perspective



The conference has been very interesting. We cover a diversity of projects with different companies, in both the routine production and developmental stages, and this is the place to meet and greet. Talking to the technical specialists who attend is how we start the problem-solving process. It's also good to see what others are doing. I've learned a few things which I'll go away and think about. I've been coming here for the past five years and I will keep coming back!
John Bentham, Benoil Services Ltd



We're here to promote our portfolio of ultra-slim retrievable bridge plugs and straddles, including our HPHT range. However, we also use our local design engineering team to deliver bespoke solutions – tailoring our core products to address client-specific challenges, to reinstate well integrity, shut-off water or gas, deepen gas lift or re-establish safety valve operability. We've had a very good level of interest at our stand. The conference has also included a wide variety of topics – it's particularly beneficial for us to hear about the well intervention issues which operators are seeking to address. **Andrew Loudon, Interwell**



The delegates are all very focused, looking for innovation to help them do their jobs better and, most importantly, they all want to be here because they say they always learn something new. This is definitely the event for innovation. I think it's fantastic – and this is the best one ever. **Alastair MacDonald, Thinjack™**



I have come over from Baku for this conference and I really like it. It's very well organised and I have found quite a number of technologies that we might be interested in, in my country. It's also a good learning opportunity for me. **Naila Salimova, BP Azerbaijan**



This is the seventh year we have attended and it's definitely our best. There's a very focused audience – they're exactly the people we need to see – and we've had a good response on our stand. We're promoting our new advanced Leakator leak-detection tool, and during this event three different customers have agreed to take it for field trials. **Neil Matheson, Omega Data Services**

An energising experience!

On the first day of the event, SPE Aberdeen's Schools Career Guidance Committee (SCG) and colleagues from ICoTA hosted an 'Energising Schools Initiative', which gave local teachers, career advisors and representatives of Skills Development Scotland first-hand experience of energy sector innovations and the chance to meet the businesses behind them. The aim was to explore collaboration opportunities between local schools and the oil and gas sector, and further strengthen the links between education and industry.

Colin Black, SPE SCG Chair and Optima Solutions UK Director, says he is delighted with the enthusiastic feedback he received from the visitors and adds that a number of the exhibitors have offered opportunities for teachers and pupils to visit their offices in the coming months.



"We want teachers to understand that this is a global energy industry with many opportunities for young people," he continues. "In hosting these kinds of events, SPE Aberdeen aims to continue to provide background information, potential curriculum projects, industry facts, guidance on career paths and information on how to enter this great industry."



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Exploring 'The New Iraq, including the Region of Kurdistan'

SPE London Seminar – 27 October 2011

SPE London invited speakers and delegates to share their knowledge and experience of working in Iraq and the Region of Kurdistan, at a seminar held in the Geological Society, Piccadilly.

Dynamic Global Advisors set the scene with an overview of the geology of the Kurdistan region. The chance of success is exceptionally high, with very few dry holes encountered and a large number of undrilled structures. The official figures quote oil reserves of 30 billion barrels. The reservoirs are largely carbonates in the Jurassic, Triassic and Cretaceous formations. The oil reserves are located in the low porosity matrix and the conduit to high production rates is via fractures. These fractures can be a double-edged sword: great for productivity, but highly problematic when drilling. Many wells can take up to six months to drill and test due to hole problems and losses. Logs are extremely challenging to interpret: a 7% porosity cut-off is not appropriate, with 6% porosity rock producing over 5,000bbls/d on test.

Gulf Keystone and **Afren** shared their outlook and experience in the Region of Kurdistan. Both companies recognise the region's potential and have had success in their exploration programmes. Their appraisal programmes incorporate extended well tests for early production and data-gathering purposes, followed by development plans to install facilities and pipelines. Afren are investigating the feasibility of horizontal wells to improve well performance and recovery, and Gulf Keystone are planning highly deviated wells. Both companies acknowledge the challenges to drilling, but believe they can be overcome.

Bayphase moved the focus to the Iraq fourth licensing round, which

does not include the Region of Kurdistan. Forty-six companies have pre-qualified for the round which, after being delayed, is due to go to bidding on 5 March 2012. The outlook is positive in that the blocks are large and have a good range of risks and reserves. The drawbacks are that the Oil Law has not been passed, although there is a push to approve it by the end of the year, and there is a clause that the oil ministry may be able to delay the start of oil production by up to eight years.

Fox Davis Capital gave a venture capital perspective, concluding that the market recognises the new Iraq has fantastic E&P opportunities and the valuation gap should be closed once the federal oil law has been approved. It was noted that smaller independent companies had gained the advantage in the Region of Kurdistan, while the larger companies were leaning towards projects outside the region.

Gaffney Cline described the potential for gas developments in the region, as there is a domestic demand and high volumes of associated gas that are not being marketed.

Finally, **Schlumberger** discussed their approach to security in the New Iraq, which has been adapted to suit the considerable variation in the level of security threat throughout the country. In the Region of Kurdistan, the threat is relatively low and, in Erbil especially, their staff can live independently with their families. Towards the south, near Basrah, the situation is quite different and there are many layers of security to protect the base and the operations. Schlumberger have used a multipronged approach in their security strategy, engaging with local people to understand the threats and avoiding an over-zealous approach when it's not required.

Non-technical employees gain greater awareness of E&P environment

This year's SPE London Introduction to E&P Seminar, at the Geological Society, on 17 November, attracted more than 125 attendees from the oil and gas industry's banking, HR, law and other support services communities.

The event, kindly sponsored by OPC, provided a basic understanding of E&P processes, focusing on Geology, Logging & Petrophysics, Reservoir Engineering, Drilling & Completions, Facilities & Production, Environment, and Economics.

"The industry recognises that all its staff can benefit from a greater knowledge of the industry, whether they are technical or administrative," explains SPE London Continuing Education Committee Chair, Clara Altobelli. *"It helps people feel part of the company and gives them an insight into the risks and technical work involved. It also makes it easier to talk to engineers and geologists!"*

She adds: *"This year's event went very well. We intend holding the seminar again next November and would encourage E&P companies to sign up their support staff."*

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- Good understanding of reservoir characterisation and 3D modelling techniques
- Comprehensive knowledge of operating and process facilities
- Ideally, some non-operated Joint Venture experience in the UKCS

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Eventful month for SPE London YPs

Two well-attended technical and career development events in November gave SPE London YPs and students an excellent opportunity to work and learn together in both an academic and a workplace environment.

'Technical Diplomat – what is taught in school vs what is learned in industry'

London Students meet SPE London YP Student Ambassadors

On 2 November, SPE London YP Committee teamed up with Imperial College London and London South Bank University (LSBU) SPE Student Chapters to organise this year's Ambassador Lecture, at the Imperial College London School of Mines.

The 40 students who attended benefited both from the programme's early career advice and the perspective of industry professionals on some specific technical topics.

The evening was facilitated by the London YP University Liaison Team, with presentations from Nick Curum (Reservoir Engineer, BG Group), Shirley Ike (Flow Assurance Consultant, MSi Kenny) and Isabel Asenjo (Reservoir Engineer, Senergy).



The discussion, aimed at providing students with an insight into working life, also emphasised how the topics learned at university translate into projects undertaken in the business environment. Each presentation was followed by a Q&A session with an extended technical panel.

SPE London YPs would like to thank Imperial College London for hosting this event, and give a special mention to Nick Curum and Temitope Solanke (MSi Kenny) and all the YP volunteers who attended.

If you have any feedback on this event or would like to know more about upcoming YP London events, please contact:
yp_london@spemail.org

An insight into special and routine core analysis

Weatherford SCAL Laboratory Tour

By Kanad Kulkarni (LSBU) and Ebube John-Nwosu (PetroVision)

On 10 November, SPE London's YP Committee extended its culture of continuous learning by organising a successful visit by students and young professionals to the Weatherford SCAL Laboratory, in East Grinstead, UK.

Weatherford Senior Manager Tony Barrow and his team were on hand to lead a laboratory tour and presentations on core samples and other core operations.

Xavier Luna, an MSc Student at London South Bank University (LSBU), found the event enlightening: *"Now I understand better the role Weatherford operations play within the industry. Tony, Peter, Richard and Dave explained step-by-step the process of analysing porosity and permeability, as well as different techniques to achieve results from consolidated as well as unconsolidated cores."*

"The science behind it and its practical application to the industry was



equally very well explained. I see this event as rewarding, because as a student I now appreciate how classroom learning is applied to industry operations."

Nehrisa Ramdass, a Reservoir Engineer with BG Group, adds: *"The staff at Weatherford were terrific, eagerly answering all the mind-boggling questions the diverse audience had to offer. Personally, I was thrilled to have had the opportunity to go through in stages and observe actual experiments of core analysis, as well as learning the importance of proper core handling to maximise the validity of the results."*

SPE London YPs would like to thank the Committee Technical Liaison team, including Enyi Orji (Hess), Nurzhan Kairbayev (Fugro Robertson), Kanad Kulkarni (LSBU) and James Whetton (Weatherford), for their assistance in organising and co-ordinating this successful event.



SPE London-YP Weatherford Visit



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In a maturing North Sea environment, artificial lift is essential to maximising returns. With a vast number of depleted and high watercut wells, the potential for production gains is significant. The biennial EuALF is a well-established forum for artificial lift professionals organised by SPE Aberdeen Section. The two-day conference programme is accompanied by an exhibition of cutting-edge artificial lift technologies and services. Chairing the EuALF Committee will be Chris Wrighton, of Shell, and the keynote speaker will be James L House, Regional Vice President & Managing Director of Apache North Sea. Pre-conference short course: 'Artificial lift systems selection, operation, design and optimisation'.

To reserve an exhibition stand or sponsorship, please contact:
Rodger and Co: spe@rodgerandco.com, tel: + 44 (0) 1224 495051, or visit: www.rodgerandco.com.

SPE Aberdeen & Sand Management Network



5th European Sand Management Forum

Manage sand - manage your costs
21st & 22nd March 2012
Aberdeen, Scotland UK

SPE Aberdeen Section and the Sand Management Network have developed this forum in response to the increasing awareness of sand production issues and the economic management of sand. It has grown in response to industry needs and developments, and the European Sand Management Forum is now a well-established event for knowledge-sharing and networking. Our Committee Chairman is Tim Podger, of NOV Merpro.

The Forum will also offer opportunities for exhibiting and sponsorship, as well as participation in a one-day pre-conference workshop. Please contact the organisers, Rodger and Co (see opposite), for details.

NEW SEMINAR

SPE Aberdeen and Oil and Gas UK: 'Vessel-enabled operations – platform maintenance, well intervention, subsea operations and abandonment'

Aberdeen, 7 June 2012

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS – Deadline 16 January 2012

Floating supply vessels and barges are increasingly used to assist operations at platforms. Emerging telescopic bridge technology is enabling safe transfer of personnel between platform and vessel, removing the need for a jack-up support platform or extensive helicopter shuttling. Vessel-enabled operations include maintenance and modifications of platforms, well intervention and maintenance, and are also believed to be suitable for rigless abandonment of wells and other decommissioning activities. The technology offers cost-effective operations on platforms that have limitations with respect to deck space, deck loading or accommodation.



Suggested topics for presentations (full SPE papers are NOT required):

- HSE, safety cases, permits and emergency response (eg evacuation)
- Case studies platform maintenance campaigns
- Case studies platform construction, modifications activities
- Case studies well maintenance
- Case studies well interventions
- Case studies well abandonments
- Case studies decommissioning activities
- Vessel capabilities, eg station holding, accommodation, deck space, etc
- Personnel transfer capabilities
- Equipment transfer capabilities
- Implications for HSE and operations philosophy

Please submit a 200-word abstract for consideration online at www.rodgerandco.com

Events for 2012:



22 March 2012 (9.30 – 5.00)

Careers Seminar and Recruitment Fair

Take time to look at your career development, how to succeed and have the career you deserve – presentations, workshops and networking opportunities.

Location: Geological Society, Piccadilly

19 April 2012 (9.30 – 5.00)

Oil and Gas Environmental Seminar

Environmental concerns can make or break a project and a company! You cannot afford to ignore the issues, so come and learn how to manage your project and the environment effectively.

Location: Geological Society, Piccadilly

17 May 2012 (9.30 – 5.00)

Women in Energy Annual Seminar

This will be the sixth annual seminar and its popularity continues to grow!

Location: To be confirmed

NEW EVENT

SPE London Annual Conference and Exhibition – 'Managing Risk and Adding Value throughout the Upstream Oil and Gas Life Cycle'

27-28 June at Savoy Place, London

27 June – Pre Development Focus

- 'Ready to Drill?' Exploration and appraisal strategies, value of information, risk management and programme sequencing. How to add value in this phase.
- 'What's it Worth?' Company valuations from the broker, investor and operator perspective.
- 'Exploration Hotspots - Case Studies, Area Deep Dives and Niche Players'

Evening Social Event or Networking Reception and Exhibition.

28 June – Development Focus

- 'Mega Developments': case studies, industry benchmarking and the EPC companies' perspective
- 'Future Developments and Unconventional Resources': trends and Impact
- 'Reservoir Management, Asset Optimisation and Re-developments': case studies, niche players and their strategies, surveillance for decision-making and asset optimisation

Gala Reception and Dinner at the neighbouring Savoy Hotel.

FORTHCOMING UK EVENTS

LONDON

- 31 January (5pm-9pm) (Before dinner): 'Horizontal /multi fractured wells', Tony Martin (Baker Hughes Pressure Pumping)
(After dinner): 'The Role of Flow Control Devices in Optimising Horizontal Well Performance', SPE Distinguished Lecturer Dr Ding Zhu (Texas A&M University)
- 8 February (9am-5pm): London YP Technical Meeting: 'The Unconventional revolution: from an emerging resource to a core business'
- 23 March (9.30-5pm): Careers Seminar and Recruitment Fair

VENUE FOR ABOVE EVENTS: Geological Society, Piccadilly, London

For details of all SPE London events, visit: www.katemcmillan.co.uk and www.spe-uk.org 'London Events'. If you would like to sponsor an SPE London event, please email Mo_Mansoori@nexeninc.com

ABERDEEN

- 25 January: 'An introduction to well intervention, service offering and current market conditions', Chris Reid (Aker Qserv)
VENUE: 6.30pm Douglas Hotel, Market Street, Aberdeen
- 22-23 February: SPE European Artificial Lift Forum – EuALF 2012
- 21-22 March: SPE SMN 5th European Sand Management Forum
VENUE FOR ABOVE EVENTS: Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre

EDINBURGH

- 8 February: 'In Salah Gas CO₂ sequestration project', Allan Mathieson (Hampton Energy)
VENUE: University of Edinburgh, Faculty Room South, David Hume Tower, George Square

For details of all SPE Aberdeen and Edinburgh events, please visit: www.spe-uk.org 'Aberdeen Events' or contact Rodger and Co (see page 14)

SPE CONSULTANTS LISTING

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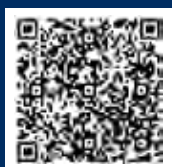
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