

SPE review

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

issue 254 | October 2011



Society of Petroleum Engineers

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Courtesy of Aberdeen City Council

Two high-profile educational events aimed at inspiring youngsters firstly to choose to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects and then to consider using them to enter a career in the oil and gas industry, took place in Aberdeen during September.

TechFest in September (above) – a colourful science festival for all the family – attracted a record number of 4737 school pupils during the week-long event, which was supported by SPE Aberdeen funding and the Schools Career Guidance Committee's STEM Ambassadors (volunteers who included Young Professionals and student members). Colin Black, SPE Aberdeen SCG Chairman and Optima Solutions Ltd Director says: "We have sponsored TechFest for many years and are always inspired by their team's enthusiasm and passion for STEM subjects. SPE SCG aims to engage even more in promoting science in schools and in supporting great projects like this."

This year's OPITO **Energise Your Future** event at Offshore Europe was supported by SPE SCG (Schools Career Guidance) in a speed networking event, 'Your Journey' – Pupil, Student, Professional. Professionals were able to share their knowledge and experience with the 250 talented senior school pupils already studying the key STEM subjects so vital to the industry.

GLOBAL INSIGHT



Members of the SPE London Board were delighted to welcome SPE's global Past President 2010, Behrooz Fattahi (second from left), to the UK last month.

During his visit, the Board shared with Behrooz the various activities of the SPE London Section, including its strong Young Professionals and Student Chapter participation.

Behrooz, in turn, shared his global view of the oil and gas industry and the exciting challenges

he sees for the future, and he emphasised SPE's key role in helping the industry shed its 'dirty' reputation and in making people more aware of its very high health, safety and environment standards.

SPE review

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), a not-for-profit professional association of 97,000+ 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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The copy deadline for the November 2011 issue is **17 October 2011**, with publication scheduled for **2 November 2011**.

New SPE London annual event – call for abstracts

SPE London's 1st Annual Conference and Exhibition – **Managing Risk and Adding Value throughout the Upstream Oil and Gas Life-cycle** – will be held on 27-28 June 2012, at IET London: Savoy Place.

We are seeking high-quality speakers on the following subjects:

- Value of information in the exploration phase – commercialisation and financing
- Inorganic Growth – mergers and acquisitions, recent trends and deals
- Economics and decision analysis
- Field development case studies
- Reservoir management and value optimisation

Exhibition space and sponsorship opportunities are available.

Please contact: london@spemail.org

SPE LONDON SECTION 2011 SPONSORS

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RWE Dea UK Ltd

Sasol Petroleum International

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AN ENERGETIC START TO THE SESSION!

SPE Aberdeen's new-session launch meeting, on 31 August, took the lively format of a series of quick-fire presentations from the Section's committees and support organisations, aimed at updating new and existing members on the diverse activities of the Section and the many volunteering opportunities available.



Following the presentations, a busy networking 'souk session' enabled members to engage with the individual Committee Chairs and to sign up as volunteers.

The Young Professionals and Schools Career Guidance 'stalls' were particularly popular, but the other committees also reported a good number of enquiries from potential volunteers.

Now in its second year, the successful launch meeting format once again provided a dynamic and informative introduction to the SPE Aberdeen calendar of events for 2011-12.

Farewell to Jeb

At the start of the new session, SPE Aberdeen colleagues said goodbye and thank you to Jeb Tyrie, who is stepping down from the Board after more than 20 years of active involvement with the Section.



Jeb, who has been an SPE member since his student days, joined the Aberdeen Board in the early 90s and served his time as an enthusiastic co-leader of the Programme and Continuing Education Committees, before being elected Section Chair for 18 months during 2008 and 2009. In the course of his tenure he was instrumental in helping the Student Development/Careers Guidance Committee to achieve greater success as two individual committees, and in refreshing SPE Aberdeen's communications activities. He also introduced the Section's Annual Awards ceremony, launched at Offshore Europe 2009.

"SPE Aberdeen has done exceptionally well and I am proud that I was able to help lay some of the foundations for positive change during my time as Chair," he says.

While Jeb will remain a member of the Aberdeen Section, his volunteering activities will be put on hold for a while, as he focuses on his new role as a Director of North Sea new-entrant oil and gas operator, 3rd Energy. He says: *"It's always been my dream to have a producing well in the North Sea and with 3rd Energy very close to achieving this, now is the right time to pursue the dream!"*

London

Dr Manijeh Bozorgzadeh, of RPS Energy, will open the proceedings at SPE London's evening meeting, on **25 October, at the Geological Society, Piccadilly**, with a presentation on **'Field Development Plans optimisation by modelling and history matching of a naturally fractured reservoir – UK onshore oil field case study'**.

Optimal technical analysis and pre-development well planning has never been more important in establishing the commercial viability of smaller oil fields. This focus has been exacerbated by recent oil price variation, placing an increased onus on technical teams to make optimal development drilling decisions. This talk will outline a case study of successful technical work undertaken for the further development of the onshore Singleton field, Middle Jurassic carbonate reservoir, UK.

Manijeh is a Senior Reservoir Engineer at RPS Energy with 14 years of experience in petroleum and petrochemical engineering, having previously worked for National Iranian Oil Co.

The RPS Group is a planning and development, energy resources and environmental consultancy with over 3,200 staff worldwide. RPS Energy is a multi-disciplinary consultancy, providing Technical, Commercial and Project Management Support services in the fields of operations, geoscience, engineering and HS&E to the energy sector worldwide. RPS Energy services the oil and gas, renewables and nuclear sectors from operating bases in the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and Malaysia.

The second pre-dinner topic, **'Asset Management Optimisation using model-based decision support'**, will be presented by **Francesco Verre, Operations Manager for the Nigerian Agip Oil Company**, an ENI E&P subsidiary.

Developing an integrated model for an E&P asset, including well, gathering and facilities models, needs a clear and target-based integration philosophy. Francesco will discuss the new ENI E&P Operations tool that uses Integrated Asset Modelling and optimisation algorithms, which can be adopted by the Asset and Operations teams in day-to-day decisions that take into account reservoir features, wells and gathering characteristics and process constraints.

Francesco, who holds MScs in Petroleum Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, previously worked for ENI E&P in Egypt as Field Operations Manager for gas and condensate assets in the Mediterranean Sea and as Field Manager in Tunisia for the oil and associated gas assets in the Sahara desert.

Nigerian Agip Oil Company is a Joint Venture between ENI E&P and the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) involved in oil and gas exploration and production activities, mainly for onshore assets in Nigeria. The company is engaged in the development of oil, gas and NGL, with an overall daily production of 300,000 boepd. As part of the midstream activity, the gas production is also exploited for the supply of power plants and petrochemical industry.

Following a networking buffet, **Alex Gabb, Principal Consultant Petroleum Engineer with BG Group in Reading, UK**, will discuss: **'Shale Gas Experience from a Global Gas Company Perspective'**.

BG Group first entered the US shale gas sector in 2009, through a JV with EXCO in the Haynesville play, in Texas/Louisiana. Since then, a further set of acquisitions in the Marcellus, also along with EXCO, has led to a sizeable portfolio of acreage to exploit. In addition, BG recently announced the acquisition of an interest in the Cooper Basin, Australia, once again targeted at a shale interval. This talk will aim to provide some insights into how shale gas is appraised and developed, some of the pitfalls that might be encountered and some of the technological challenges that BG considers need to be addressed in order to put more science into what has been a largely empirical understanding to date.

Alex, who holds a BSc in Physics and MSc in Petroleum Engineering, has worked for British Gas and then BG since 1990, in a variety of countries and projects. Most recently he has specialised in 'unconventional gas' reservoirs, mainly tight gas and shale gas.

BG Group plc is a world leader in natural gas, with a strategy focused on connecting competitively priced resources to specific, high-value markets. Active in more than 25 countries on five continents, BG Group has a broad portfolio of exploration and production, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and transmission and distribution business interests. It combines a deep understanding of gas markets with a proven track record in finding and commercialising reserves.

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/EI members, £44 non-members, £19 unemployed members, £5 students booking by Friday 21 October (£19 after).

Aberdeen

SPE Aberdeen's evening meeting, on **26 October, at the Douglas Hotel**, will be a special celebration of the **International Year of Chemistry**, a global initiative which aims: to increase the public appreciation of chemistry in meeting world needs; to encourage interest in chemistry among young people, and to generate enthusiasm for the creative future of chemistry.

Professor Bahman Tohidi, Director of the Centre for Gas Hydrate Research at Heriot-Watt University, will discuss **'Gas Hydrates: do we have new solutions to this old problem?'**. The talk will provide a brief introduction to gas hydrates and some of their interesting properties, and will conclude with the latest developments in minimising the gas hydrate risks in the petroleum industry. **Jonathan Wylde, Business Manager for Clariant Oil Services**, will then present a case history, **'Quantifying the fate of hydrate inhibitor in an HPHT gas condensate subsea tieback'**, which demonstrates that exact quantification in this application is very elusive and that relying on models and standard principles can be misleading and potentially damaging.

Edinburgh

Sandy Williams, of ALP Limited, will present **'Production optimisation: how can we get more oil?'** at SPE Aberdeen's Edinburgh evening meeting, at **Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, on 9 November**.

Our assets are mature and depend on artificial lift to keep our wells producing. Many of our fields have to be operated at low cost, but are we getting the production we should be getting from our wells? Sandy will discuss the application of artificial lift; review common problems that result in lost production; discuss current contracting models, identifying how we could have better alignment of objectives with our suppliers, and present case histories to illustrate the key points. Ultimately, a low-cost producer is interested in a lower cost/barrel of production; this presentation will focus on how we can increase the barrels side of the ratio.

For bookings and enquiries for the Aberdeen and Edinburgh events, visit: www.rodgerandco.com or Aberdeen Events at www.spe-uk.org

SPE YP London 'SPEed' Dating to Success!

By Mehdi Nabizadeh (Valiant Petroleum), SPE YP London Communications Team

YP FOCUS

SPE YP London's highly-successful Summer Social Event, on 25 August, attracted around 50 oil and gas professionals from a diverse spread of disciplines, including Geosciences, Petroleum Engineering, Banking and Legal.

Kindly sponsored by Oilfield Production Consultants (OPC) Ltd, the lively occasion gave the Committee the opportunity to welcome a number of new faces to the YP London programme, which hosts events once a month.

Organised by YP London Social Events Co-ordinator Isabel Asenjo (Senergy) and the Social Events Team, the evening event introduced two new social concepts to the YP programme: the SPE Quiz and 'SPEed' Dating.

'SPEed' Dating gave all attendees an opportunity to chat with each other for a couple of minutes before moving on to a new person – speed networking with a social theme! This approach went down well with the attendees, who made the most of the opportunity to get to know new people and to forge new industry contacts.

The session was followed by the SPE Quiz – two quick-fire rounds featuring industry knowledge and general trivia, with the winning team receiving a free bottle of champagne from OPC.

Positive feedback on the overall event has inspired SPE YP London to organise their next social initiative: a festively-themed event (with some surprises!), in December.

SPE YP London would like to thank OPC for sponsoring the event and for their generous contribution towards Young Professionals activities in London.

More information will be made available via the SPE YP Mailing List and the Social Media Groups (LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook), and via the SPE YP London web page, which features regular updates to the 2011/12 SPE YP London Programme.

'The Unconventional Revolution: From an Emerging Resource to a Core Business' – Call for Abstracts

The London YP Committee is seeking abstracts in the following areas related to Unconventional Resource Development:

- Exploration and appraisal of unconventional reservoirs
- Development and production of unconventional oil and gas resources
- European unconventional oil and gas
- Unconventional reservoir technologies (steam-assisted gravity drainage, sweet spot identification, multilaterals/long horizontal wells, and stimulation techniques)
- Environmental impact
- New global unconventional plays
- Impact of unconventional reservoirs on the future of a Young Professional.

The event is scheduled for Wednesday 8 February 2012 at the Geological Society, Piccadilly, London, and you should be prepared to present your abstract in more detail on this date.

The deadline for submission is **Tuesday 14 October**. Email your abstract to: yplondon@spemail.org

Please note: the SPE YP London Committee is seeking abstracts from students, YPs and more experienced professionals.

The Committee is delighted to announce Oilfield Production Consultants (OPC) Ltd as an Early Event Sponsor for this event.

There are still sponsorship opportunities available for this event. Please write to: yplondon@spemail.org for more details.



SPE Young Professionals London Section presents

A November 2011 Technical Event on SCAL

In association with Weatherford

DATE & VENUE

Thursday 10th November 2010

Arrival: 9.30 am

Weatherford Laboratories, Unit 28, The Birches Industrial Estate, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 1XZ

AGENDA

Tour / Laboratory visit to the Weatherford Routine and Special Core Analysis Laboratories

TICKETS AND BOOKING

Details to be published – stay tuned!

MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.spe-uk.org/London

or email yplondon@spemail.org for more details

Fancy some fun and networking?

Aberdeen's Young Professionals and Another Perspective Committees are jointly organising a Bowling Night, open to all SPE members, non-members and students! Light snacks, a complimentary drink and bowling equipment will be provided, so all you need to bring is some excellent Team Spirit!!!

Whether you are a bowling superstar or just looking for a fun night out, join us for the SPE Bowling Night!

Date: Thursday 13th October 2011

Time: 6.30pm onwards

Venue: Codona's Sunset Boulevard, Beach Boulevard, Aberdeen AB24 5ED

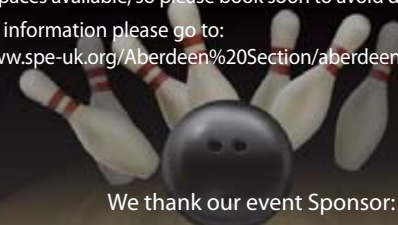
Cost: Only £5 per person or £30 for a team of 6

You can book online at <http://www.rodgerandco.com> or call Rodger and Co on 01224 495051

Limited spaces available, so please book soon to avoid disappointment

For more information please go to:

<http://www.spe-uk.org/Aberdeen%20Section/aberdeen-events.htm>



We thank our event Sponsor:



AN SPE ABERDEEN YP NETWORK SERIES INITIATIVE

Prestigious energy industry event returns

Offshore Achievement Awards 2012 are officially launched

SPE Aberdeen is to re-launch the Offshore Achievement Awards, with the support of main sponsor Taqa Bratani.

The Scottish Offshore Achievement Awards have a 25-year history of celebrating outstanding success in the oil and gas industry. Now, SPE Aberdeen is building upon the established high profile of the awards by re-launching the Offshore Achievement Awards (OAA).

These prestigious awards are open to entries from UK-registered companies and, reflecting the growing reach of the North Sea industry, the OAAs will be open to offshore renewables companies, as well as the traditional oil and gas players.

SPE Aberdeen Chairman Masud Javaid, of Total E&P UK, says: *"We are confident that the Offshore Achievement Awards will quickly be re-established as the premier forum to celebrate the very best of the whole of the offshore energy industry as it continues to evolve and develop to overcome the challenges of the future."*

"There has been a very positive reaction from the energy industry to the re-launch, with high levels of interest in sponsoring the various awards. We are delighted to welcome Taqa Bratani as the main sponsor and would like to thank them for their support."

As well as recognising exceptional business growth, the awards will focus on particular innovations, safety breakthroughs and collaborative efforts contributing to ensure the UK remains at the forefront of the international energy scene. Individual success will also be highlighted through the Rising Star and Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Leo Koot, Taqa Bratani Managing Director, says: *"The Offshore Achievement Awards are a fantastic opportunity to recognise and celebrate the successes of the companies, organisations and people who work so hard to ensure the energy sector continues to thrive on a global scale."*

OAA 2012 categories:

Export Achievement
Marine Renewable Energy
Safety Innovations
New Idea
The Innovator

Great Small Company
Great Large Company
Working Together
Young Professional
Lifetime Achievement



Left to right: Ian Phillips, Director of CO₂ Infrastructure and SPE's representative managing the OAAs; SPE Aberdeen Chairman Masud Javaid, of Total E&P UK, and Leo Koot, Taqa Bratani Managing Director, mark the relaunch of the Offshore Achievement Awards.

"Celebrating excellence and achievement plays a vital part in TAQA's own philosophy and therefore we are pleased to be supporting the re-launch of these important awards, highlighting the best in the industry."

The awards, previously organised by Scottish Enterprise, will open for entries in October, with judging taking place early in the New Year. The black tie awards ceremony will take place on Thursday, 15 March 2012, at the Ardoe House Hotel, Aberdeen.

For more information, please visit
www.spe-oaa.org



Offshore Europe 2011 hits new heights

SPE Aberdeen volunteers joined SPE International colleagues in greeting dozens of visitors to the global stand during the busiest-ever Offshore Europe exhibition and conference, in early September.

Record attendance at the three-day biennial show, in Aberdeen, set a new benchmark at the largest exhibition and conference in the event's history. The number of attendees rose to an all-time record of 32,025, compared to 30,698 attendees two years ago.

More than 1500 companies and international pavilions representing 20 countries participated in the extensive exhibition, which covered a net area of more than 25,000 square metres.

The free-to-attend technical conference focused on the theme 'Securing Safe, Smart, Sustainable Supply'. SPE Offshore Europe 2011 Chairman, Samir Brikho, who is also Chief Executive Officer of AMEC plc, said: *"The event was a great platform to discuss major issues and to spend quality time talking about where we*

are going and what the future will be. Based on what we discussed in the conference sessions, it is very clear that if we want to manage supply and demand, there is no room for complacency. We need to be much more down-to-earth in our thinking when considering what will be the best solutions and to continue to put safety at the top of our priorities."

He added that international operating companies clearly want to continue with their global investments and that the changing and expanding role of national oil companies in the international arena would be a major factor in the future. He also stressed the continued importance of achieving emissions reductions in the Upstream sector, and that the E&P industry is now working in an increasingly



diverse energy portfolio and in an increasingly complex supply chain, in cooperation with different nations.

Following the show, SPE President Alain Labastie commented: *"I was delighted to see the enthusiasm and vast attendance at SPE Offshore Europe 2011 and it was an honour to be involved. The very high levels of activity were encouraging to see, as the global attendees conducted business, networked and shared their ideas for the future of our industry."*



Stuart Girling
SPE London Chair

Get to know...



When and why did you join the oil and gas industry and what's been your career path to date?

SG : I started working in the industry after graduating in 1985. I wanted to work in oil and gas because I found it so fascinating and exciting – the science and technology and the exotic locations.

My career has been in oilfield services, with Dowell Schlumberger; as a Production Engineer, with Marathon Oil, and in petroleum engineering consultancy, with EGLS, Eclipse Petroleum Technology and in my new business, Girling & Company.

I have always been close to technical engineering work and the main progression in my career has been from an interest in engineering for its own sake to a desire to use it in a way that maximises the value of oil and gas fields for their owners – a path I continue to pursue and learn new things in.

MJ : Following in the footsteps of my late father, I joined the oil industry in 1997 and worked for Schlumberger as a Wireline Field Engineer for about four years in Oman and Egypt. In between the move from Oman to Egypt (during the 1999 downturn), I left the industry to work for Airbus UK, where I was involved in the A380 wing design. After completing an MSc in Petroleum Engineering, I worked for Baker Hughes as a Reservoir Engineer in Abu Dhabi, and since 2006, I have been working for Total in Aberdeen

Have you had any mentors during your career?

SG : I have had some excellent mentors who inspired me, helped me do a better job, and to understand how to achieve balance in what I did. Notably, Les Thomas and Sam Gomersall, at Marathon, were a great influence early in my career, when I was on a steep learning curve.

MJ : I have had numerous mentors during my career and have used them fairly regularly to give me advice on the various career moves I have made.



What does your current role involve? As a young professional, could you ever have foreseen yourself doing what you do now?

SG : Girling & Company is primarily a consultancy in well integrity management, helping oil companies understand the engineering, risk assessment and technology issues associated with keeping wells safely in service. As the principal of a young company I am involved in all aspects of the business – technical, business development and management in all its forms.

Early in my career I was focused on learning and being the best engineer I could be. I had not developed my thoughts about what path my later career would take.

MJ : I am currently working as a Senior Economist within the Strategy & Economics team. This was a role I had never envisaged myself doing as a young engineer, but as opportunities presented themselves I grasped them for the development of my career.



When and why did you join SPE? Has it lived up to your expectations?

SG : I became a member in 1989, when I joined Marathon. On the basis that I didn't know what the SPE was about when I joined, it has far exceeded my expectations.

The SPE has been great for me. It has provided an incredible resource for technical learning and an outlet to share some of my ideas with others and helped me hone them in so doing. It has also given me very valuable insight into the oil and gas industry from a different angle to my day to day work. In particular, my work with the London Section Board has provided opportunities to develop my skills, industry relationships and friendships outside my normal working circle.

MJ : I knew of SPE and its benefits from a very young age, as my father was a member. I joined the SPE while studying Petroleum Engineering at Imperial College, in 2003, and have been a member since. It has more than lived up to my expectations and I have made numerous friends, attended a number of technical conferences and presented two papers, all under the banner of the SPE. For a young engineer just starting a career in the oil industry, SPE membership is an extremely useful asset.

In Brief

Committee Chairs on Board

SPE Aberdeen Schools Career Guidance Chair, Colin Black, and Clara Altobell, SPE London Continuing Education Chair, have been invited to join the Board of SPE Europe.

As SPE Europe Board Trustees, Colin and Clara will safeguard the values and mission of the organisation.

A key programme supported by SPE Europe is the International Distinguished Lecturer Programme, and funds are also allocated

specifically for suitable projects within the region which, as trustees, they will oversee.

Clara has also been awarded an **SPE Regional Service Award 2011**, in recognition of her outstanding service to the North Sea Region.



... our new SPE London and Aberdeen Section Chairs.

Masud Javaid
SPE Aberdeen Chair



What can members expect from you as Section Chair?

SG : Focus on key objectives for the Section and making incremental improvements in a small number of areas.

I am keen that our strong programme of evening events and Continuing Education seminars continue with the same high quality, providing our members with excellent opportunities for knowledge development and professional networking. I hope we will also add a larger London Section conference next summer which will become an annual event.

In the student area, I want to build on recent success with the university Student Chapters and the London Section sponsors. I am also keen to explore what we can do to encourage more school children into engineering, and specifically petroleum engineering, for further study and a career. I also want to bring our very successful YP group closer to the main Section Board to share ideas and learn from one another.

Having a successful and financially healthy communications effort and sponsorship programme are key elements that support our main objectives. We made major advances in these areas last year and we will continue to work hard on them.

MJ : I will ensure that we continue to give an exciting array of technical presentations and networking opportunities for our members. However, my main focus this year will be to promote 'Energy' careers in local Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire schools, to attract fresh talent into this exciting and dynamic industry.

How do you choose to switch off from work?

SG : Simply by spending time with family and friends.

MJ : I play squash during my lunch breaks and in the evening. For me, the best way of switching off from work and getting the day's frustration out is by repeatedly pounding a rubber ball against a wall.



Which three words do you think best describe you?

SG : Father, husband, builder.

MJ : Team player, dependable and organised.

Any life-changing moments you'd like to share?

SG : Apart from the obvious ones of one wedding, two births and a death, there is one event that comes to mind:

On 23 December 1998, I was 24 years old and working as the Cementer on Britoil's Clyde platform in the North Sea. This was the year of terrible accidents on Piper Alpha and the Ocean Odyssey and two days after the Lockerbie bombing. That evening, the Fulmar FSU broke its mooring in a heavy sea and drifted towards Clyde. It seemed that abandoning the platform in a Force 11 gale was likely. In the event, it didn't happen, due to good fortune and a cool-headed OIM. This experience made me, as a young man, think differently about my own invincibility and my place in the world.

MJ : Getting married and the birth of my daughter have been the best moments of my life, followed by watching Pakistan lift the Twenty20 Cricket World Cup in 2009.

Who (from history or the world today) inspires you most and why?

SG : It is really tough to name just one individual. I am inspired by those who achieve extraordinary things through the application of their skills and sheer tenacity, and by those who lead with clear vision where others cannot see – or are afraid to take – the path forward.

There are great examples in science, history, business, professional sport and politics. Examples that come to mind are: Isaac Newton and every astronaut and cosmonaut in the 1960s and 70s; Winston Churchill; John D. Rockefeller; Jack Welch, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs; Ayrton Senna, John McEnroe and Tiger Woods, and every UK prime minister and US president that I can remember, regardless of their politics or style, or how sticky the end of their tenure – they have all inspired me by their drive and desire to do the best job they can.

MJ : Nelson Mandela is an extremely inspirational person and his ethos, patience and leadership during the apartheid is an example for all to follow.

What would you like to be doing in 10 years' time?

SG : Still building (and married and a father and perhaps even a grandfather).

MJ : I would like to be in a senior management position, still with an oil producer, and driving around in an Aston Martin.

Thanks from Therapet!

Following receipt of a charitable donation from SPE Aberdeen last year, Canine Concern Scotland Trust, which manages the Therapet service, has produced a colourful new leaflet to promote Therapet's work in hospitals and care and nursing homes, as well as with children with learning difficulties and people with dog phobias.

The leaflet, which carries an acknowledgement to SPE Aberdeen, highlights case studies in which people talk about the therapeutic power of pets in helping them overcome their physical and psychological challenges.



17th SPE ICoTA European Well Intervention Conference – Ensuring a North Sea future through well intervention

15-16 November 2011, Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre (AECC)

The SPE ICoTA European Well Intervention Round Table is Europe's premier forum for exchange and discussion of the latest developments in completion and well intervention techniques.

This year's programme, led by Committee Chairman Callum Munro, of BP, encompasses the full range of well intervention practices including coiled tubing, slick-line, e-line and hydraulic workover, as well as specialist tools and solutions.

The two-day conference will be launched by Keynote Speaker Stuart Brown, Global Well Intervention Theme Lead with Shell. The accompanying sellout exhibition will showcase a range of specialist leading-edge well intervention technologies and services.

A pre-conference short course, on 14 November, will focus on **'Unconventional Reservoirs – shale gas and coal bed methane, heavy oil, HP-HT, advanced well construction and stimulation'**, providing an introduction to a series of topics related to modern reservoir development and at the forefront of technology for many leading operating and well services companies. The course is targeted at engineers and technical support staff wishing to broaden their knowledge and take advantage of the unusual opportunities that become available in a high oil price environment.

Delegate bookings - Early Bird discount of £50 for online bookings until 18 October. For more details contact event organisers Rodger and Co: spe@rodgerandco.com, tel: +44 (0) 1224 495051, or visit: www.rodgerandco.com.

EuALF 2012 European Artificial Lift Forum

22-23 February 2012, Aberdeen

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.

Please contact the event organisers to reserve an exhibition stand or sponsorship. Contact details as above.

SPE SMN 5th European Sand Management Forum

21-22 March 2012, Aberdeen

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 for details.

Please contact the event organisers to reserve an exhibition stand or sponsorship. Contact details as above.



Women in STEM You vs the Oil & Gas Industry

Hosted by: University of Aberdeen SPE student chapter



Panellist section presented by
Another Perspective
a subcommittee of SPE Aberdeen branch

Confirmed Speakers:

Leigh-Ann Russell (BP)
Katy Heidenreich (Schlumberger)
Alessandra D'Alessandria (Talisman)

Date: 27th October 2011

Time: 18:00 for 18:30

Venue: University of Aberdeen

To book, visit www.rodgerandco.com

This is a free event intended for students in all levels of degree. Refreshments provided.

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

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Buzzard Lead Reservoir Engineer (ref 3871)

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As the second largest oil producer in the UK North Sea, our UKCS portfolio of assets includes the highly successful Buzzard field as well as Ettrick, Scott/Telford, and our exciting discovery Golden Eagle. After Buzzard, this is the largest oil find in the North Sea in the last decade. Together these emphasise our commitment to investment, growth and a positive future.

In this key role, you will lead the reservoir engineering activity for the Buzzard asset. This will involve providing support for all reservoir engineering aspects including, but not limited to, simulation model build, well test analysis, forecasting, reservoir management, well planning and fluid analysis.

Buzzard has now been producing for 5 years and has produced over a quarter of a billion barrels of oil. The field is still on plateau and is still drilling production wells.

Reporting to the Buzzard Subsurface team leader, you will manage a small team to produce results through effective supervision and coaching. You will manage all resources within your control in order to deliver financially controlled and budgeted outputs. You will be responsible for the technical quality of the work of your team, but will also be expected to be a "hands-on" reservoir engineer.

Developing and inspiring your team with innovation, your leadership abilities will enable you to collaborate effectively, to build networks, share knowledge and participate in joint problem solving activities.

Preferably educated to Master's degree level in a relevant discipline with affiliation to a relevant professional body. You will have demonstrable experience both in the North Sea and working for an Operator.

Join Nexen and grow with us

Nexen is recognised as one of the world's best employers. Our commitment to professional development, diversity and integrity provides a stable working environment. We provide generous relocation support and a remuneration package designed to attract and keep the very best, with flexible benefits to encourage a healthy work/life balance.

If you're seeking a new challenge and are interested in applying, please go to www.nexeninc.com/career

BRING YOUR ENERGY

Closing date for applications is 18th October 2011



Senior Geoscientists, Reservoir and Petroleum Engineers

Competitive Remuneration Packages
Based in London / Aberdeen

3rd Energy is a private company that is backed by Barclays Natural Resource Investments (see www.bnri.com). The company is focused on developing and operating gas assets in the UK primarily in the Southern North Sea, Central North Sea and associated onshore areas. 3rd Energy recently acquired 4 producing fields, 2 undeveloped fields and 2 exploration licences onshore with proven reserves in the Zechstein, Rotliegendes and Carboniferous. The company operates these fields, infrastructure, the associated gas plant and electric power station. Additional acquisition opportunities are being actively pursued which will result in even wider portfolio of assets.

The company has an administrative and field development office in Aberdeen, a site office in Yorkshire and is establishing an exploration and business development office in London. There is a requirement for personnel for a number of technical positions, including senior geologists and senior geophysicists, based in the London office led by director Grant Emms, and reservoir and petroleum engineers, based in Aberdeen led by director Jeb Tyrie, to join the team and participate in the growth of the company.

The successful candidates will have:

- A degree in geoscience or engineering, preferably with a Masters
- 10 to 15 years of experience, a significant portion with an operator, or 3 to 5 years experience for team support positions
- Experience in North Sea basins
- Demonstrable technical knowledge and experience in project evaluations and prospect generation
- Exploration and development experience with exposure to business development and licensing rounds

These positions would suit flexible, motivated self-starters capable of working in a small but dynamic team environment in a variety of challenging roles, who want to be part of a fast growing company.

Please send your CV to Sonya Winters, sonya@3rdenergy.co.uk.

SPE London Section Presents

Regional Focus on the New Iraq

Thursday 27th October 2011

Geological Society, Piccadilly, London 9.30 – 5.30

Schlumberger**AGENDA**

| SPEAKER NAME | SPEAKER JOB TITLE | COMPANY | PRESENTATION |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| Ivan Djokic | Principal Technical Consultant | Bayphase | The Iraq Fourth Licensing Round - How to apply and what's on offer |
| David Horgan | Managing Director | Petrel Resources | The operational reality of an independent oil company's experience in Iraq |
| Nicholas de Verteuil | Senior Advisor Geology | Dynamic Global Advisors | An overview of the geology of the region of Kurdistan |
| John Stafford | Manager, Geology & Geophysics | Gulf Keystone | Experience of operating in the region and the future outlook |
| Lunch | | | |
| Iain Wright | Group Technical Director | Afren | Afren's entry into the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Great geology, materiality and line of sight to significant production |
| Shahin Amini | Oil and Gas Analyst | Fox Davies Capital | The New Iraq from a venture capital viewpoint |
| Ramin Lakani | General Manager | Gaffney Cline | Gas business in Iraq: from production to utilisation and potential for export |
| Billy Dean Gibson | Vice President and General Manager - Iraq | Schlumberger | Security - How to stay safe and protect your people and your investment |

Networking DrinksBooking via www.katemcmillan.co.uk or email katespe@aol.com

Introduction and global context
 Petroleum geology, geophysics and petrophysics
 Reservoir engineering
 Drilling and completions
 Environmental impact
 Surface facilities
 Production engineering
 Petroleum economics

SPE London Section Continuing Education Seminar

INTRODUCTION TO EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION



Thursday 17 November, 9.00am to 5.00pm
 Geological Society, Piccadilly, London W1

This seminar is aimed at people working in an E&P environment, who are new to the industry and/or would benefit from a basic understanding of exploration and production processes and the key elements that make up oil and gas projects.

Attendees will see a series of presentations by industry and academic specialists covering key petroleum geoscience and engineering disciplines. Presentations will be at a basic level and attendees will develop a good overall view across all key upstream disciplines.

SPE members are encouraged to invite support staff from their organisations as a means of raising their general awareness of the industry. The seminar is suitable for people in, for example, technical, financial, human resources and administration functions.

Tickets: £210 for members, £240 for non-members (incl VAT & lunch).
 10% discount for bookings of 5 or more from one company

Booking: Secure advance booking at www.katemcmillan.co.uk or contact Kate McMillan on telephone 07736 070066 or email katespe@aol.com – Early booking is strongly advised



Looking further ahead...

Building on the ongoing success of its flagship annual events, SPE London's Continuing Education Committee has lined up a busy programme 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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

LONDON

- **25 October (5pm-9pm)** (Before dinner): **'Field Development Plans optimisation by modelling and history matching of a naturally fractured reservoir – UK onshore oil field case study'**, Dr Manijeh Bozorgzadeh (RPS Energy); **'Asset Management Optimisation using model-based decision support'**, Francesco Verre (Nigerian Agip Oil Company)
(After dinner): **'Shale Gas Experience from a Global Gas Company Perspective'**, Alex Gabb (BG Group)
- **27 October:** Regional Focus on the New Iraq
- **17 November:** Introduction to E&P
- **8 February 2012:** London YP Technical Meeting: **'The Unconventional revolution: from an emerging resource to a core business'**
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS – deadline 14 October (see page 4)
VENUE FOR ABOVE EVENTS: Geological Society, Piccadilly, London
- **10 November:** SPE YP London Technical Event on **'SCAL'**
VENUE: 9.30am Weatherford Laboratories, Unit 28, The Birches Industrial Estate, East Grinstead, West Sussex

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 TKuiper@chevron.com

ABERDEEN

- **13 October: SPE Aberdeen YP/AP Bowling Night**
VENUE: 6pm Codona's Sunset Boulevard, Beach Boulevard, Aberdeen
- **26 October: SPE Aberdeen International Year of Chemistry celebration: 'Hydrate Mitigation';** Bahman Tohidi (Heriot-Watt University); **'The Use of Chemicals in the Oilfield';** Jonathan Wylde (Clariant Oil Services)
VENUE: 6.30pm Douglas Hotel, Market Street, Aberdeen
- **27 October: Women in STEM** (Another Perspective event)
VENUE: 6pm University of Aberdeen
- **15-16 November: 17th SPE ICoTA European Well Intervention Conference – 'Ensuring a North Sea future through well intervention'**
- **22-23 February 2012: SPE European Artificial Lift Forum – EuALF 2012**
- **21-22 March 2012: SPE SMN 5th European Sand Management Forum**
VENUE FOR ABOVE EVENTS: Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre

EDINBURGH

- **9 November: 'Production optimisation: how can we get more oil?'**
Sandy Williams (ALP Limited)
VENUE: Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton

For details of all SPE Aberdeen and Edinburgh events, please visit:
www.spe-uk.org 'Aberdeen Events' or contact Rodger and Co
 (see page 8)

SPE EUROPE REGIONAL EVENTS

- **18-20 October: Arctic and Extreme Environments** (Conference – www.arcticoilgas.com), Moscow
- **5-7 December: The New Frontier – Brownfield Opportunities** (Workshop – www.spe.org/events/11alon), London

SIGN UP TO PAY YOUR SPE MEMBERSHIP DUES BY DIRECT DEBIT!

Deadline to enrol: 4 November 2011

This new SPE worldwide initiative is designed to greatly simplify membership renewal. Signing up to the SPE direct debit scheme will mean your membership will not lapse and therefore you will not lose your membership benefits, such as reduced rates for SPE events, books and subscriptions.

The first payment will be taken on **1 December 2011**; thereafter, payments will be taken from your account annually. Once you have signed up for a direct debit, SPE will not post or email you a renewal notice, except for a once-a-year confirmation of the payment amount. If you are a UK taxpayer, please also use Gift Aid to make your membership dues go even further. For every pound you pay, SPE will receive an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. Simply visit www.spe.org/go/debit.

If you have any queries, please contact Kamilla Whatling, Membership Services Coordinator, on tel: +44 (0)207 299 3300; kwhatling@spe.org.

SPE is fast approaching 100,000 members! To celebrate this, the 100,000th member will be featured in the Society's global *Journal of Petroleum Technology* magazine.

SPE CONSULTANTS LISTING

David Aron – Development studies, negotiations, evaluations, expert witness
• tel: 020 8347 3498 • fax: 020 8347 3499 • email: davidaron@pdc.uk.com
• Petroleum Development Consultants Ltd, Stanhope House, 4 – 8 Highgate High
Street, London N6 5JL • www.pdc.uk.com

Maurice Cotterill – CEng, FIMMM – exHPHT expertise, well design, advanced casing/tubing analysis, studies/reviews • email: maurice.cotterill@sede.co.uk

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• email: post@rogergrice.co.uk • www.rogergrice.co.uk

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DEVEX2012

9th European Production and Development Conference Creativity and Innovation in Field Exploitation

DEVEX 2012 is a joint PESGB, SPE, AFES, DECC conference

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre - Wednesday 9th & Thursday 10th May 2012

The DEVEX conference showcases subsurface and well technologies, case studies and best practices for oil and gas industry professionals.

Submissions are encouraged for creative and innovative solutions that are relevant to development and production.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words for oral presentations (20 minutes duration) and / or posters are invited.

There is no requirement to produce a post-conference written paper but, with approval from the authors, the presentations will be made available on the DEVEX website.

Broad themes are suggested below but submissions on any field development topic are welcome.

Technological Innovations:

Application to field exploitation.

Marginal Fields and Satellite Developments:

Innovations that make the difference.

Exploiting Novel Geological Plays:

From the creative geological model to production.

HPHT Development:

Challenges & solutions for geologists, drillers and engineers.

Non-Conventional Hydrocarbons:

Non-conventional solutions for creating resources.

Field Exploitation R&D:

The latest industry and academic research.

Field Case Studies:

Past learning and future challenges.

Non North Sea Developments:

Lessons from the rest of the world.

Mature Fields:

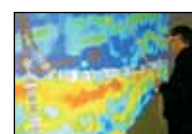
New methods reinvigorating old assets.

Maximising Well Productivity:

Theoretical & technological advancements.

Cross Discipline Solutions:

Examples of successful collaboration.



Deadline for submission: Friday 20th January 2012



DEVEX2012

Submit abstracts online: www.DEVEX-Conference.org
Any queries on submissions contact:
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Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB23 8BL
Tel: +44 (0) 1224 330 407 e-mail: devex@aecc.co.uk