

SPE review

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of the Society of Petroleum Engineers

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Society of Petroleum Engineers
Aberdeen and London Sections

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ROB SHARES TAQA'S TAKE ON TAX 'WIN-WIN' SCENARIOS

Rob Kuyper with TAQA colleagues Jill Thompson, Asset Development Manager (left) and Emma Lees, Geologist

"Please try to stay awake during the tax part - I think you might, in fact, find it interesting," was TAQA Development Manager Rob Kuyper's jovial comment to his SPE Aberdeen audience at the outset of his presentation, **'Cormorant East, UKCS record for oil field development: 85 days from discovery to first oil'**. It was good advice, as it soon became clear that an innovative approach to taxation, involving close working between the operator, its partners and DECC, turned out to be one of the key enablers to the new North Sea field's rapid development.

First, however, Rob introduced the Contender prospect (now known as the Cormorant East field), whose location, in block 211/22a, lies just outside TAQA's own North Cormorant equity block, 211/21a. He explained that the prospect was too small to justify development in its own right by the original Contender partners. Given the proximity of the North Cormorant infrastructure, a 'win-win' development solution to this initial challenge was devised between TAQA and the Contender partners, whereby TAQA would drill a long-reach well from North Cormorant.

(cont'd on page 4)

Offshore Achievement Awards 2013

As **SPE Review** went to print, the winners of SPE Aberdeen's Offshore Achievement Awards 2013 were being announced. **Full report and photographs in next month's issue.**

A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE FLUID ANALYSIS IN ACTION

By SPE YP London Committee members Nurzhan Kairbayev, Senergy, and Tope Ajetunmobi, Kappa Engineering

SPE London YP Committee continued its culture of promoting professional development and continuous learning with another insightful visit to the Expro Fluid Analysis Centre, Reading, in February.

On arrival at the centre, the group of young professionals, students and university staff, led by Artem Kotenev from the SPE YP London Committee, was warmly welcomed by Laboratory Manager Keith Sawdon. After a quick introduction to laboratory staff and safety procedures, the attendees were divided into two groups. The first began with a tour of the Analytical Facilities, Metrology, Reservoir Fluid Analysis and Sulphur Speciation Unit, while the second group was introduced to Black Oil PVT Analysis, Condensate PVT Analysis and Enhanced Oil Recovery facilities. The laboratory tours were led by senior supervisors Sue Pearson and Neil Winkworth.

(cont'd on page 3)



**SPE YP London launches new
prize technical crossword - page 6**

SPE review

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), a not-for-profit professional association of 104,000+ members from more than 123 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 5,000 UK SPE members, and quarterly to an additional 7,000+ 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: Mohammad Khan, Abhimanyoo Kohok, Gbenga Oluyemi, Wonuola Scott

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

The copy deadline for the May 2013 issue is **15 April 2013**, with publication scheduled for **1 May 2013**.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you need to change any of your membership details, please visit the **Update your profile** link at the foot of the homepage at www.spe.org.

SPE LONDON NEW WEBSITE

Visit SPE London's new website, developed using the SPE International template, at: <http://london.spe.org> or <http://connect.spe.org/london>.

There is also a link to the site from the current SPE UK and SPE London Conference websites (www.spe-uk.org; www.spelondonconference.com).

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SPE PEOPLE



A Fresh Perspective



A Fresh Perspective is led by SPE Aberdeen's Another Perspective gender diversity group and shares inspirational career stories from women in the UK oil and gas industry.

Name:	Maria Isabel Trujillo Vergara
Qualifications:	Msc Energy Engineering - Polytechnic of Turin Bsc Petroleum Engineering - Central University of Venezuela
Employer:	ConocoPhillips

SPE role: co-founder and outgoing Chair of SPE Aberdeen's Another Perspective Committee

Why did you choose engineering as a career?

At school I was particularly interested in science and mathematics - probably motivated by the fact that my mother was an engineer and a very good tutor and role model. Also, I have always been amazed by how technology continuously evolves and how we, as professionals, need to keep-up-to date with our knowledge and procedures, which makes such a career challenging and rewarding.

Have you always been interested in the oil and gas industry? What's the attraction?

A defining moment that made me choose petroleum engineering as a career was my grade 8 Earth Sciences project to build a derrick: my father helped me design a mechanism to pump oil (black water) to the surface. Also, coming from Venezuela - one of the world's biggest oil producers, where the energy industry is at the heart of economic activity - I was always very well-informed about the industry and the career opportunities it could give me.

Tell us about your current role

As a Reservoir Engineer for ConocoPhillips' Southern North Sea business unit, my role is to bring new opportunities to the business portfolio and to make sure we deliver our target base production. I work with a multi-discipline and strong technical team, from which I am learning every day.

What has your employer/SPE given you and what do you think you can give back?

My employer has supported me in: delivering my projects and gaining exposure to different areas of the business; completing my current studies in Msc Petroleum Engineering at Heriot-Watt University, and taking forward two SPE projects: 'The Energy Apprentice' and 'The leadership journey: unleashing the potential of your career' Seminar (see page 6). Thanks to this, my technical skills are developing and I believe I am becoming an engineer who can deliver good opportunities to the business and help the company grow organically. Also, I have raised the company's profile through my involvement in SPE activities and in delivering technical presentations at Robert Gordon and Aberdeen Universities.

What are your thoughts on working in a male-dominated industry?

I think you need to be yourself, trust in your abilities, be focused on delivering a high-quality job, be open to constructive criticism and work well as part of a team. The energy sector is male-dominated simply because a career in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) has not traditionally been a woman's first option and therefore at the time of recruiting, the male population tends to be larger and more likely to get a job in this field.

What's your advice to young professionals?

- Find a mentor in your own organisation or in SPE
- With their help, create a clear and flexible plan, so that you know where you want to go and what to do to get there
- Attend events that help you network and develop professionally
- Be focused in delivering your projects on time and to high standards
- Be smart in managing your time: always find time for your personal growth, which will help you to relax and stay focused.

Edinburgh

A **'Sand Special Night'** featuring two expert presentations, is the format for the SPE evening meeting in Edinburgh, on **Tuesday 9 April** (6.30-8.30pm), at **Innovative Engineering Systems (IESL), 23/2 Mitchell Street, Edinburgh EH6 7BD**.

'Best practices in sand control completions' start from understanding the rock mechanics, all the way through to starting up first production. Many of these are illustrated in this presentation, by **Ian Wattie**, of **Yala Peak Limited**, which gives examples from a recent development which he supported from defining the laboratory testing to guiding the offshore completion and clean-up operations.

Ian, a Chartered Engineer, has worked for over 35 years in the offshore oil and gas production industry. He has completed assignments in well completions, projects, production, reservoir and development engineering in the UK, Dubai, Vietnam and Norway. Leadership roles have included engineering, onshore support for operations and maintenance, technology development, health and safety legislation, and well teams. He is presently a Well Completion Consulting Engineer at Yala Peak Limited, having retired from ConocoPhillips in 2010.

Chris Reed, of **Senergy**, will present **'Non-destructive strength index testing applications for sand failure evaluation'**. Definitive rock strength data for sand failure evaluation are normally only available from tests on core plugs, but plug coverage is limited and core condition and geometry may preclude taking plugs for conventional strength tests. This brief presentation will demonstrate a non-destructive core strength index tester that is portable, easy to use and cost effective.

Chris, a Petrophysicist and geomechanics specialist within Senergy's Formation Integrity team, has a BEng in Chemical Engineering and four years' industry experience. He has worked on numerous geomechanical aspects of fields located in the UK, Norway, Africa, Middle East and Western Australia, and has experience in in geomechanical modelling, wellbore stability, sand failure, and particle size analysis for sand control selection.

Aberdeen

Colin Smith, of **Maxoil Solutions Ltd**, will present **'Integration of flow assurance & production chemistry benefits all: fact or fiction?'** at the SPE Aberdeen evening meeting, on **24 April (6.30-8.30pm)**, at the **Douglas Hotel**.

The talk will explore the relationship between the two technical disciplines of production chemistry and flow assurance engineering and how their integration can benefit development projects that are between the stages of Concept Select and Define (FEED). This will be illustrated by using actual project examples of how such integration can be used to successfully tackle the various flow assurance challenges by fit for purpose system design, by early preparation of correct operational practices and by suitably designed chemical management systems.

Colin, a Senior Process Chemistry Consultant, has 25 years' experience in the oil and gas industry, encompassing many aspects of production chemistry management within field operations. He initially worked in the scale, wax, hydrates and asphaltene laboratories of the BP Research Centre, Sunbury, followed by on-site and desktop technical troubleshooting at various oilfield consultancies up to the present time, with Maxoil. Colin has been embedded within development project design teams and travelled extensively, solving flow assurance problems for over 50 operating companies globally.

Bookings for Edinburgh and Aberdeen meetings:
www.rodgerandco.com; tel: 01224 495051; spe@rodgerandco.com
Further information at: www.spe-uk.org

London

On **30 April**, at the **Geological Society, Piccadilly**, **Mike Benefiel**, of **Chevron**, will deliver the SPE London evening meeting pre-dinner presentation, on **'Decision Risk Analysis'**.

Following the networking buffet, **Jean-Valery Garcia**, of **Kirk Petrophysics**, will present **'Heavy oil: identification and exploitation'**, introducing a core analytical technique developed as a rapid and economical oil recovery tool. The innovative automated multi-sample solvent extraction technique is capable of quantifying and isolating petroleum products from any core sample. Kirk's study demonstrated a time saving of more than 10 times that of the Dean Stark, more accurate than the Centrifuge, less work than the Distillation and less costly than the HNMR, with the possibility of recovering the eluted oil.

Kirk Petrophysics, a member of Reservoir Group, specialises in wellsite core handling and analytical services and storage, with a state-of-the-art Core Centre in Guildford. A leader in the core handling market, the company has gained further momentum in core analysis and extended its range of services to offer a complete formation evaluation solution from rig to rack.

Jean-Valery (JV) has a degree in Physical Measurement and has been working in the oil and gas industry since 1998, with a focus on coring. Since joining Kirk Petrophysics in 2003, JV has been growing with the company and has been involved in its development from a single service offering at the wellsite on core stabilisation, to the full range of wellsite and advanced laboratory services.

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 26 April (£19 after).

A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE FLUID ANALYSIS IN ACTION (continued from page 1)

Afterwards, the attendees were taken to the Crowne Plaza Hotel, where Keith, Sue and Neil delivered enlightening presentations on the 'The value of fluids data routine report QA checks', which covered topics such as fluid variation across the field, fluid property data, and miscibility and swelling studies for EOR. This was followed by a Q&A session.

The YP Committee received a lot of positive feedback following the event and, on behalf of all who participated, we would like to thank Keith, Sue and Neil and all of the Expro Laboratory staff for organising this interesting and very educational event!

"It was very interesting to know the uncertainties involved in fluid PVT measurements used for well test interpretation and reservoir characterisation". Tope Ajentunmobi

"We in SPE Salford Chapter really commend the SPE YP London Committee for organising such a marvellous trip and hope that more of these will be organised in the near future". Muhammed Salihu, Salford University Student



Different types of oil analysed in the laboratory



Inspirational seminar explores leadership differences

An 'up close and personal' exploration of leadership and its myriad forms and challenges proved an inspirational experience for the 87 oil and gas professionals who attended a one-day seminar organised

by SPE Aberdeen's Another Perspective (AP) Committee, in association with the Energy Institute.

'The leadership journey: unleashing the potential in your career' - an interactive career development event celebrating diversity and inclusion within the leadership context - was held at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre, on 6 March.

The packed programme featured panel interviews, presentations and a world café workshop session, providing a variety of personal perspectives on leadership from senior management, academia and overseas, as well as discussions on cultural issues, good communication and achieving success against the odds.

"The seminar was all about how to become a better leader and we discussed lots of examples of good leadership and not-so-good leadership," says outgoing AP Chair Maria Trujillo. "We also wanted to highlight and recognise the differences in leadership styles, including gender differences. Our third objective was to provide a networking opportunity, and people really made the effort to get to know new faces and exchange ideas. While there is always room for improvement, the excellent feedback told us that it was a very successful event, and I very much hope that Another Perspective and the Energy Institute can make this kind of seminar a regular feature in the oil and gas calendar."

"The Energy Institute was delighted to team up again with the SPE to host what proved to be another very successful event, with some really interesting and diverse speakers. There was plenty of buzz and atmosphere, with some differing points of view and dialogue. All told, it was a very thought-provoking day."

Nigel Bradburn, Vice Chair, Membership & Professional Development Co-ordinator, Energy Institute, Aberdeen Highlands and Islands



"The seminar covered a topic very dear to me: leadership and potential. We can all become leaders if we know what the pre-requisites of a true leader are: what empowers and what weakens a leader. The event was inspirational - I met some amazing professionals and heard a series of heart-breaking though inspiring stories which proved the speakers had succeeded in the leadership journey, defying the principles of 'human logic'. The gender barriers still prevalent in many parts of the world seemed to lose their strength here and I was happy to see that leadership was no longer assigned to one gender or another. It is a special quality which we are either born with or which we refine in time." **Ella Minty, Communication & Cultural Diversity Expert**

"The panel sessions and café concept workshops added delegate participation to create a dynamic aspect to the event. The whole day motivated me to have bigger career aspirations and provided helpful advice to enable me to achieve this. It would have been good to have had more time to network during breaks, however due to the packed agenda of interesting topics, the time available for networking was minimised. I hope that this event is continued in future as I would definitely attend the next one." **Lisa Mott, Chevron, AP Committee Member**



"To be asked to speak at the SPE event was indeed a real privilege. It is vital that business leaders play a part in helping young people in their chosen career path. My presentation, 'Success at all Costs', included 'the good, the bad and the ugly', as people often forget there's a lot of hard work involved in running a business in the oil and gas sector, particularly if you're a female trying to penetrate the different disciplines and domains and juggle family life. The challenge for me was not only the O&G sector but also working in the male-dominated technology sector! I've received some really nice emails and thank-you cards saying how much motivation and encouragement people took from the fact that I'd spoken from the heart and some of my male colleagues in the audience told me that they hadn't realised my career path had been quite so tough. I was once told to measure your success by what you had to give up in order to achieve it; my reply to that is: I am still giving." **Jeanette Forbes, CEO, PCL Group**

ROB SHARES TAQA'S TAKE ON TAX 'WIN-WIN' SCENARIOS

(continued from front page)

After explaining that his talk would focus on the fiscal and commercial elements of field development, rather than the technical, Rob presented his promised 'tax intermezzo' (see table opposite) to a very wide-awake audience. The second challenge of high expense involved in drilling the long-reach Contender well was overcome by extending the North Cormorant field boundary to include Contender, thereby qualifying TAQA to obtain PRT relief on drilling the Contender well. Without this type of tax relief, Rob said, Contender exploration would not have been economically attractive.

The third challenge was another case of economics: with Contender's small volume and chance of success at less than 50%, development would remain unattractive if the discovered oil volumes would remain within the PRT-paying area of the North Cormorant field. The solution was to carve out the discovered new field using 'redetermination of oil field boundaries on economic grounds', which delivered exemption from PRT and qualification for a Small Field Allowance.

Rob stressed that DECC's valuable support in these areas and the agency's early involvement in the review of the Field Development Plan before discovery, were pivotal in securing commercial viability for Contender drilling and Cormorant East development.

"It was a 'win-win' situation - all parties benefited from working the challenges together, as non-development would have meant no tax revenue for the Government," he said.

Turning to the timeline, Rob explained some of the factors in achieving the UKCS record-breaking 85 days between discovery and new field production (17 October 2012 to 10 January 2013). The clear key message was 'preparation, preparation', with all paperwork and the FDP and Field Determinations worked, and all development equipment ordered, well in advance of well spud (September 2012). He pointed out that in the event of failure, all the pre-ordered equipment would have been re-usable in other parts of the TAQA portfolio.

After outlining the well results, Cormorant East's current status (the start-up rate was around 5,000 bpd) and TAQA's plans for further development in the field, Rob concluded with a reminder of the three key takeaways from his talk: *"Plan for development while exploring; know the tax options available to make marginal developments commercial, and remember that most of the time there are 'win-win' scenarios out there!"*

'Tax intermezzo'

Corporation tax on profits: 62% TAX

- 30% Corporation Tax (CT)
- 32% Supplementary Charge (SCT)

Can be reduced by allowances: Small Field Allowance (SFA), Brownfield Allowance* (BFA)

Petroleum Revenue Tax (PRT)

- Additional 50% tax on remaining profit on top of CT
- Field-based tax, for fields with development consent pre-16 March 1993 (North Cormorant is a PRT-paying field)
- Effective tax rate with CT+SCT+PRT: 81% TAX

Options to help economically marginal developments such as Contender

Option 1: Small Field Allowance

- For new fields with FDP reserves below approx 40-50mstb oil
- Up to £150m allowance on SCT (so 32% x £150m = £48m less tax), to be earned through production revenue

Option 2: 'Redetermination of oil field boundaries on economic grounds'

- Carve-out part of a PRT-paying field, if development is commercially difficult
- Allows an unexploited part of a previously determined PRT-liable field to be a new, separate field

*Brownfield Allowance was introduced 7 September 2012

<https://www.gov.uk/oil-and-gas-taxation>

You can download a copy of Rob's presentation from the Aberdeen Events Past Presentations section at: www.spe-uk.org

SPE Aberdeen's monthly meetings programme is kindly sponsored by Archer and Shell.

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TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Overcoming the challenges of subsea production



In March, Sacha Sarshar, Chief Technology Officer at Caltec Ltd, made a welcome return to the SPE London podium, with a pre-dinner presentation on **'Subsea production and flow assurance'**.

Sacha began by highlighting the challenges operators face along the flow paths of produced fluids, from the reservoir to the topside facilities. Focusing separately on the reservoir, well bore, subsea pipelines and risers, he listed the individual challenges to achieving satisfactory flow assurance associated with each. These included coping with pressure loss along the flow path, production of 'nasties', including water, CO₂, H₂S, wax and asphaltene, and hydrate formation issues.

Sacha gave a number of examples where transportation of produced fluids over long distances requires some form of a subsea boosting system, if total recovery from the field is to be achieved at above 30% of recoverable reserves. In fact, he said, with the available technology, a higher rate of recovery reaching 70% could be possible and is the ambitious target for many operating companies. The boosting systems become an essential aid as the reservoir pressure drops.

Sacha listed various options for boosting the pressure of the produced fluids. They included the use of subsea jet pumps, subsea multiphase pumps, subsea separation of gas and liquids, and boosting only the pressure of the produced liquid phase by single phase pumps. There are also further ambitious solutions involving the separation of produced water subsea and pumping it back to the reservoir. This would reduce the pressure loss along pipelines and would minimise the facilities needed on platforms.

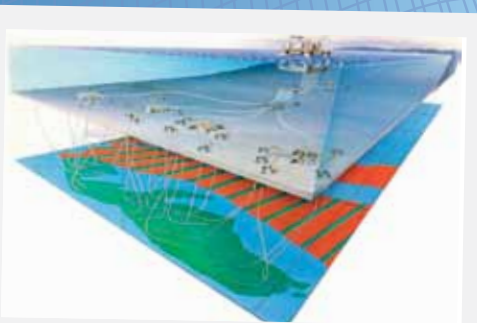
He listed a number of cases where subsea multiphase pumps have been used. Subsea separation has had mixed fortunes: while there have been

several cases of developing and testing subsea separators of all shapes and forms since 1970s, the operators have shied away from using compact separators and, in the few cases where subsea separation has been used, bulky gravity separators have been selected.

Sacha discussed the track records of subsea systems and solutions used worldwide by major operators such as Statoil, Petrobras, Total, Shell and BP. He said that what is required is to improve the reliability of all equipment used subsea to a much higher level than that which is acceptable for onshore or offshore platforms. This means improving the guaranteed mean time before failure (MTBF) to at least eight to 10 years for items of equipment that are key elements of the subsea production system and whose failure results in the high cost of retrieval and restricted or no production.

He concluded by highlighting the need for standardisation to minimise the cost of equipment common to most subsea systems, such as valves, instruments and connectors. He also emphasised the need for further universal standards for qualifying equipment for subsea and for improving their safety from an environmental perspective.

A typical subsea production system



A report on Will Holland's March after-dinner presentation - 'Attracting finance - traps for old, and young players', will feature in next month's issue.

Both presentations can be downloaded from the new SPE London website at: <http://london.spe.org/Resources/Downloads>

SPE YP London Technical Crossword

Here's a great opportunity to test your technical knowledge and win a prize!

This new monthly feature is brought to you by SPE London's Young Professionals Committee and is kindly sponsored by Senergy.

This month's prize, courtesy of SPE London Continuing Education Committee, is a FREE place at the Regional Focus Seminar, to be held in London on 25 April 2013 (more details on p10).

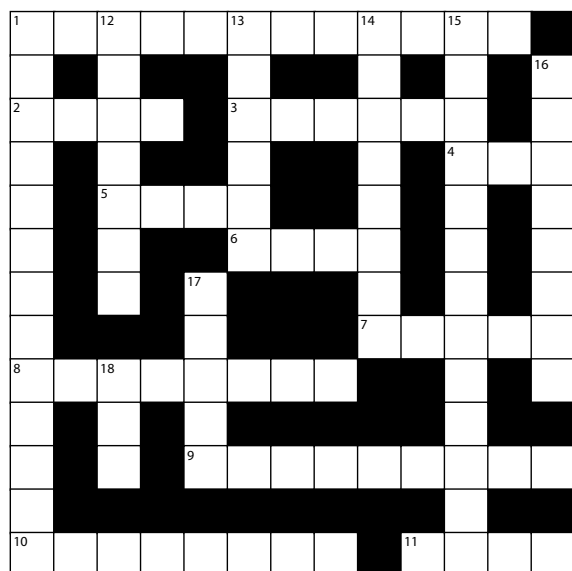
To enter, please email your answers, name and contact details to: speycrossword@gmail.com before the closing date of **Monday 15 April**. The first correct entry chosen at random will win the prize. The answers and winner's name will be published in the May **SPE Review**. Good luck!



London Section
Young Professionals



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Across

- 1 Organic compounds consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon (12)
- 2 A vessel used to store liquids (4)
- 3 A device used in sand control applications to support the gravel pack (6)
- 4 Abbreviation used to describe in percentage the probability of discovering hydrocarbons (3)
- 5 A chemical element with atomic number 26 (4)
- 6 A ____scope is a device used for measuring orientation (4)
- 7 Secondary recovery technique in which water is injected into reservoir is called water ____ (5)
- 8 A gas that is injected into reservoir to increase oil recovery (8)
- 9 A type of clay mineral that forms thorough weathering of felspar and mica group minerals (9)
- 10 The largest offshore oilfield in the world (8)
- 11 An intrusive rock that invades preexisting rocks (4)

Down

- 1 A reservoir deemed not to be homogeneous (13)
- 12 Mass divided by volume (7)
- 13 Steel pipe cemented in place to stabilize the wellbore (6)
- 14 A process that relieves pressure from a vessel (8)
- 15 A surface that separates overlying sedimentary rock from igneous or metamorphic rocks (13)
- 16 Transient flow is also known ____ state flow (8)
- 17 Oil reserves are usually reported in ____ tank oil barrels (5)
- 18 Abbreviation used to describe the concentration of organic material in source rocks (3)

Crossword compiled by Nurzhan Kairbayev, Reservoir Engineer, Senergy

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18 April, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre AB23 8BL

Principal Sponsor: **Schlumberger**

There's still time to book a place at this popular bi-annual learning event, aimed at drilling, completions, project, well integrity, environmental and commercial personnel wishing to gain a deeper insight into current challenges and solutions in well abandonment and suspension.

Chaired by Graeme Rae (Talisman Energy), the conference programme includes presentations by regulators, service companies and operators, including Apache, BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Shell, Talisman Energy and Wintershall. A new session will also feature two brief Technology Focus presentations from Welltec and TAM International/EON E&P.

The accompanying exhibition will showcase advanced technologies and services from a diverse range of companies, including Weatherford, Baker Hughes, Rushmore Reviews, Interact Activity Management, Shell, Helix WellOps, Halliburton and EV Offshore Limited.

Information at: www.spe-uk.org

Book at: www.rodgerandco.com

Call for steering committee volunteers

SPE Aberdeen Summit Series Seminar: 'New Frontiers in Flow Monitoring and Control in Wells', 24 September 2013

There is an emerging area of interest in multiphase flow metering for intelligent wells, such as MRC completions in onshore and offshore environments. Many operators are seeking multiphase flow metering technologies to provide real-time direct measurements at downhole conditions of pressure, temperature and other physical and dynamical properties in wells, to accurately monitor and control the well performance and make informed, real-time decisions to manage the well's production. This event will provide a forum for the oilfield sensor and intelligent completion community to discuss this exciting and rapidly growing sector. **Contact: spe@rodgerandco.com**

SPE ICoTA 19th European Well Intervention Conference

13-14 November 2013, Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre

Abstracts for presentations and exhibition bookings welcome.

Contact: spe@rodgerandco.com

SPE CONSULTANTS LISTING

Peter Aird – MSc, CEng – deepwater/HPHT drilling supervision, well engineering, training/ coaching consultant • email: kingdom_drilling@msn.com • www.kingdomdrilling.co.uk

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

Alasdair Campbell – Completion design and technology specialist, well design studies, project management services • tel: 01358 720703 • mob: 07981 381294 • email: ali@wellwizards.com • www.wellwizards.com • Unit 10, Balmacassie Commercial Centre, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, AB41 8QR

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

Rick Hoskins – Cementing expert & expert witness (Macondo), solutions that prevent gas flow after cementing • tel: 01330 860772 • mob: 07885 436671 • email: cementing@aol.com • Cementing Specialists Ltd, Craigshannoch Lodge, Midmar, Aberdeenshire AB51 7LX

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DEVEX 2013 - 10th European Production and Development Conference:

DEVEX2013

'Maximising our diverse resources'

15 & 16 May, Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre

"Organised jointly by SPE, PESGB, AFES and DECC, DEVEX offers tremendous value, a first-rate technical experience and a great opportunity to hear the latest industry opinions. This year's stimulating programme will feature 44 high-quality presentations and 20 posters from a range of disciplines," says Conference Chair Rebecca Nye, of Weatherford.

This year at DEVEX 2013, the Young Professionals from SPE Aberdeen, PESGB Aberdeen, AFES and the Energy Institute will be holding a panel discussion, **'Is Your Future in Energy?'**, chaired by Ross Taylor of SPE YP Aberdeen. A panel of leading industry professionals and local government representatives will answer your questions and give their views on the future of the industry, in Aberdeen and globally. To make the event more interactive, each member of the audience will be given a voting pad and asked a series of questions by the panelists. The YPs will also be running a stand, where there will be an opportunity to win a cash prize.

See DEVEX 2013 programme insert for more details.

Booking: www.devex-conference.org

More SPE YP Aberdeen dates for the diary

Upstream social networking event - Thursday 11 April, from 7pm

This event is open to all Upstream industry professionals wishing to join the SPE Aberdeen Young Professionals for relaxing after-work drinks at the Carmelite Bar, Carmelite Hotel, Stirling Street, Aberdeen. One complimentary drink offered!

Contact: Ross Taylor at: r.taylor@balmoral.co.uk

Subsea Technology Presentation heads-up

In next month's **SPE Review**, the YP Committee will announce a Subsea Technology presentation, to be held in May. The Committee meanwhile welcomes any questions and participation from all professionals who would like to have an active involvement in the event.

Contact: George Grangeon at: george.grangeon@subsea7.com.

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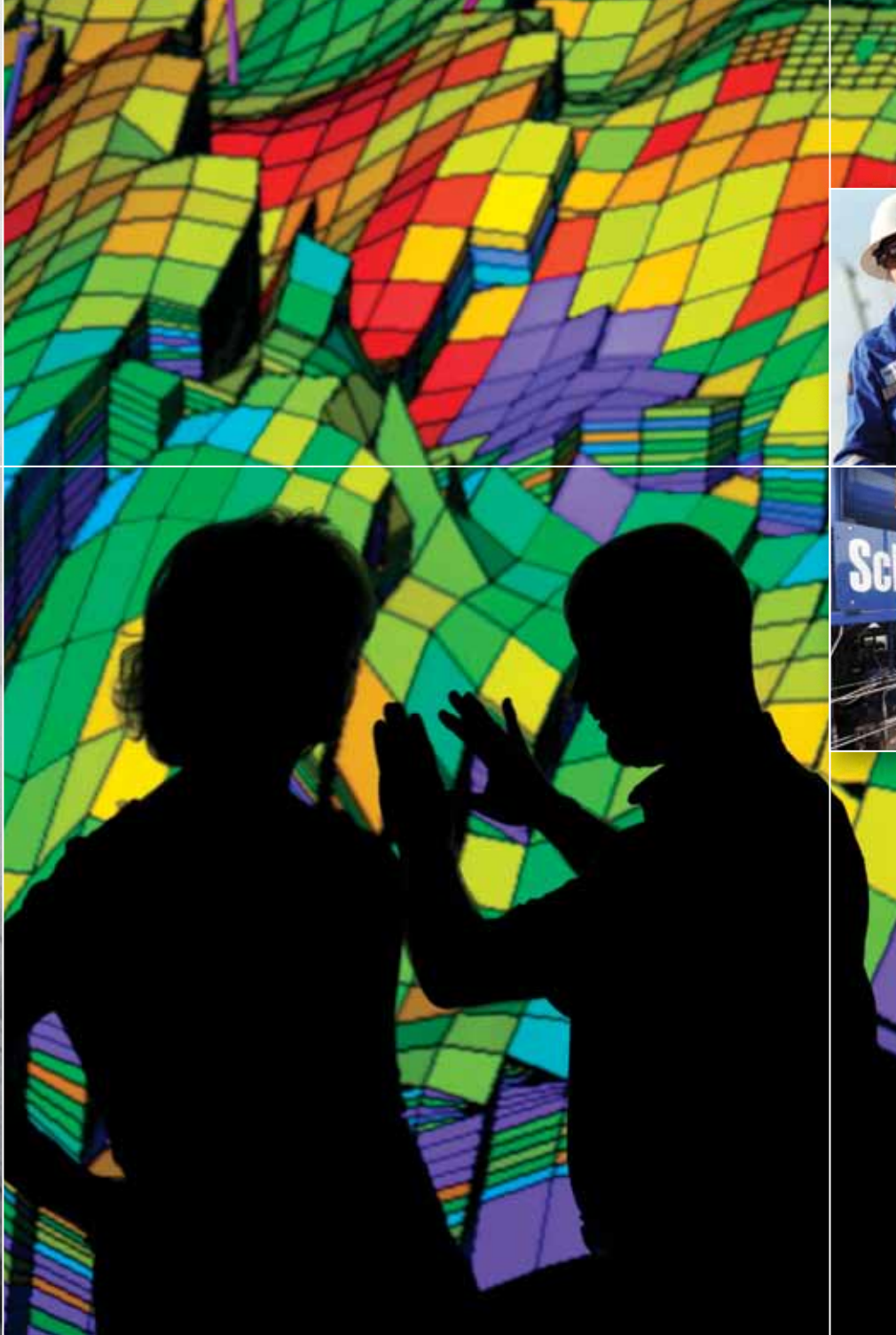
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22-23 May, Savoy Place, London

See programme insert and advert
on back pageMore information at:
www.SPELondonConference.com

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London Section

25 April**Industry Considerations in High Risk Areas**

Following recent high profile cases of piracy, terrorist attacks and kidnapping, there has never been a more critical time for companies to ensure the safety of their staff and assets in high risk areas. This seminar will bring together experts in the fields of piracy, corruption, HSE and security. Speakers will also discuss their experience of operating in high risk regions, such as Nigeria, East Africa and Egypt.

William Libby - Director, Key Accounts - Control Risks*'Enabling Success in Post-Conflict Situations, Risks of Regulatory or Government Interference, Fraud, Corruption and Criminality'***Rupert Cutler - Managing Director of insurance broker Newman Martin and Buchan LLP's Financial and Political Risk Division***'Risk Transfer in High Risk Areas - Level of Coverage Obtained from Insurance Markets for Blowouts, Expropriation, Confiscation, Strikes, Riots and War'***Francesco Verre - Asset Manager - Petrofac***'Challenges of Managing Operations in Nigeria & Egypt'***Carlos Edwards MBE - Director and General Manager - Salama Fikira***'Security Challenges in the East African Region - Responses and Considerations from an Oil & Gas Perspective'***Eric Oudenot - Principal - The Boston Consulting Group***'A Strategic Approach to Stakeholder Management in High Risk Areas'***Tom Brind - Offshore Projects - Solace Global Maritime***'Mitigating the Risk of Piracy and High-Threat Maritime Operations, Safeguarding People, Assets and Operations'**Panel Session: 'Conflict and Negotiation'***Moderated by Ella Minty - Communication Expert (Crisis, Issues, Strategy and Culture Change)**London
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Kate McMillan

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London Section

Continuing Education Seminars
Opportunities in a challenging
and fast-paced industry**7th Annual Women in Energy Seminar****Celebrate the differences - the unique qualities
women bring to the workplace**

8.30-9.15am

Registration & Coffee

9.15-9.30am

Welcome

9.30-10.00am

Session 1 - Keynote Speakers**Iman Hill** - General Manager,
Technical and Operational
Services, Sasol

10.00-10.30am

Oonagh Werngren - Operations
Director, Oil & Gas UK

10.30- 11.00am

Sarah Cook - Project Director,
Fluor Limited

11.00- 11.30am

Morning Coffee Break

11.30-1.00pm

Session 2 - Panel Discussion**Hamish Wilson** - Technical
Director, SLR Consulting**Jill Lewis** - CEO and MD, Troika
International**Jim Ayton** - Technical Services
Director, OPC Limited**Deirdre O'Donnell** - MD/Owner,
Working Smart

1.00-2.00pm

Lunch

2.00-3.30pm

**Session 3 - Choice of 5
workshops**

3.30- 3.50pm

Afternoon Coffee Break

3.50-5.20pm

**Session 4 - Choice of 5
workshops**

5.20-6.30pm

**Wrap Up and Networking
Drinks Reception****6 May****Venue:**
London South
Bank University**Tickets:**

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booking for six or more**BOOKINGS & SPONSORSHIP** Kate McMillan (katespe@aol.com)

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Call for Abstracts – Deadline 30 September 2013

Reducing Subsurface Uncertainty & Risk Through Field-Based Studies

*The Value of Outcrops and Analogues in Hydrocarbon
Exploration, Development and Production Implications
for Global Exploration and Production*

4-8 March 2014 (Field Trip 7-8 March)

The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London

Convenors:

Helen Smyth
CASP

Mike Bowman
University of Manchester

Tim Good
ExxonMobil

Simon Passey
CASP

Philip Hirst
BP

Colm Jordan
BGS



This meeting will provide a timely revisit and reappraisal of the value and impact of outcrop based fieldwork in hydrocarbon exploration, appraisal, development and production. In recent years we have seen a refreshed focus on frontier exploration, in increasingly difficult settings, and the challenges of new developments such as deepwater clastics and carbonates. This has led to the resurgence in the appreciation, use and need for outcrop based studies as analogues and benchmarks for the subsurface. This applies both to the overburden and the reservoirs. Digital technologies such as remote sensing and digital data capture have revolutionised field-studies, however traditional methods (e.g. mapping, logging and sampling) remain at the very core of any field study.

This meeting offers an exciting opportunity for key researchers and users of these datasets to come together, learn from recent advances and look forward to future directions and needs. A key objective is to engage industry groups and academia in a dialogue and knowledge sharing that reflects the current status and future potential of this important area.

Themes:

- Exploration: Reconnaissance-scale fieldwork
- Structural Analogues – regional to reservoir scale
- Applications to Reservoir and Field Appraisal, Development and Production: Outcrop-scale fieldwork
 - o Clastics
 - o Carbonates
- Unconventional Hydrocarbon Resources
- Health, Safety & the Environment and field studies
- Looking to the future

There will also be an optional field trip to BGS Core Store and relevant N England and Pennine outcrops taking place on the 7-8 March. Further details will be made available during registration for the conference.

For more information or to submit an abstract please contact: Steve Whalley, The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG. T:020 7434 9944 F:020 7494 0579



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

LONDON

- 30 April (5-9pm) (Before dinner): 'Decision Risk Analysis', Mike Benefiel (Chevron) (After dinner): 'Heavy oil: identification and exploitation', Jean-Valery Garcia (Kirk Petrophysics)
VENUE: Geological Society, Piccadilly, London
- 25 April: Regional Focus – 'Industry considerations in high risk areas'
VENUE: Geological Society, Piccadilly, London
- 9 May: 7th Annual Women in Energy Seminar
VENUE: London South Bank University
- 22-23 May: SPE London 2nd Annual Conference & Exhibition – 'Managing oil & gas portfolios in uncertain markets'
VENUE: Savoy Place, 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

- 24 April: 'Integration of flow assurance and production chemistry benefits all: fact or fiction?' Colin Smith (Maxoil Solutions)
VENUE: 6.30pm Douglas Hotel, Market Street, Aberdeen
- 18 April: SPE Aberdeen 4th European Well Abandonment Seminar
VENUE: Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre
- 15-16 May: DEVEX 2013
VENUE: Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre
Information and booking: www.devex-conference.org

EDINBURGH

- 9 April: 'Sand Special Night', Chris Reed (Senergy) and Ian Wattie (Yala Peak)
VENUE: 6.30pm Innovative Engineering Systems (IESL), 23/2 Mitchell Street, Edinburgh EH6 7BD
For details of SPE Aberdeen and Edinburgh events, please visit: www.spe-uk.org 'Aberdeen Events' or contact Rodger and Co (see p8)

SPE EUROPE

- 16-18 April: SPE European HSE Conference and Exhibition
VENUE: Millennium Gloucester Hotel, London
www.spe.org/events/ehse



London Section

SPE London Annual Conference and Exhibition

22-23 May 2013, Savoy Place, London

Managing Oil & Gas Portfolios in Uncertain Markets

The conference programme is designed to give insight into the principles of oil and gas taxation; impact of government policies, fiscal framework and global market trends on investment decisions; portfolio analysis and management; drivers of asset and corporate acquisitions and mergers; M&A trends, financing strategies under constraint market conditions; legal due diligence, operational and other challenges in emerging markets; opportunities and challenges in two major West African countries - Nigeria and Angola.

Why should you attend?

This conference includes topics and themes carefully selected to be of interest to a unique mix of technical, commercial and financial professionals active in the oil and gas sector. You will learn from speakers who are oil and gas sector experts working in oil and gas companies, financial institutions and research and strategy companies.

As a delegate, you will gain insight into technical, commercial, financial and market considerations in portfolio management; challenges encountered in the reservoir characterization and exploitation of HPHT reservoirs; and assessment and booking of unconventional resources and reserves such as shale gas.

Conference speakers include:

- **Dr Mike Watts**, Deputy CEO, Cairn Energy
- **Didier Holleaux**, CEO, GDF Suez E&P
- **Galib Virani**, Associate Director, Afren
- **Majid Shafiq**, Managing Director, Corporate Finance, First Energy Capital
- **Neil Gilmour**, VP Integrated Gas Development, Shell
- **Rob Leonard**, Business Development Director, AMEC
- **Mark Tandy**, Commercial and Exploration Director, TAQA Bratani
- **Gareth Burns**, Senior VP, Strategy and Business Development, Exploration, Statoil
- **Simon Toole**, Director, Licensing, Exploration & Development, DECC
- **Martin Copeland**, Managing Director – Oil and Gas, Evercore Partners
- **Saad Rahim**, Chief Market Economist, BG Group
- **Nick Cooper**, CEO, Ophir Energy
- **Robert Hodges**, Tax Director, Ernst & Young
- **Sarah Wharry**, Corporate Finance, RFC Ambrian
- **Eric Oudenot**, Principal, BCG

Who should attend?

The conference will be invaluable for professionals working in the oil and gas sector within:

- Exploration and Development
- Asset management
- Portfolio analysis and management
- Planning and commercial
- Finance and investment
- Equity research
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Gala Dinner

23 May 2013, Claridge's, London with guest speaker Jeremy Vine

The legendary Ballroom at Claridge's provides the prestigious venue for this year's Gala Dinner. Places can be booked separately or combined with your delegate place. Individual places or tables of ten are available.

Conference partner



Day 1	Day 2
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