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New Delhi Section  
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Winner of 2006 SPE President's Award for Section Excellence

## SPENDSEC

Volume 2 • Issue 5 • January-February 2007

### NEWS



#### From the Editorial Desk

Dear Member,

The new year 2007 started on a high technical note with the organization of 7th PETROTECH-2007, a bi-annual international Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition at Delhi under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt of India. The theme of this conference was 'Energy, Economy, Equity, Ecology' a very comprehensive one covering all aspects of the energy business and its impact on society. Apart from the technological developments and initiatives, this conference gave special emphasis on the global warming concerns by organizing a pre-conference on carbon credits. The uniqueness and grandeur of this conference lied in the patronage from the global professional cum political fraternity, record participation of professionals apart from the variety of topics which has certainly benefited oil industry of Indian sub-continent. This Petrotech series of oil & gas conferences and exhibitions has come a long way in providing a global platform to all stake-holders for interaction and sharing of knowledge and experience, in a collegial approach to addressing some of the most vital global concerns. It was attended by Corporate leaders like CEOs of BP, Petrobras, British Gas, Shell, Sinopec, PDVSA, Transocean, Indian Oil Corporation, ONGC, Reliance Petroleum Ltd, Oil India Ltd, HPCL, BPCL, GAIL, Schlumberger, Halliburton, Reliance, Schlumberger, Halliburton and Transocean alongwith the Who's Who of global Oil and gas business. This was a good exposure for all of us.

Apart from our Section Chair Mr. A K Hazarika being the Chairman of the Organising committee, several SPE members were deeply involved in its successful organization. Former ONGC Chairman Col S P Wahi was conferred with Life Time Achievement award during this conference for his contribution to the E&P Industry. He shared his views and thoughts with SPENDSEC, which gives a glimpse of vision & thinking process of leaders and thinkers.

The SPENDSEC team had long since desired to organize a family get together for the spouses and children of SPE members. The evening of February 3, 2007 proved to be another hallmark in the section's activities when more than 200 persons gathered at the Silver Oak lawns of India Habitat Centre. This was an evening full of thematic cultural program on Ethnic India, which was a good exposure of India cultures not only for the foreign nationals but also for many Indians. There was active participation of all guests who had all ears for the details of SPE activities carried out by members. The evening of Fun & frolic also saw some magic shows and games for kids and ladies.

Come March 13, and our section will be 2 years old. Once again it has been planned to celebrate this occasion grandly. This occasion is clubbed with the visit of SPE Distinguished lecturer Colin J. Mason of BP who will be talking on Wellbore Quality Characterization for Drilling and Casing Running in Challenging Wells.

The SPENDSEC team invites you all on 13th March 2007 at Windsor Place, Hotel Le Meridien, Delhi

## Never say die! Fire! Fire! Fire!

Tête-à-tête with Col. S.P.Wahi

SPENDSEC is happy to bring you the doyen of Indian oil industry, Col. S.P.Wahi, who received the Petrotech-2007 Lifetime Achievement Award recently. Col. Wahi is in conversation with AT Kabilan and Debdulal Adhikari, both SPENDSEC members working with ONGC.



Col. S.P. Wahi receiving Lifetime Achievement Award from Honourable Minister of External Affairs Mr. Pranab Mukherjee.

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# SPE turns 50

You shall be pleased to know that SPE shall turn 50 on October 6, 2007. Some of the important facts about the SPE International and its growth in India.

## SPE History:

SPE originally began in 1913 under the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) as the Committee on Oil and Gas. In 1922, the Committee became the Petroleum Division of AIME. The division grew and in 1950 became one of three separate branches of AIME. In 1957, the Petroleum Branch of AIME was expanded once again, and on 6 October 1957, the first SPE Board of Directors meeting was held, marking the date when SPE became a full-fledged professional society. Since then, SPE has grown from its initial membership in 1957 of 12,500 members to over 73,000 members today.

We shall bring you the milestones of SPE worldwide and also share the growth of SPE in India in the forthcoming issues of SPENDSEC News.

## March Anniversary Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2007

Wellbore Quality  
Characterization  
for  
Drilling and Casing  
Running in Challenging Wells  
*SPE Distinguished Lecturer*  
*Colin J. Mason*  
BP



Time : 1900 hrs

Venue :  
Windsor Hall, Le Meridien,  
New Delhi-110001

To check details visit "Events" section at  
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Lto R: Mr. A.K. Hazarika Chairman Organizing Committee Petrotech-2007 (SPENDSEC Chair), Mr. Sarthak Behuria, C & MD, IOC, Mr. R.S. Sharma, C&MD ONGC, Col. S.P. Wahi Lifetime Achievement Awardee, Honourable Minister of External Affairs Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Honourable Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas - Mr. Murli Deora.

### Excerpts:

Heartiest congratulations from SPENDSEC to you, Sir, on your receiving the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award at Petrotech 2007. We are from SPENDSEC, a newsletter published by the Society of Petroleum Engineers New Delhi Section (SPENDSEC). We would like you to share with our esteemed readers what this award means to you.

Col. S. P. Wahi: My thoughts raced back to the days when I joined ONGC...and the period I had the good fortune of serving ONGC - for Eight years and about two-and-a-half months...I had outstanding colleagues, I used to call them diamonds, some were uncut diamonds but they were all diamonds...and that's how their efforts resulted in total transformation of ONG in every area of its operations.

For the first time in the country, I would say, we had prepared a long term 20-year plan for the growth. This was all done in-house by our own people. I believed and I still believe that in house people are the best to undertake SWOT analysis and identify opportunities for growth. It is not merely the growth of the organization but people could see their own growth. That is how the morale and motivation improved and those people who were stagnating for years were able to get their rightful positions. We had spent a lot of effort on organizational development. At the

time of my taking over there was not a single Member (Board Level) of the Commission, as it was called then, who had risen from the first batch of executives of 1956. When I left ONGC, 100 percent Members had risen from within the organisation.

It was the enthusiasm which people generated by their own efforts on modernization of equipment, improving the infrastructure, improving technology, setting up the most modern computer system in Dehradun and in every region. A lot of effort was spent in training and development, not only to improve Managerial and Professional skills, but also to develop leadership ability to take quick decisions and grab the opportunities for growth. Everyone had the slogan "Growth with stability and continuous improvement in productivity"

Not many people including industry watchers know that we were the No. 1 company in the country in profit-making even when we were working under a controlled regime of less than \$9 a barrel even when the market price was \$38 a barrel. That will show you the contribution made by my team which finally got me this award.

I am very proud of my people and I will continue to be proud of them. We spent a lot of effort together, as a team which ensured outstanding performance in every area of operation. Three new R&D institutes were setup IOGPT, IEOT and laid the foundation for the Institute of Petroleum Safety and Environment at Goa. People were not only able to develop new technologies in R&D in these institutes to support the operation but were able export the technologies.





Col. Wahi sharing the Lifetime Achievement Award with his life partner.

When I received the Award, I felt so proud that the performance of People of ONGC during the period of my association was getting appreciated. *Kam kisi ka naam kisi ka!* People worked; I got the reward. So thank you very much!

That is being so modest of you, Sir. The citation that was read out at the time of your receiving the award spoke of the philosophy of 3 Fs Friendliness, Fairness and Firmness.

Col. S. P. Wahi: We had actually not one but three philosophies. If you want to be a leader, you must believe in 7 Cs Character, Courage to take decisions, Concern for your people and the organization you work for, fourth C is Competence, the fifth C is your Commitment to achieve results, and next C is your ability to Communicate, and the last C is your ability to Conceptualize, so that you should not be missing the woods for the trees.

We had the 3 M *Mantra* the first 2 Ms are Morale and Motivation of the employees; the third M is Money, the bottom line of the organization. They are all inter-related. You cannot take any decision without taking all these 3 Ms into account.

And for dealing with people the 3 Fs that was mentioned in the citation: Friendliness to the extent that people can cry over your shoulders when they have a problem.

You believed in lending your shoulder for other people to cry...

Col. S. P. Wahi: Why not, that is the real point of being the head of an organization. You should be able to lend your support to solve the personal problems of individuals, as well the organizational issues. I did believe in management

by wandering when people could meet me freely.

The second F is Fairness the basic inherent potential of the people matters and not their color, caste, creed... In fact when people talk about the caste, I don't even understand this word. We don't believe in any religious rituals but believe in fundamental values of each religion Doing good to others.

The next F is Firmness you should follow every method to improve a person if he is on the wrong path. But when the situation demands you should be firm, otherwise you will have a bigger problem.

Are they contradictory, Sir, slightly friendliness and firmness?

Col. S. P. Wahi They are inter-related for the growth of the organization, and to build the team. You cannot allow indiscipline, or allow laxity or laziness only then you can achieve results. But as I told you friendliness means you should be able to solve the problems which are hurting the people also.

When I went to Rajasthan first time you touch the steel pipe in summer, and you get a blister our people were working in that kind of environment. How could they work at the optimum level? It is not possible so what did we do? We gave them air-conditioned bunk houses, gave them three-star food. And see the results that they had achieved: the seismic survey productivity improved about 6-times. And today the benefit of the work of our people of those times, - is being enjoyed by the whole country in Rajasthan, Krishna Godavari and Cauvery basins. The Krishna, Godavari and Cauvery became oil/gas producing basins through the exploratory efforts.



Rahul Bali escorting Col. Wahi to the award function.



Mr. R.S. Sharma, C&MD, ONGC, welcoming Col. Wahi.

There was not one rig in operation in Rajasthan, 2 rigs were lying on the railway station, in dismantled state. In Krishna-Godavari area, there was one drilling rig, which was also not working. We had a total of 38 land rigs in ONGC out of which only 15 were in operation. The rest 23 were either out of date or not in working condition. When I left, we had almost 149 rigs in operation.

There was mutual respect and confidence. The strengths of individuals were used to improve team performance. A culture of excellence was created and ensured mistake tolerance so that people could use initiative, work with confidence and without fear.

The Sagar Vikas blow out was handled with great confidence - you may remember It worked out beautifully and got us international recognition for handling the crisis as a team. Basically the culture which was created was one of mistake tolerance. But the philosophy was that of "zero defect". This enabled every one to put in their best efforts.

We're looking forward to reading your much-awaited book "Leading from the Front", which is scheduled to be released in April 2007. Would it be right to say that your management philosophies were shaped during your formative years with the Armed Forces?

Col. S. P. Wahi: Basically all management thoughts have come out of the Services. But basically all the thoughts connected with leadership...imagine Kargil...how did many Army Officers die? If you want the soldiers to make the sacrifice of their lives they must know the leader is going to be with them. This is the philosophy that we followed... I don't know if you know of the book "Art of War" written by Chinese philosopher Sun Tzu, a couple of centuries ago based on this, Chinese say that business is like a battle field

Through this strategy, Chinese have literally taken over the market in toys and manufacturing, in every area.

All principles of war are applicable to the business. There is no shortage of managers in this world who can give you answer to every issue but there are only 10% people who take decision at the right time; they do not keep on waiting. That is leadership. That is the philosophy we are taught right from day one in the Services. Take action so that you do not miss an opportunity.

The army training and experience has been of great help in creating correct relationship with our own people as well with other stakeholders and those in similar businesses. A culture of collaboration was created.

We had developed excellent relationship with international oil companies as well. During my association we wanted to enter into an MoU on technology with Shell; the top man of Royal Dutch Shell, Mr. Van Engleshoven, who was a friend said, "Colonel, neither for love nor for money, R&D is our most guarded secret. But since you're a friend, I will allow your scientists and engineers to come to our R&D Institutes and discuss your problems with our people. Then I will send you a team based on the problems you wish to discuss- they will come as a courtesy from our side". After the visit of our people, their team came headed by the most outstanding reservoir engineer of the world, who happened to be an Indian, Dr. Menon. The best reservoir engineers in the world are from India.

The problems being faced in Assam Gujarat and also Bombay were discussed with SHELL team. They said that we were not producing adequately from these fields. Some of our so called eminent people to get consultancy assignments, started a canard that we were over producing from Bombay High. The subsequent events have proved the credibility and competence of our scientists.

I had spent about a year attachment with the British Army in



Col. Wahi delivering his acceptance speech.



Glimpses of Family Get-together, February 3, 2007





UK and Germany. Had no difficulty in establishing mutual respect at professional and social levels. This experience was of great help, later in life.

Based on the strategic thinking developed over the years in the Army and subsequent experience, a long term 20 years strategic plan was prepared and presented to all the policy makers, in one go in one place; even the present Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh was present; he was then Member, Planning Commission. The detailed 20 year plan was appreciated and approved. This enabled us to move with speed with support of all concerned in the government. There was phenomenal growth. The production in the terminal year of my association has still not been matched.

In the politically disturbed areas of North East in Assam, Nagaland and Tripura our operations multiplied in line with our plan. A collaborative culture was established within and outside the organization in all these areas and again performance till date has not been matched.

All problems whether within or outside the organization are normally related to human relation issues either due to

lack of knowledge of local issues or communication gaps. You have to understand the needs, problems and dreams of the people through personal contact and other formal means, for action to get full support. Leadership is the ability to influence and inspire the people to achieve common objective willingly and enthusiastically for this Leader has to remember the seven Cs mentioned earlier

What would be your message to oil industry people of India, particularly ONGCians?

Col. S. P. Wahi: Never say die! Fire, fire and fire! What I mean is work, work, and work! The reward will come to you. Don't look for reward. Recognition will come. But you have to ensure growth with stability and continuous improvement in productivity. It will bring prosperity all around. Stability and improvement in productivity in every aspect of our life and not only in oil exploration or production.



Audience giving a Standing Ovation to Col. Wahi.

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# First GBM of SPE Chennai resolves to broaden base

The newest 'Section' of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) at Chennai in its first GBM held on February 08, 2007 resolved to involve a cross section of hydrocarbon engineers and scientists in furthering the cause of information sharing and knowledge exchange.

The programme chaired by Mr. Ravi T Job in the absence of the Section Chairman Dr. C.S. Jain, set out a road map for the development of the Section. Briefly noting the initiatives that had gone into creating the Section at the close of last year, Mr. Job envisaged the growth of the Society among professionals of the hydrocarbon industry and hoped that Chennai would serve as a worthy hub for the learning body. The GBM approved the constitution of board for the term Oct'06 to Sep'07. Coinciding with the Meeting, the Chennai fraternity was treated to a brilliant talk on 4-D seismics by WesternGeco's



Mr. Stephen Pickering of WesternGeco brings the excitement associated with 4-D

Mr. Stephen Pickering who besides bringing out the finer nuances of the seismic method, illustrated it with case studies across the world.

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2. Training / Seminar / Conference Advertisement- News Letter (coloured) - A4 Size

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For details contact Publicity Chair Mr. Ajay Dashore, dashore\_ajay@ongc.co.in, + 91-11-22406334 or write to spendsec@spemail.org

# R.K. Vij, SPE receives ONGC Honours

SPENDSEC congratulates Mr. R.K. Vij on his receiving "Manager of the Year" award.

R. K. Vij, Sub-Asset Manager -Geleki, Assam Asset, ONGC, an active member of Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE, USA) since last 22 years, has been honored with the prestigious "Manager of the Year-2006" award by ONGC for his excellent contribution towards integration of surface, sub-surface and service functions in Geleki field and implementation of new ideas.



Mr. R. K. Vij receiving the award from Mr. R.S. Sharma, C&MD, ONGC.

The award was given to Mr. Vij by Mr. R. S. Sharma, C&MD, ONGC in Republic Day Function at Dehradun on 26th January, 2007. Mr. Vij has served North-India SPE section, India Section, Ahmedabad for pretty long time as membership chairperson, programme chairperson and secretary till the year 2005.

Mr. Vij chaired technical sessions in various international conferences / ATWs of SPE namely Integrated Asset Management, 2004 at Kuala Lumpur, ATW - Water Flooding in 2005 held at Mumbai and Integrated Asset Management 2006 at Goa. Besides this he has also served as steering committee member for various SPE international conferences, technical paper evaluator for SPE Conference at Tokyo Japan, 2002. Mr. Vij has around 20 technical papers presented / published during his professional career. He also received Best Paper award from SPE ATW.

He is the founder secretary SPE North East Section being organised for northeastern region of India. Mr. Vij served as organizer for various national & international conferences like PETROTECH, IOR 2000 etc. His notable achievements are miscible gas injection for GS-12 sand of Gandhar Field, additional development project of Mumbai High North L-III and formulating exploration strategy for D-I South field of Western Offshore.

## FORTHCOMING REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

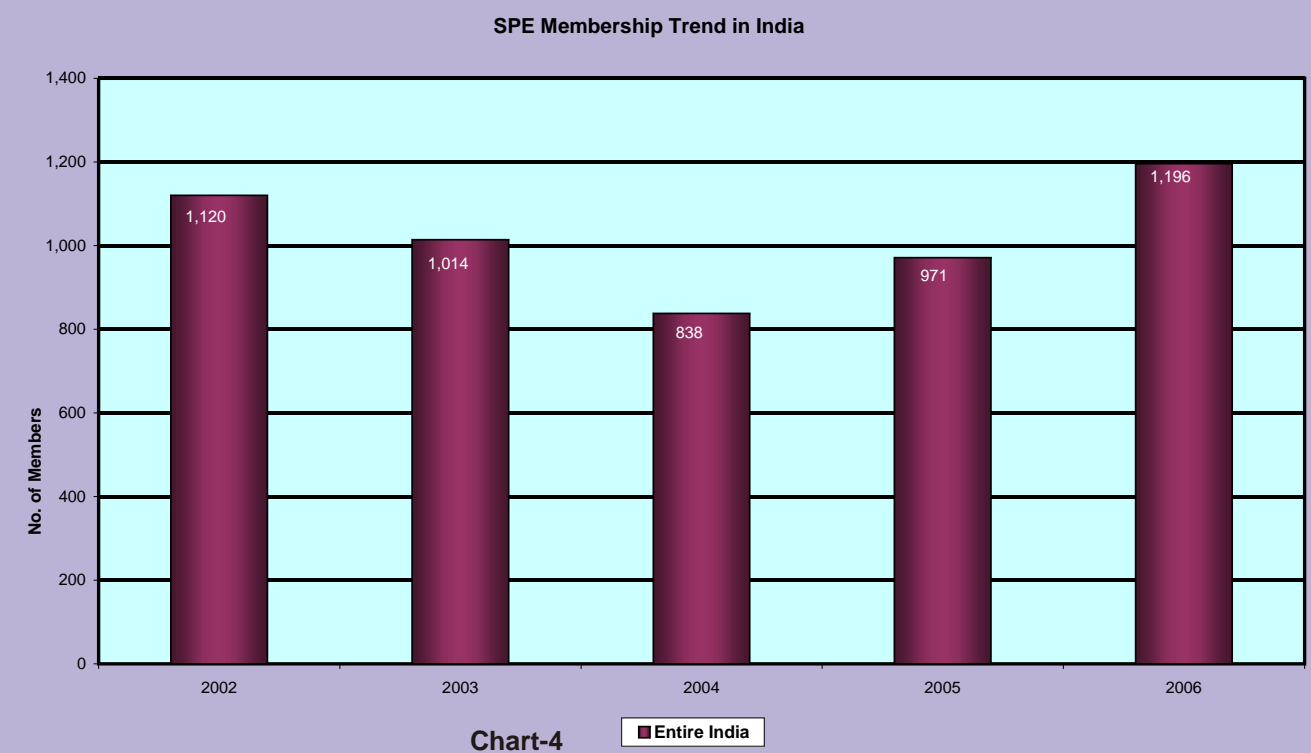
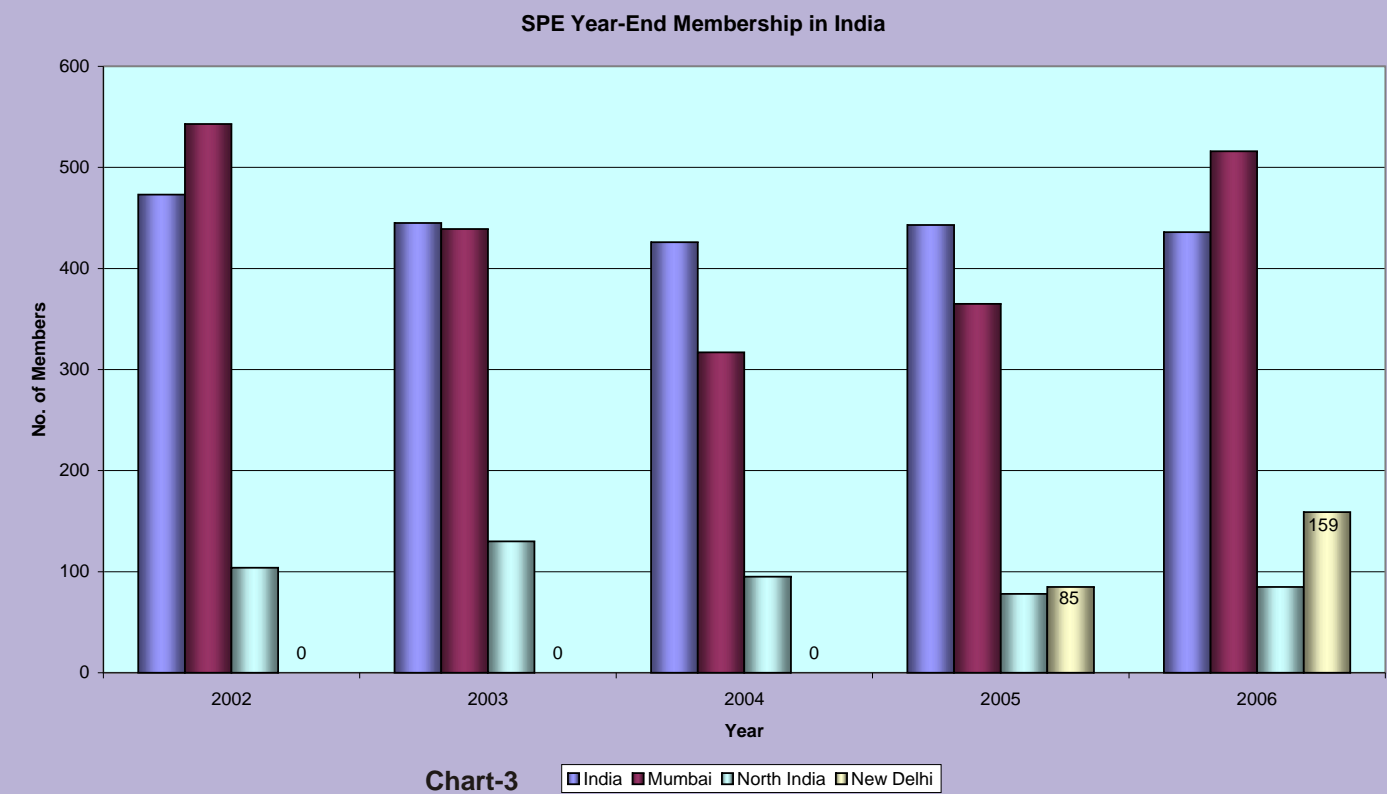
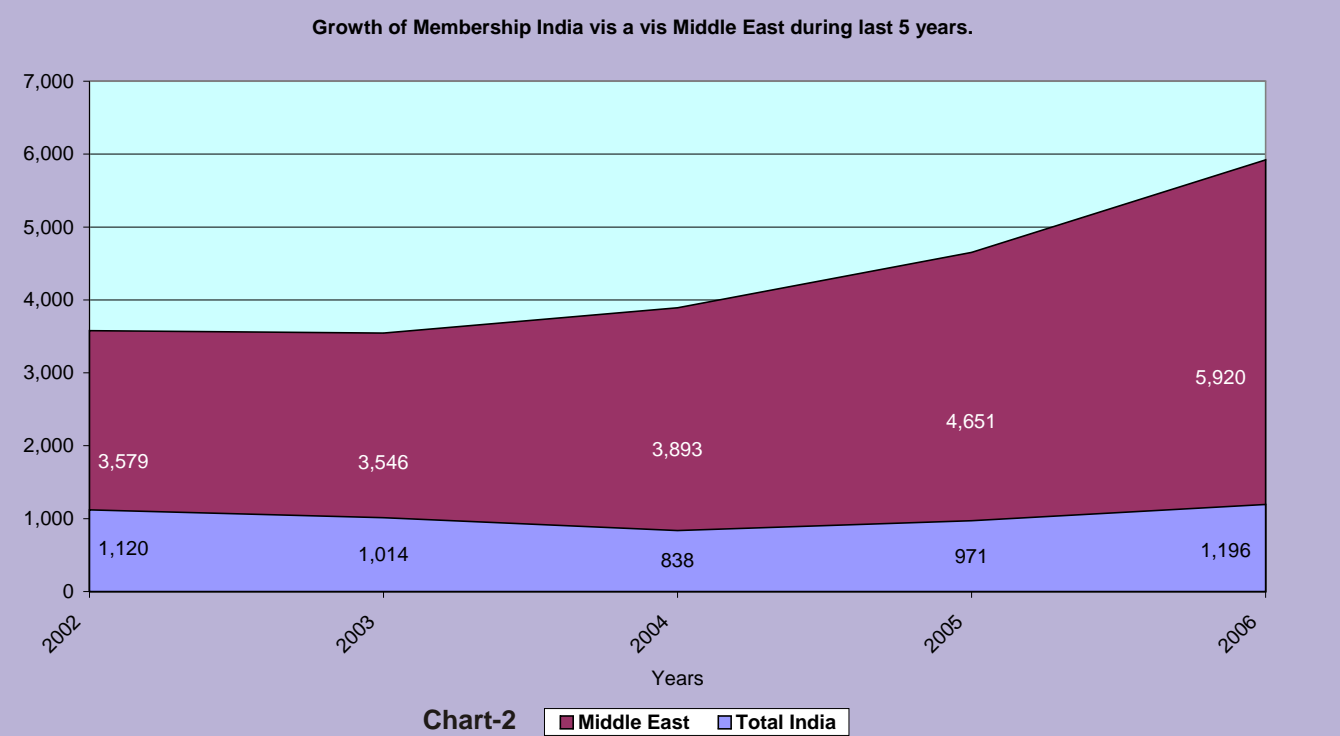
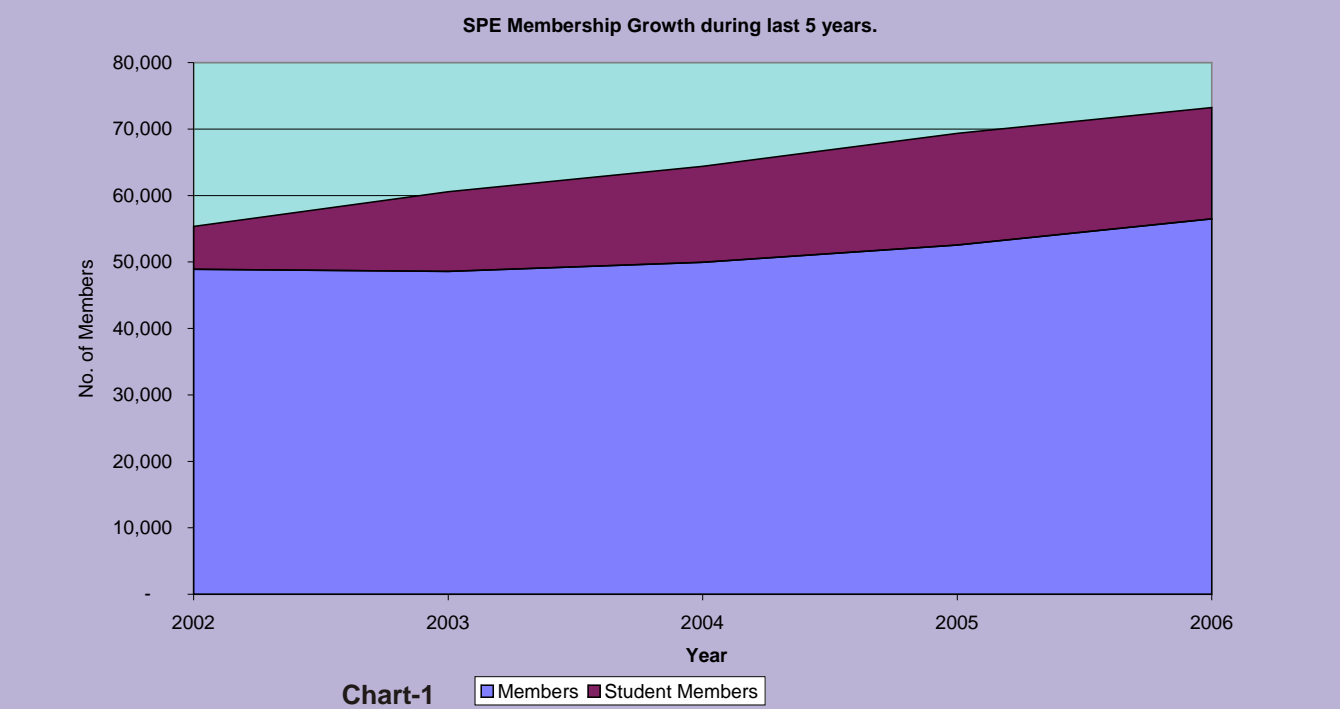
Dates	Meeting	Location
18 - 21 Mar 2007	SPE Young Professionals Workshop - ATW	Putrajaya, Malaysia
6 - 28 Mar 2007	Reserves Estimations for Business Decision-Making - ATW	Muscat, Oman
27 - 29 Mar 2007	Coalbed Methane - ATW	Colorado USA
1 - 3 Apr 2007	Hydrocarbon Economics and Evaluation Symposium	Dallas, Texas USA
5 Apr 2007	Technology Ladder Workshop	Houston, Texas USA
16 - 18 Apr 2007	Rocky Mountain Oil & Gas Technology Symposium	Colorado USA
22 - 26 Apr 2007	Gas Field Development - ATW	Taipei, Taiwan
23 - 27 Apr 2007	Challenges and Solutions for Heavy Oil Recovery - ATW	Qingdao, China
23 - 26 Apr 2007	Gas Condensates - ATW	Moscow, Russia
24 - 25 Apr 2007	SPE Aberdeen/WSCA Well Construction Forum	Aberdeen, Scotland
26 - 27 Apr 2007	Research and Development Conference	San Antonio, USA
6 - 11 May 2007	Stranded Gas: The Next Challenge - Forum	Phuket, Thailand
7 - 8 May 2007	Saudi Arabia Section Technical Symposium	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
30 May-1 Jun 2007	European Formation Damage Conference	The Netherlands

# 2006 SPE MEMBERSHIP REACHES NEW PEAK

## Membership Update- International, Regional and National

Rahul Bali, Secretary, SPENDSEC, Chair 2007-SPE International Membership Committee

At year-end 2006, 73,235 upstream industry professionals and students in 113 countries were members of SPE, up more than 5.6% compared with 69,339 at year-end 2005. SPE's 2006 membership includes a 16,739 student members. Chart 1 The membership growth in India vis a vis Middle East Region is shown in chart 2. India has nearly 20% of middle east members. Membership trends across the four sections as well as whole of India during the past 5 years is shown in the chart 3 & 4.





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MARCH MEETING PREVIEW

Wellbore Quality  
Characterization for Drilling and  
Casing Running in Challenging  
Wells

Colin J. Mason, SPE Distinguished Lecturer  
BP

Abstract:  
The recent maturing of 3D rotary steerable systems has generated renewed interest in understanding wellbore quality and its impact on the success of drilling and casing running operations. Interestingly, the term wellbore quality is not particularly well defined, its context often misunderstood and is usually considered too complex to quantify.

Recent work has been carried out to provide clarity and rigour around the subject of wellbore quality. This has involved a review of industry literature, discussions with operators and service companies and a search for analogues both within and outside of the oil industry. Based on this work, a novel approach has been developed which has the potential to provide a practical means of quantifying wellbore quality. This process involves evaluating responses from drilling, tripping and casing running operations. Each response type and characteristic is correlated with a reference card to calculate a wellbore quality score.

The talk will provide an overview of issues relating to wellbore quality, explain the issues in quantifying it and discuss the implications of having a common industry definition. Details of the literature review and discussions with those involved in drilling operations will be given to allow assessment of how wellbore quality is perceived by the industry. An evaluation of the relative merits of explicit and implicit methods for characterizing wellbore quality is also given. The philosophy behind a wellbore quality scorecard is described and the methodology illustrated on a number of field case studies.

Colin Mason is a senior drilling engineering specialist based at BP's Exploration and Production Technology Group, Sunbury, UK. He holds BSc (Hons), MSc and PhD degrees in mathematics. He started his career as an academic at the University of Southampton; he then worked as a network analyst for a major oil and gas distribution company and then as a pipeline design engineer for an international engineering consultancy. He joined BP's Technology Centre in 1997 initially provided engineering support



to extended-reach drilling operations at Wytch Farm. In addition to working on drilling research and technology projects, he spends the remainder of his time supporting BP's global ERD operations. He has authored more than 12 papers and participated in a number of SPE forums.

Petroleum Minister of  
Yemen visits, MIT, Pune

Mr. Khalid Mahfood Bahah, Hon. Minister for Petroleum and Minerals, Govt. of Yemen along with a high level delegation from the industry visited Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Pune on 14th January 2007.

Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad felicitated the guests. Dr. L. K. Kshirsagar gave an overview of the facilities available and achievements of the Department of Petroleum Engineering. Hon. Minister in his speech highlighted the possible avenues of working in Yemen and suggested areas for mutual cooperation between the faculty of MIT and various petroleum industries in Yemen. Training courses in upstream, downstream and piping industry will be taken up initially.



Mr. Khalid Mahfood Bahah, Hon. Minister for Petroleum and Minerals, Govt. of Yemen (centre) being welcome by Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad at MIT, Pune, extreme right Dr. L. K. Kshirsagar.