



Gulf Coast Section

DECEMBER  
2013

# CONNECT

SPE GULF COAST SECTION NEWSLETTER

## Striking Gold in Natural Gas: A Lesson from 1848

GENERAL MEETING P. 9

## Occupational Safety Management in the Times of the US Oil & Gas Boom

HSSE-SR P. 15

## TRANSFERRING BEST PRACTICES OF TECHNOLOGIES TO THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

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## DEEPWATER WELLBORE CLEANUP: TOOLS, PROCESSES, CASE HISTORIES

WESTSIDE P. 23



# CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

MIKE STRATHMAN  
*2013-2014 SPE-GCS Chair*

**Merry Christmas! The holidays are a time for thanks and appreciation to all those who are part of our lives. Our families are first but those we work with are important as well. SPE-GCS would like to thank all our members who volunteer for the section, staff, sponsors, and advertisers who make possible the good works we do for students, teachers, and our industry. Thank you and Happy Holidays.**

One of the main missions of the SPE-GCS is to share knowledge and technology within the industry. Thus, we often focus on sharing the ways in which one company has worked to solve a problem. Under the leadership of Carol Piovesan and the Technology Transfer Committee, we are extending the technology sharing idea. Many industries outside of oil and gas develop technologies for materials, techniques, and processes that may be applicable to situations we face. In December, we are having an event for people outside of our industry, to share key ideas which may have applicability in our industry. Please check the website calendar for more information on the December 11th event, Transferring Best Practices of Technologies to the Oil and Gas Industry.

As I write this, the details are still not firm, but you may hear something about Mars and NASA managing data. This is an exciting approach to challenge our thinking and improve our industry. If you are interested, please go to the website and sign up. If you have an idea for something to share at this or a future event please contact Carol.

Communication is critical in any organization. SPE-GCS has updated our website in the past year and enhanced communication with our members about the awareness of planned events. This is how it works:

- Visit the website ([www.spegcs.org](http://www.spegcs.org)), click "Events" in the green bar, and browse what is available.
- Sign up to receive the eNewsletter at the beginning of each month (signup buttons are on most pages of the website). A single email will be sent to you listing all the events for the month.
- Sign up for Study Group eBlasts by going to the website. Click "Get Involved," and select "Join a Study Group". You will be able to add your email address and select which Study Groups you want to hear from. Not all events are notified this way, as some Study Groups are using this feature more than others. Also, we will limit the eBlasts to a maximum of two for any event.

The intent is to make it easy for you to stay aware of the networking and knowledge sharing opportunities being offered by the Section. The YP's have created a mobile app for communicating their events to members in the YP Study Group. At this time the communication channel is limited to YP events. I am interested to know if a mobile app for the entire section would be beneficial. Please let me know your thoughts.

Communication is also supported by the Webmaster for our website. As part of the new website, we have shifted the role of Webmaster to volunteers. Shivkumar Patil is our new lead Webmaster with considerable support from Subash Kannan. Subash has helped immensely to define the role as part of this transition. They could use additional support, so if you wish to help please contact Shiv. This move is expected to lower costs and provide more resources for scholarships and other community activities. Thanks for your help.

## THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW...

The SPEI and SPE-GCS want to support education in STEM disciplines. SPE has a Faculty Enhancement Travel Grant program which provides financial support for attendance of university faculty at SPE conferences, workshops, and forums. The SPE-GCS support the SPE student chapters at Texas A&M, University of Houston, Rice, and Houston Community College. Members who are affiliated with these schools as alums, parents, or students, please make sure your faculty contacts are aware of the program. Grants are awarded 2 times per year and funds are limited.

We welcome your comments and ideas to make the Gulf Coast Section better. Please contact me at [mike-strathman@att.net](mailto:mike-strathman@att.net)

# FEATURES

December 2013

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SPE GULF COAST SECTION  
DIRECTORY

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THU  
December  
12

7:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING

LOCATION

*SPE Houston Office  
10777 Westheimer Rd.  
Suite 1075  
Houston, TX 77042*

EVENT CONTACT

*Sharon Harris  
713-457-6821 EXT. 821  
713-779-4216 FAX  
sharris@spe.org*

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# SPE-GCS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

October 2013

OCTOBER 2013      SEPTEMBER 2013

Total: 16,019

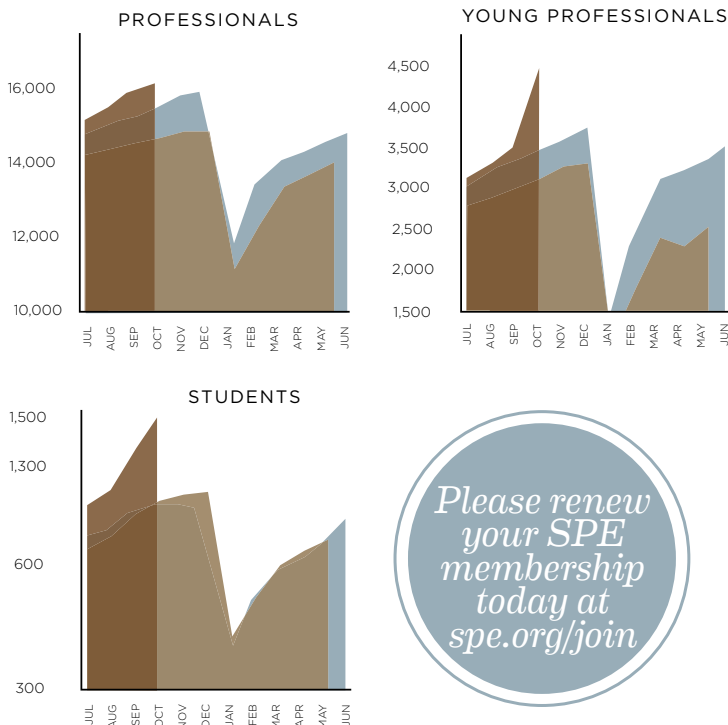
YP: 4,388

Total: 15,699

YP: 3,523

SPE-GCS Members	OCTOBER		SEPTEMBER	
	Total	YP	Total	YP
New Members	94	34	68	38
Reinstated	3	1	0	0
Transferred to Section	7	1	6	2
Unpaid	2,179	723	2,241	746
<b>Student Members</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Unpaid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Unpaid</b>
Texas A&M	863	174	836	178
Rice	52	2	49	2
HCC	92	12	83	13
UH	403	49	382	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>243</b>
<b>Total Paid/Unpaid</b>	<b>17,429</b>	<b>2,416</b>	<b>17,049</b>	<b>2,484</b>
<b>% Paid</b>	<b>87.8%</b>		<b>87.3%</b>	

2011-2012      2012-2013      2013-2014



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## PASSPORT UPDATE

# HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE CAN HANDLE ENERGY FIRMS' PASSPORT NEEDS

The Harris County District Clerk's Office Began Offering a New Service on August 1st: Passports Applications.

Oil and gas companies and other firms can avoid the long lines that plague some post offices that handle passport applications by making appointments for individual employees or groups of employees headed overseas. The District Clerk's Office will assign enough clerks to handle groups that arrive together.

"Oil and gas firms are such a key part of Houston's economy," said District Clerk Chris Daniel, an engineer who worked in the oil and gas field before earning his law degree. "I want to make sure that my office does what it can to help these workers get passports easily and quickly so they can get to where they're expected overseas."

Walk-in customers also may apply for passports in Room 170, the court registry section, on the first floor of the Civil Courthouse at 201 Caroline. Clerks will be on hand weekdays from 9 AM. to 4 PM.

The U.S. State Department's downtown passport office in the Mickey Leland Federal Building will be closed for renovations from Labor Day to at least Thanksgiving. The District Clerk's passport team is ready to handle the passport needs of companies and individuals accustomed to going to the federal building.

The District Clerk's passport team will handle all types of passport requests, unlike the office in the federal building, which accepts only requests for expedited applications.

### APPOINTMENTS

Call 713-755-7300

### LOCATION

Civil Courthouse  
201 Caroline  
Room 170

### COST

\$110 plus \$25 for processing

# THEN & NOW

Column by  
BUDDY WOODROOF



Key Executive Branch decisions affecting the oil industry are expected to be delayed while President Johnson attends to more pressing issues following the tragedy in Dallas.

What is believed to be the first self-service gasoline station that accepts both coins and bills is opened by Petro Vend in Chicago. It is reportedly capable of dispensing a whopping \$7 worth of fuel, and the operator predicts that service stations as they have been known in the past will cease to exist. (So true!)

E&P company research scientists begin to take a larger role in E&P operations. Operators such as Pan American, Mobil, Esso, and Jersey Standard begin to expand the roles of these white-coated brainiacs. (Sad to say, but they have since become victims of natural selection.)

A merger is reportedly near between Atlantic Refining and Union Oil that would be the largest of its kind in oil industry history, with the resulting company having nearly \$2 billion in assets.

**U.S. active rig count – 1,664**



Drilling is resumed in the world's deepest hole, the Soviet Union's SG-3 on the Kola Peninsula, currently drilling at a depth of 49,000 ft.

Based on OPEC's latest accord, analysts conclude that oil prices should stabilize at \$15-16/bbl in 1989. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve Bank projects oil prices to reach \$30/bbl in the next decade. (Can you believe that 25 years ago we were able to survive as an industry with \$15-16/bbl oil prices?)

Thanks in large part to these low oil prices, the industry's highest rate of return on equity is the 16% reported by Exxon. These low rates of return are severely limiting the reinvestment of cash flow in E&P as well as acquisitions.

Meanwhile, OPEC members continue to press expansion of overseas downstream interests such as refineries to help guarantee outlets for their crude.

**WTI crude oil - \$15.56/bbl; U.S. active rig count – 922**



Mexico continues to award MSC's (Multiple Service Contracts) to operating companies other than Pemex to help in the development of existing basin natural gas projects, freeing up Pemex to concentrate on oil exploration.

Thanks in part to the "terrorism premium," oil prices spike as much as \$7/bbl higher in a 30-day period despite weak fundamentals.

The U.S. Congress formally ends its legislative session without passing a sweeping energy bill or a massive spending measure designed to fund the federal government through next September. (Sound familiar?)

The International Maritime Organization's Environmental Protection Committee decrees the acceleration of the phase out of single-hull tankers operating in international waters from the previous 2015 to 2010.

**Light sweet crude oil - \$30.76/bbl;  
Natural gas - \$5.82/MMbtu; U.S.  
active rig count – 1,111**

## THE REST OF THE YARN

What two historical events occurred in the first decade of the twentieth century that kick-started both the sourcing of oil and the market for oil? The answer...The Spindletop Discovery Well in 1901 and the introduction of the Model T Ford in 1908. That decade witnessed the true industrialization of the U.S. economy, and both the oil industry and the automobile industry have never looked back. This month we begin an extended look at the life and times of one of the great business tycoons of our history, whose inventiveness and business acumen contributed greatly to the early growth of the oil industry, namely Henry Ford.

Today, Henry Ford is venerated as one of the great industrialists of any century. He is remembered not only for his introduction of automobiles to the masses, but also for the invention of new manufacturing techniques, his generous wage policies, and his philanthropy.

When compared side-by-side, Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller had much in common. As we undertake this look back at the life and times of Henry Ford, reflect back on the life and times of John D. Rockefeller, and see if you can observe some of their similarities.

Henry Ford was born on July 30, 1863 near Dearborn, Michigan, a few miles west of Detroit. He was the eldest of six children. His father was a native of County Cork, Ireland, where he grew up surrounded by discrimination and suffering. He fled to America when he was 21 and was amazed at the New World's freedoms and cheap land. He poured his heart and soul into his farm, and he passed on to his son a passion for labor and success. Work became the centerpiece of Henry's life. In later years he would regularly say things like, "It is always too soon to quit."

Next month, we take a look at the life and interests of young Henry Ford.

## Then & Now December

# QUIZ

What newly spun off operating company was considered to be the biggest U.S. independent producer in 1988?

## Answer to November's Quiz

*The Elk Hills Field was the site of California's first true horizontal oil well in 1988.*

## Congratulations to October's Winner

**GILBERTO BARCENAS**

*If you would like to participate in this month's quiz, e-mail your answer to [contest@spe.org](mailto:contest@spe.org) by noon, December 15th. The winner, who will be chosen randomly from all correct answers, will receive a \$50 gift card to a nice restaurant.*

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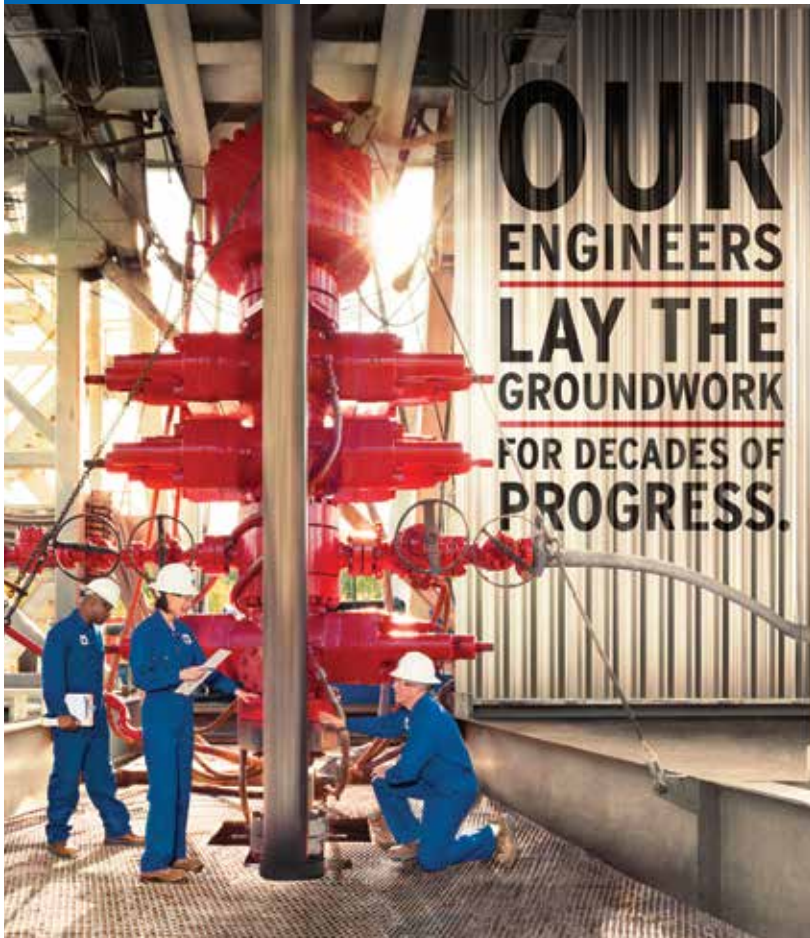
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# Striking Gold in Natural Gas: A Lesson from 1848

Recent technological advances in shale production have caused a “resource rush” which few predicted. Companies caught in the rush now find themselves faced with fierce competition for limited resources and a low price environment due to increased supply, as much of the industry moves into shale plays. Changes in technology may be difficult to foresee, but those who consider competitor reaction when forging into pioneer territory are likely to be the ultimate winners.

Creating competitive advantage in a dynamic situation such as this requires a company to avoid the herd mentality and consider how other players – competitors, regulators, and energy consumers – will respond as events unfold. In complex systems and markets, forecasting the future is impossible and unintended consequences are the norm. Early identification of potential developments and positioning your company to take advantage of them can mean the difference between profitability and failure.

All of this means that strategy should be based on a variety of possible futures, not just one which someone has deemed to be the “most likely.” Recognizing how your actions will alter those of your competitors will allow you to stay one step ahead of them. Potential choke points in the value chain hold the key to profitability; identifying and gaining control of these can be worth millions. Characterizing the option value associated with certain events which may or may not happen – and understanding what it’s worth to your company to be in position to take advantage of them if they do occur – can make a huge difference in profitability.

## Patrick Leach

Patrick Leach has over thirty years of experience in the energy industry, ranging from New Orleans to Indonesia, Scotland, and now Houston. He joined Decision Strategies Inc. in 2004 as a Senior Consultant, and became CEO of the company in August, 2011. He is the author of a book entitled *Why Can't You Just Give Me the Number?* - An executive's guide to using probabilistic thinking to manage risk and to make better decisions. He was an SPE Distinguished Lecturer during 2012-2013.

Mr. Leach has a BS from the University of Rochester and an MBA from the University of Houston. He is a Charter Fellow in the Society of Decision Professionals, and holds memberships in the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Society of Petroleum Engineers, the Decision Analysis Affinity Group, and the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science.



## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Patrick Leach*  
CEO  
*Decision Strategies Inc.*

### MORE INFO

*Annual joint meeting with the Houston Chapter of the API*

### LOCATION

*Petroleum Club  
800 Bell Street, 43rd floor  
Houston, TX 77002*

### EVENT CONTACT

*Barry Faulkner*  
281-627-8790  
*barryfaulkner@earthlink.net*

### MEMBERS

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### NON-MEMBERS

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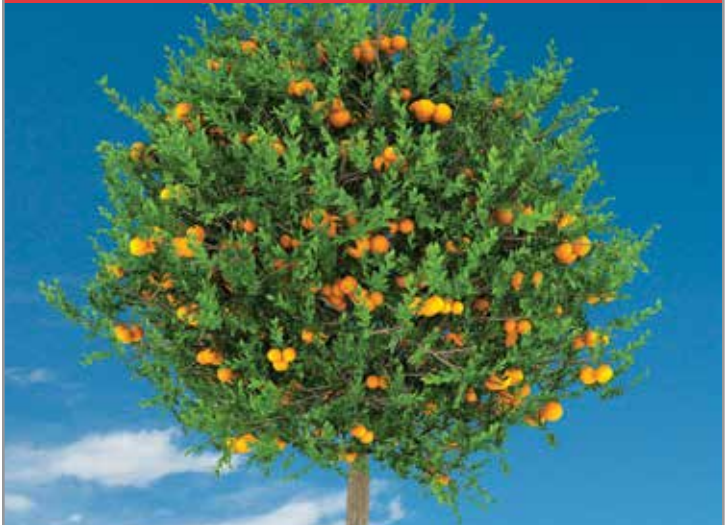


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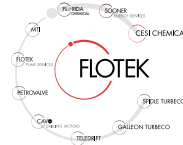
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Unlocking European Potential



# Analysis of Real Time Optimization - Contrasting Downstream and Upstream RTO Learnings

Downstream Refineries and Chemical Plants have benefited from real time optimization systems (RTO) for the last 30 years. Downstream RTO is a well-established and permanent fixture in many plants – the “way we do things ‘round here!” Upstream E&P operations have “come to this party” much more recently and are using RTO more sparingly, even though the economic and HSSE benefits can be very significant. There are key differences between downstream and upstream. For example, downstream facilities do not deal with sub-surface uncertainties, multiphase flow, and isolated/harsh environments, while upstream operations do not usually have to deal with complex chemical processes.

Integrated Oil Companies run upstream and downstream operations, and integration of tools/practices across both regimes is often perceived to be of significant value. Hence, the purpose of this paper is to compare and contrast downstream and upstream RTO learnings in order to identify and describe the following: similarities in production unit operations; key differences between production unit operations; cultural differences between operations; RTO activities from a technical perspective; and RTO business benefits and how these might be leveraged and sustained in both directions.

A comparison will emerge from this analysis that highlights points of commonality and differences, leading to a better understanding of how RTO can be more effectively exploited in the upstream business – the cheapest oil available! Specifically, it is concluded that RTO in upstream operations is feasible and lucrative, but is relatively rare, as sustainability is a challenge. Downstream RTO is more common and sustainable, significantly less lucrative, but a “must do” to compete in a highly competitive, margin-constrained business.

## Ron Cramer

Ron Cramer is a Principle Optimization Engineer with Shell Projects and Technology, Houston. Cramer has 35 years’ experience in multiple Shell E&P operating companies covering Oil/Gas Field Operations, Hydrocarbon Accounting, Maintenance/Materials Management, Instrumentation, Telemetry, SCADA/DCS, ESD/F&G, and Information Technology.

He also worked for 12 years as a Chemical Engineer for Union Carbide and Polysar in downstream research, process surveillance, and optimization areas. Mr. Cramer is a graduate Chemical Engineer with a BS from Strathclyde University and an MS from Waterloo University. Cramer has published and/or presented more than 60 papers regarding oil and gas experiences.

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Ron Cramer*  
Principle Optimization Engineer  
Shell

### LOCATION

Norris Westchase Centers  
9990 Richmond Ave.,  
South Bldg., Ste. 102  
Houston, TX 77042

### EVENT CONTACT

*Rick Morneau*  
281-315-9395  
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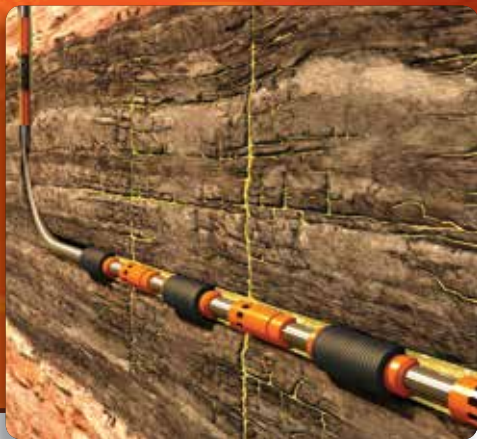
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## Oliver Diaz

Oliver worked hand in hand with BP and the US government to provide communications materials to the president and the public during the Deepwater Horizon incident. Under Oliver's leadership, FuelFX was awarded 334th place in the 2013 INC 500 Fast Growth Companies (36th in Texas, 5th in Houston). Oliver has helped over 50 oil and gas companies grow their companies and find success by consulting on investor relations, marketing collateral, executive presentations, corporate videos, and websites.

THU  
December 5

11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Oliver Diaz*  
CEO  
FuelFX, LLC

### REGISTRATION

*Opens at 11:00*

### LOCATION

*Petroleum Club*  
800 Bell St.  
Houston, TX 77002

### EVENT CONTACT

*Joe Tison*  
281-450-8741  
wtison@gtweed.com

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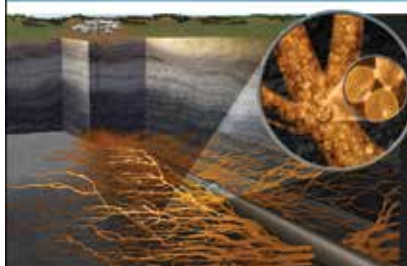
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# Occupational Safety Management in the Times of the US Oil & Gas Boom

It is well known that current oil and gas exploration and production activities are rendering significant gains to the US economy evidenced by increased household incomes, progress in energy independence, as well as trade and job creation. But hydraulic fracturing and drilling are only part of the story; chemical production, transportation, environmental management and other related sectors are also booming, and giving significant recompenses to society.

In spite of the immense positive impacts, this historic energy (and economic) revolution has created significant occupational safety challenges. Injuries and fatalities, exposure to hazardous chemicals, and transportation incidents are just some of the few. This presentation will review occupational safety statistics, incident root-causes, areas of increased risk, and most importantly, will present and discuss lessons learned and corrective actions. It will also review innovative (and successful) best management practices created and followed by the industry to mitigate the negative impacts that get in the way of reaching safe and sustainable oil and gas exploration and production activities.

## Vinio Floris

Vinio Floris is a seasoned HSE and operations management professional with over 20 years of experience in the energy industry. He is currently the North America HSE Manager for the Energy Services Group at TETRA Technologies, Inc. He has previously worked at CEMEX, the Port of Houston Authority, Enron, and ERM. He has worked extensively domestically and internationally. Vinio Floris holds civil-environmental engineering degrees (including a Ph.D.) from Colorado State University, an MPA in Environmental Management and Economics from Harvard University, and a MBA from Texas A&M University. He is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Texas, an Environmental and Engineering Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a Board Certified Environmental engineer.

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Vinio Floris*  
HSE Manager for the Energy Services Group  
TETRA Technologies, Inc.

### LOCATION

*Petroleum Club*  
800 Bell Street, 43rd floor  
Houston, TX 77002

### EVENT CONTACT

*Virginia Jee*  
281-285-4267  
vjje@slb.com

### MEMBERS

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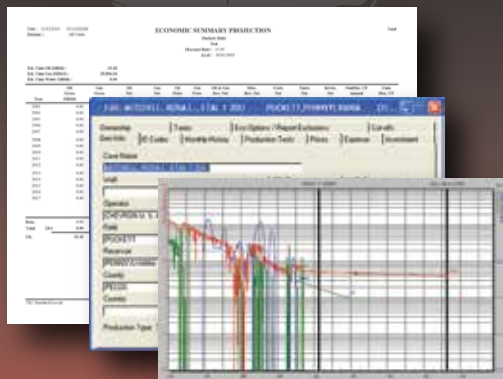
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## Statoil 360°

The International Study Group is honored to host Dr. Helge Hove Haldorsen at this December 12th Speaker Luncheon. In his presentation, Dr. Haldorsen will discuss the role of leadership, technology, and innovation at Statoil, followed by a brief discussion of the global energy outlook. He will present the ambition and strategy of Statoil, covering its 2013 status, its impressive recent exploration deliveries, and how an average recovery factor of 50% was achieved on the NCS, the current project development portfolio. He will close with a more granular presentation of Statoil in North America: Deepwater Gulf of Mexico, unconventional (Marcellus, Eagle Ford, and Bakken), and Canada (Oil Sands and East Coast Canada offshore).

### Dr. Helge Hove Haldorsen

Dr. Helge Hove Haldorsen currently holds the positions of VP Strategy & Portfolio and Mexico Country Manager for Statoil Development and Production North America in Houston. He has an MS in Petroleum Engineering from The Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondheim and a PhD in Reservoir Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Haldorsen was a Second Lieutenant in The Royal Norwegian Navy and held various positions within reservoir engineering at Esso Exploration Norway in Stavanger, Sohio Petroleum Company in San Francisco and Anchorage, and British Petroleum in London. He joined Hydro in 1987 and held a number of key management positions with the company: Chief Reservoir Engineer, VP Exploration & Research and President E&P International.

After the acquisition of the Houston-based independent 'Spinnaker' by Hydro in 2005, Helge served as the President until the merger with Statoil in October 2007. He has served on the Society of Petroleum Engineer's (SPE) Board of Directors for 3 years and he has been an SPE Distinguished Lecturer. He is the author of many technical papers and articles and has been a Professor of Industrial Mathematics at the University of Oslo as well as a lecturer at Stanford University. Helge is currently a member of the Cockrell School of Engineering Advisory Board at The University of Texas at Austin and a member of the OTC Board of Directors. He was recently elected to be the 2015 SPE President.

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Dr. Helge Hove Haldorsen  
VP of Strategy and Portfolio,  
Mexico Country Manager  
Statoil Development & Production  
North America*

### LOCATION

*Petroleum Club  
800 Bell Street, 43rd floor  
Houston, TX 77002*

### EVENT CONTACT

*Terry Thoem  
832-722-4161  
tlt72@flash.net*

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# Optimizing Fracture Spacing in Unconventional Oil & Gas Reservoirs

Fracture stimulation and production forecasting are two important processes for conventional low-permeability or unconventional reservoirs. Fracture stimulation of either type of reservoir helps assure commercial production rates or maximize exploitation, while proper production forecasting informs the operator in advance of the potential short-term and long-term value of the well and the area.

To provide more accurate recovery forecasts for conventional low-permeability or unconventional reservoirs, one must consider the key parameters of the generated hydraulic fracture, including effective fracture length (affected by filtrate clean-up and fracture damage), relative differences in fracture and formation flow capacity (e.g., dimensionless fracture conductivity), proppant distribution, tapered fracture conductivity, and stress dependence of the fracture conductivity. In addition, stress dependence of reservoir permeability and reservoir fluid properties also have a major impact.

For the horizontal wellbore architecture commonly used to exploit unconventional reservoirs, the knowledge of the optimum number of fractures to maximize the recovery is very important. This paper uses a numerical reservoir simulation study to develop simple correlations that quantify what fracture spacing is necessary to optimize recovery factors in unconventional gas reservoirs and how various hydraulic fracture parameters and non-ideal reservoir behaviors affect the horizontal well completion design.

Because the reservoir simulation process can take significant time and effort, and analytical solutions are sometimes very complex, a simple “back of the envelope” methodology to estimate the optimum fracture spacing can be advantageous for everyday use and a starting point for completion optimization. This paper also discusses how deviations from ideal behavior, in terms of fracture and reservoir properties, can affect the well design. A comparison of the optimization process for oil and liquids-rich reservoirs will also be provided.

## Mike Mayerhofer

Mike Mayerhofer is the Director of the Fracturing Center of Excellence at Pinnacle, a Halliburton Service in Houston. He leads a team of engineers providing advanced fracture engineering solutions with special emphasis on unconventional shale and tight oil & gas plays. His responsibilities include the application of microseismic, tiltmeter and fiber optic hydraulic fracture mapping results for optimizing fracture completion, well placement and infill drilling strategies, the design and evaluation of hydraulic fracturing treatments, reservoir engineering, and integrated field studies. His twenty-two year involvement with hydraulic fracturing and reservoir engineering includes fundamental research and real field applications in various global producing areas and has resulted in over 60 technical papers and journal articles. Prior to joining Pinnacle in 1997, he worked for Union Pacific Resources in Ft. Worth. He has a Doctorate in Petroleum Engineering from Mining University Leoben in Austria. He was a member of the SPE Well Completions Committee from 1998 to 2001 and has served on the JPT Editorial Committee. He was the recipient of the 2009 Completions Optimization and Technology Award for the SPE Gulf Coast North America Region.



## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Mike Mayerhofer*  
Director of the Fracturing Center  
of Excellence  
Pinnacle

### LOCATION

*Greenspoint Club*  
16925 Northcase Drive  
Houston, Texas 77060

### EVENT CONTACT

*Matthew Strom*  
281-618-7848  
Matthew\_Strom@swn.com

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# Oil Field R&D, A Services Company Perspective

Tom Tilton, Vice President of Research and Engineering and Chief Technology Officer at Weatherford International, will speak to leading a services company's research, development, and engineering functions. Tom will discuss how Weatherford identifies and implements new technology development programs, the role of a services company versus an operating company in new technology development, lessons learned from leading a multinational scientific / engineering organization and how he sees the increasing role of technology in the oil field. His talk will be followed by a question and answer session.

## Tom Tilton

Tom Tilton is Vice President of Research and Engineering and Chief Technology Officer for Weatherford International. He leads an international technology organization that provides solutions to challenges in the exploration and production of oil and gas resources globally. Tom graduated from the University of Houston in 1976 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and is a board member of the R&D Technical Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. He serves as a board member of ITF, a global technology facilitator company based in the U.K. Tom is a member and former chairman of the Engineering Leadership Board at the University of Houston. Tom is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas, and holds 29 patents in drilling, well construction, completion, and production.

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Tom Hilton  
Vice President of Research and  
Engineering and Chief  
Technology Officer  
Weatherford International*

### LOCATION

*Norris Westchase Center  
9990 Richmond Ave., Suite 102  
Houston, Texas 77042*

### EVENT CONTACT

*Skip Davis  
281-359-8556  
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# Deepwater Wellbore Cleanup: Tools, Processes, Case Histories

In deepwater and extended-reach wells, good system hydraulics are important for assuring the maximum annular velocity needed to prevent debris from settling on the low side of the hole. Wellbore cleanup systems are used to reduce nonproductive time by effectively removing that debris. A new system of deepwater wellbore cleanup tools has been developed, which features high torque and tensile ratings, a new bearing technology for high rotation speeds, and larger flow areas. These high performance tools, which won the 2012 World Oil Award for Best Wellbore Intervention Technology, include casing scrapers and brushes, downhole magnets, multi-task wellbore filters, and riser brushes. A new ball-activated circulation valve that can be opened and closed multiple times to perform a variety of operations and a new wellbore test packer that prevents damage to the liner top will also be discussed. Case histories will be presented that demonstrate how multiple operations can be performed in a single run, thereby further reducing rig time, improving reliability, reducing operational risk, and allowing the tools to operate more efficiently as a system.

## Greg Hern

Greg Hern is currently an engineering manager for the wellbore intervention product line at Baker Hughes Inc. He has fifteen years of experience in the development of downhole tools for well servicing applications. Greg led a design team that won the 2012 World Oil Award for Best Wellbore Intervention Technology, and has authored two papers describing new wellbore cleanup products. Greg has been awarded 17 U.S. patents and has a BS in mechanical engineering from Iowa State University.



## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Greg Hern  
Engineering Manager,  
Downhole Tools  
Baker Hughes Inc.*

### LOCATION

*Norris Westchase Center  
9990 Richmond Ave., Suite 102  
Houston, Texas 77042*

### EVENT CONTACT

*Andrea Hersey  
281-646-2805  
andrea.hersey@momentive.com*

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# SPE STUDENT SUMMIT HOSTED BY TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY STUDENT CHAPTER

The SPE Student Summit, hosted by Texas A&M University Student Chapter, is a three-day event designed to promote technical learning and networking opportunities for students. Attendance is open to all SPE Student Chapters. The theme, “Increasing Your Field’s IQ: The Digital Oilfield”, will promote new technological developments that are improving the oilfield. Activities include technical presentations, a panel session, an exhibition, company site visits, socials, and a golf tournament. If you are interested in helping with the event in any way, please contact Michael Stewart, SPE Student Summit Director, at michael.stewart@pe.tamu.edu.

WED-FRI  
February  
12-14  
8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

#### LOCATION

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation  
1201 Lake Robbins Drive  
The Woodlands, TX 77380

#### CONTACT

Michael Stewart  
281-851-0458  
michael.stewart@pe.tamu.edu

## CAREER MANAGEMENT: ETHICS SEMINAR

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December  
3

11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Texas Board of Professional Engineers – Licensing Process/Ethics: Covers the licensing requirements and applications process as well as rule and legislative changes that affect the profession, and board issues/actions.

The Society of Petroleum Engineers Gulf Coast Section will present a continuing education seminar which will discuss ethics. This 1-hour seminar will qualify attendees for their annual ethics training requirement by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers.

### George Hartmann

George P. Hartmann, P.E. is a Licensing Project Manager at the Texas Board of Professional Engineers in Austin. He has been with the Board for nine years. Previously he worked with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and predecessor agencies; Huntsman Corporation; and two environmental engineering consulting firms. He is a 1981 graduate of Manhattan College with a Bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering.

#### SPEAKER

George P. Hartmann, P.E.  
Licensing Project Manager  
Texas Board of Professional  
Engineers in Austin

#### LOCATION

SPE GCS Office  
10777 Westheimer, Suite 1075  
Houston, TX 77042

#### CONTACT

Patty Davis  
patty.davis@petroskills.com

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## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

#### DATE

Friday, December 13, 2013

#### LOCATION

Flemings Steakhouse  
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#### COST

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#### DEADLINE

Tuesday, December 10

#### CONTACT

Nancy Hill  
281-809-5515  
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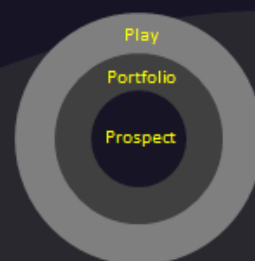
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Another great example of technology transfer is Booz Allen's Polaris, originally developed for NASA and now being piloted in the oil & gas industry. Polaris is a program analysis tool designed to help leaders make sound, objective, and data-informed decisions by analyzing integrated cost, schedule, and risk. A recent report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) credited new management practices for helping NASA reduce the cost and schedule growth experienced by its major programs by over two thirds since 2009.

## Ben Amaba

Ben Amaba is a World Wide Sales Executive with IBM Rational and is responsible for Industry Solutions and Complex systems globally. His main focus areas are in public sector and complex industrial systems including energy, chemical, process, buildings, distribution, transportation and manufacturing. Ben holds a PhD degree in Industrial & Systems Engineering, a MBA./MS degree in Engineering

## Eric Druker

Eric Druker is the senior manager for Booz Allen's RealTime Analytics Simulation capability within the firm's Strategic Innovation Group. He has 8 years of analytics experience in a diverse variety of subject matter areas, including cost and schedule estimating & risk analysis, program management, wargaming, portfolio management/optimization, kill-chain analysis, and stochastic optimization. A recognized industry expert in statistical analysis, modeling & simulation, and cost estimating, Eric is author of over a dozen industry papers on analytics, including two best paper awards. He has twice been named the International Cost Estimating and Analysis' (ICEAA) Analyst of the Year and has served as an invited speaker at a variety of industry conferences including the Department of Defense Cost Analysis Symposium (DoDCAS), Naval Postgraduate School Acquisition Research Symposium (NPS-ARS), and NASA's Project Management Challenge.

WED  
December 11

11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM

## Event Info

### SPEAKER

*Ben Amaba*  
World Wide Sales Executive  
IBM

*Eric Druker*  
Senior Manager  
Booz Allen Hamilton

### LOCATION

*Norris Westchase*  
9990 Richmond Ave., Ste. 102  
Houston, TX 77042

### EVENT CONTACT

*Carol Piovesan*  
949-232-6353  
cpiovesan@APOoffshore.com

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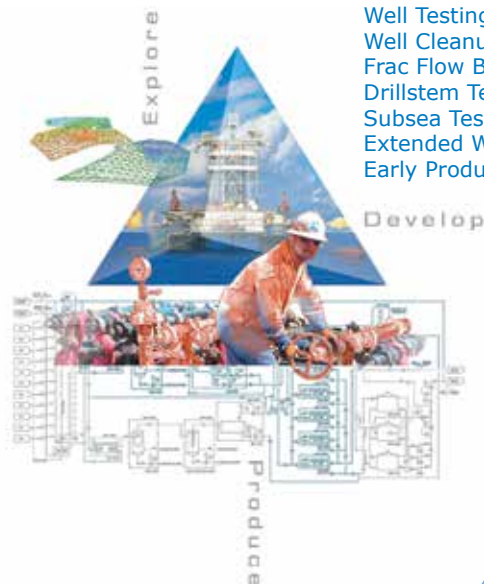
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*Renewable yearly scholarship (\$1,500/semester, \$3,000/academic year) up to 4 years:*

- Eligibility for renewal is dependent upon maintaining a GPA of at least 3.0, majoring in engineering/geoscience, and pursuing a career in the Oil & Gas industry

*The requirements for first time applicants:*

- Currently reside in Houston OR 29-county Gulf Coast area
- Enroll in an engineering or science program at a university in the Fall
- Be a current high school senior
- Minimum SAT score of 1650
- Be a U. S. citizen
- Completely fill out the scholarship form and turn in by deadline: 2/12/2014
- High school academic record
- Activities, awards and honors
- SAT and/or ACT score
- Professional reference letters
- Financial need (if applicable, not required)
- Short essay (approx. 500 words)

*The process:*

- Scholarship committee reviews each application
- Selected applicants are interviewed in the second round (April 2014)
- After the interviews, the scholarship committee meets and collectively decides the 2014-15 scholarship recipients (May 2014)

NOTE: Each 2014-15 first-time scholarship recipient may be eligible for a summer internship with an oil & gas company based on availability.

## More Info

### TO APPLY

Log on to the SPE Gulf Coast Section homepage and select the Scholarship/Internship committee page. A link to instructions and the online application are located in the center.

### QUESTIONS

[gcs-scholarship@spemail.org](mailto:gcs-scholarship@spemail.org)

### INSTRUCTONS

<http://spegcs.org/scholarship-app/instructons/>

### APPLICATON

<http://spegcs.org/forms/2014-2015-Scholarship-Application/>



# PETRO BOWL

The Colorado School of Mines successfully defended its PetroBowl championship at this year's Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition, and the Gulf Coast Section also had a great showing as UT-Austin and Texas A&M placed second and third, respectively. This single-elimination tournament has become a raucous tradition at ATCE as it provides a venue for students from all over the world to compete for scholarship money, a stunning trophy, and overall bragging rights. This year's contest featured 32 university chapters from 11 countries, making it the largest and most diversified PetroBowl yet! PetroSkills and ExxonMobil continued their gracious tradition of sponsoring the event, now in its 12th year.



Also continuing in tradition were SPE presidents Egbert Imomoh of Afren and Jeff Spath of Schlumberger Oilfield Services, who once again opened PetroBowl with words of encouragement for the competing students.

The Gulf Coast Section Young Professionals, having hosted PetroBowl since its inception and on the heels of the recent international success of the event, have been approved by the SPEI Board to implement their vision to grow the competition into a series of Regional Qualifiers for next year. This will increase the global footprint of the PetroBowl competition and allow for a comprehensively merit-based system of qualification for the PetroBowl Championship, which will continue to be held at ATCE. The future of PetroBowl is very bright!



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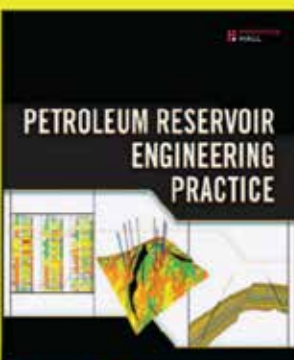
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# EVENT RECAP

*We want to thank the Northside Study Group, Reservoir Study Group, and the Community Service Committee for submitting photos this month of their events. The Community Service Committee photos were taken at the Energy Day 2013 event, a family-friendly festival on Saturday, October 19, which celebrates and highlights the importance of energy in our daily lives. If you would like your group to be recognized in the Connect with your wonderful photos, please send your photos by the 25th of every month to the Connect editor at [editor@spegcs.org](mailto:editor@spegcs.org).*



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Your guide to your organization leaders

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December 2013

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		Career Management: Ethics Seminar		Drilling Research & Development		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		HSSE-SR Northside	Technology Transfer Westside	Board Of Directors General Meeting	Auxiliary	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Digital Energy			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				