

SPE Annual Conference Focuses On All Phases of Oil and Gas E&P

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Since its first conference 85 years ago, the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) has featured the latest technical innovations, panel sessions, and papers covering all phases of oil and gas E&P. ATCE 2009, which will be held 4–7 October in New Orleans, will feature approximately 375 technical papers and ePosters, networking events, exhibiting companies, student and young professional activities, and continuing education opportunities. The technical program includes an opening general session, panel sessions, and short courses.

Opening General Session



Mallon

The Opening General Session will take place on the first day of the conference, featuring Liam M. Mallon, vice president engineering, ExxonMobil Production, as moderator. This session will outline the changes in relationships among national oil companies, international oil companies, and service companies and discuss how they can work together to develop

new opportunities.

Panel Sessions

A panel session titled, “The Challenges in Reservoir Management” will take place on Tuesday. This session will emphasize the current status and future trends in reservoir management and will cover operational components and their interface with other areas including drilling, completions, and production operations. This session targets not only reservoir engineers but all disciplines involved in the important activity of reservoir management.



Lara



Thiele



Webb

Session speakers will give keynote addresses, take questions from other experts, and answer questions from the audience. Anelise Lara, manager of reservoir engineering for Petrobras, will give a presentation on “Reservoir Surveillance: Cost Center or Profit Center.” Marco Thiele, cofounder and

president of Streamsim Technologies, will discuss “New Tools and Developments for Reservoir Monitoring.” Tom Webb, smart fields program manager, Americas, for Shell, will address the topic of “Smart Fields.”



Sprunt



Beugelsdijk



Olson



Cunha

On Wednesday, a session on “Managing Dual Career Couples: Balancing Family and Work” will feature a panel discussion followed by a roundtable discussion and audience interaction. The session will be moderated by 2006 SPE President Eve Sprunt, business development manager, Chevron, and Leon Beugelsdijk, petrophysicist, global appraisal portfolio team, Shell, and will include panelists Karen Olson, completion team leader, BP; J.C. Cunha, well operations manager, Petrobras; Ashley Breaux, Gulf of Mexico drilling engineer, Chevron; and Anupan Tagore, interim manager, flow assurance and hydraulics department, Amec Paragon. Panelists represent a human resources professional, experienced professionals who have dealt with dual career issues around the world, and several young professionals who are half of a dual career couple and are just starting their juggling act. The objective of this session is to establish best practices for both employees and employers with regards to managing the careers of dual career couples.

Other Events



Martin

Two special events will take place on Tuesday. A Distinguished Lecture Luncheon “Appropriate Hydraulic Fracturing Technologies for Mature Oil and Gas Formations” will feature Anthony Martin, business development manager for international simulation for BJ Services, who will discuss how hydraulic fracturing is not just for new



Morales Gil

wells in tight formations. This luncheon presentation will offer a number of case histories to illustrate the effectiveness of these techniques when they are systematically applied.

The JPT Legends of Production and Operations Luncheon will also take place on Tuesday. Eight pioneers will be honored for their contributions in the first generation of production and operations technology.

Attendees are invited to hear the legends' stories and be inspired to invent new technologies that benefit the industry.

This year's ATCE will also feature a topical breakfast on "Cantarell: A Supergiant with a Successful History and a Challenging Future." Carlos Morales Gil, director general of Pemex E&P, will offer a history of the Cantarell field since its discovery and will dispel the myths that surround it.

On Monday, the ATCE 2009 General Chairperson Rich Kruger, president of ExxonMobil Production, will share his insights on the industry at the Chairman's Luncheon.

The Annual Banquet, which will also take place on Monday, will recognize distinguished SPE members who have made significant contributions to the oil and gas industry. Prior to the Annual Banquet, all banquet attendees are invited to a reception.

Energy4me, SPE energy education outreach program, will host the Energy4me Teacher Workshop for science teachers (grades 4–12) on Wednesday. Educators will receive comprehensive, objective information about the scientific concepts of energy and its importance, while discovering the world of oil and natural gas E&P. A variety of free instructional materials will be available to take back to the classroom. The workshop will include hands-on classroom activities, briefing on oil and gas E&P, and a technology tour.



Roodhart



Fattahi

On Wednesday, the President's Luncheon and Annual Meeting of Members will feature 2009 SPE President Leo Roodhart delivering the "State of the Society" address and the official passing of

the presidential gavel to 2010 SPE President Behrooz Fattahi. This event will recognize the newly appointed SPE board members, distinguished members, former presidents, and regional award recipients.

Young Professionals and Students

Events for young professionals and students will include workshops and receptions. On Tuesday, a Young Professionals Workshop "Dieting After the USD 147-Barrel Bonanza—The



Blasingame



King

"Return to Efficiency" will show young professionals how to navigate cost pressures that will drive the industry in the short- and mid-term. Industry professionals will share their

experiences and inspire young professionals in their careers. Speakers will include Thomas A. Blasingame, professor at Texas A&M University; George E. King, engineer, George E. King Engineering; and David Pritchard, president, Successful Energy Practices International.

On Sunday, preceding the opening of the conference, a Student General Session will give students the chance to learn more about their future professional careers. The guest speaker will be Kruger. A Student Technical Session will also take place on Sunday and will feature a presentation on petroleum engineering from Blasingame. Sunday's student events also include a Student Chapter Officers Workshop and Student Welcome Coffee. The day will conclude with a Student Recruiting and Networking Fair where company recruiters will be present to offer information about their companies, accept resumes, and discuss careers.

Other student events include the International Student Paper Contest and PetroBowl on Monday. At the International Student Paper Contest, students can watch competitors from around the world compete in the undergraduate, master's, and PhD divisions. The PetroBowl, sponsored by the Gulf Coast Section Young Professionals Program, is a contest that will present 16 student chapter teams in a tournament-style contest that tests knowledge of the E&P industry and SPE. A reception will take place after the PetroBowl.

ePosters

After a successful pilot program at ATCE 2008 in Denver, the ATCE 2009 technical program will feature a poster session made up exclusively of ePosters, electronic versions of traditional poster presented on a plasma screen. They offer the added benefit of animation, audio, and video and enhance the visual experience to provide greater interactivity between the attendee and the poster author. ePosters will be on display in the hallways adjacent to the technical session rooms.

Short courses will be taught the weekend before the conference on subjects ranging from horizontal well completions, coalbed methane reservoir, and enhanced oil recovery to reservoir simulation, multilateral wells, and coiled tubing.

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For more information about the conference and how to get tickets for certain events, please go to www.spe.org/atce.