

## 2009 Eastern Hemisphere Forums Schedule Approved

The SPE Board of Directors approved the Eastern Hemisphere Forums schedule for 2009. The schedule is listed below.

### Overcoming Barriers to Deliver 15-km, Extended-Reach Wells and Beyond

April 2009 • Phuket, Thailand

Extended-reach drilling is an enabling technology that has been used for more than 20 years to deliver added value to the oil and gas industry. Extraordinary achievements have occurred during this period, which has resulted in the drilling and completion of numerous 10-km+ wells. More recently, the elevated oil price and location of future development opportunities has prompted operators to consider even higher step-out wells to 15 km

and beyond. In many cases, existing mechanical technologies could be operating outside of their working limits. Moreover, aggressive wellbore pressure management techniques will be needed to minimize potential for fluid losses. This means that new tools, techniques, understanding, and innovation are needed now to advance the operating envelope.

This forum will primarily explore technologies that will enable 15-km+

wells to be drilled and completed, cost effectively. A look to the future will also investigate what step-outs could ultimately be possible. Technologies from civil, mining, and other industries will also be discussed to seek out new ideas and opportunities.

*Chairpersons: Colin Mason,  
BP Exploration, and  
David Chen, Halliburton*

### CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Storage: Can the Oil and Gas Industry Support its Development and Deployment?

13–18 September 2009 • Cadiz, Spain

With increasing reliance on the use of fossil fuels to meet energy demand, emissions are forecast to reach unsustainable levels. CO<sub>2</sub> capture and geological storage is a major carbon-abatement option, with the potential to achieve 20% of the total reduction needed to stay at the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stabilization levels. The oil and gas industry provides the leading source of expertise for subsurface injection of CO<sub>2</sub>, for enhanced hydrocarbon recovery or long-term storage.

This forum will address the challenges related to the potential development of CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage activity that would be several orders of magnitude larger than the current demonstration projects.

Challenges include CO<sub>2</sub> purity requirements from capture sources, the need for a regional transportation infrastructure, and the formation and application of legal and regulatory frameworks for storage. Early applications include CO<sub>2</sub> enhanced oil recovery. Also covered will be screen-

ing criteria for candidate field selection and the potential for enhanced conventional and unconventional gas recovery.

The development of carbon capture and storage requires the existence of financial frameworks, such as the Kyoto instruments, emissions trading system, or other taxation that provide CO<sub>2</sub>-reduction incentives, along with monitoring and verification instruments. What role can the oil and gas industry play to support the development of those guidelines?

### The Fight to Reduce Drilling NPT: Technology, Processes, and People Under Pressure

20–25 September 2009 • Cadiz, Spain

The price of oil is sky high and, as a consequence, competition for available rigs is keen. Yet behind closed doors operators recognize that drilling nonproductive time (NPT) is abysmal, with most key indicators showing alarming trends. While there are many

contributors to overall NPT—from equipment failure to poor logistics—a major factor is formation instability, especially in shale.

This forum will try to identify the causes behind this failure. Is it because our scientific understanding of the sub-

ject is still insufficient? Is it because of a lack of adequate education of the end user—i.e., the drilling engineer—about a very complex subject? Is it organizational—e.g., our incapacity to build up and keep up learning curves? Is it something else?

## SPE Forum Series Coordinating Committee Calls for 2010 Topics

The SPE Forum Series Coordinating Committee is asking for topic suggestions for the 2010 SPE Forum Series.

The SPE Forum Series, held in the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East, is designed to stimulate thought and accelerate development of future technologies related to the upstream oil and gas industry. These meetings educate through dissemination of technical information and encourage discussion and innovation in a casual setting.

Topics should generate interest and stimulate contributions from industry, government, and academia, and support in-depth discussion within the 1-week framework of each meeting. Timeliness and quality are important criteria of topic selections.

The deadline for topic proposals is 15 December 2008. To propose a topic, contact Judy Vaughan at [jvaughan@spe.org](mailto:jvaughan@spe.org) or call 1.972.952.9440.

## Getting to Robust Production Forecasts

11–16 October 2009 • Cadiz, Spain

Accurate production forecasting is proving to be an elusive science and the industry often fails to meet both short- and long-term production targets. In addition, it tends to systematically underestimate the impact of uncertainty. Why is that?

Production forecasting is based on input parameters derived from a number of disparate sources: from seismic and core data to facilities and downstream market predictions. Added into the mix are ambitious management targets and performance contracts as well as human factors such as cooperation and integration across technical disciplines. Overall, production forecasting is a highly coupled and complex task.

Different techniques are often applied in short- and long-term production forecasting. The associated uncertainties are of a different nature for different time scales. The handling of these uncertainties has proven to be highly challenging for most companies. The industry tends to underestimate uncer-

tainty and fails to account for unforeseen events that can erode forecasts.

The forum will address strategic, tactical, and planning issues in production forecasting and their interactions, as well as the need for improved methodologies and workflows.

Main topics will include: how valid are the historic learnings; where are the main gaps in today's methodology and workflows; what data do we need and how is the data applied; how to take into account both upstream and downstream factors; how to effectively incorporate a "train wreck" factor; handling of uncertainty in all input data types; how to capture a realistic span of uncertainty; how much should we rely on reservoir modeling, simulation, and history-matched models; what are the implications of management target setting; how to address human factors; and how to integrate short- and long-term forecasting.

JPT

**Chairperson:** Peter Brand, Helix-RDS

### Staff Geologist Australia

Leading Australasian energy company. Provide Geological input to the exploration and production team and generate new exploration and play concepts.

### Senior Explorationist Europe

Focus on Africa and Middle East regions. Technical studies, work programme recommendations and identification of new opportunities.

### Group Lead - Facilities Engineer USA

Provide Functional Group leadership to Facilities Engineers and work closely with the Business Unit development and production teams.

### Projects & Engineering Manager Syria

Manage, coordinate and facilitate the engineering from design through to post startup of multiple capital projects supporting business objectives.

### Senior Production Technologist UK

Opportunity to join an established European operating company with modern offices in London. Requires skill in maximizing recovery through designing and implementing innovative well engineering solutions.

### Reservoir and Production Engineers USA

Leading North American natural gas producer requires US citizens, green card holders or Australian citizens for regional postings. 5+ years experience and a relevant degree required.

Looking for a job that aligns well with your aspirations, but do not see it above? Then contact us for a confidential discussion and we will be happy to get you in front of some of the best companies in the world.

Contact Chris Rodgers:  
[viaspe@mnaglobal.com](mailto:viaspe@mnaglobal.com)  
[www.mnaglobal.com](http://www.mnaglobal.com)

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