Labeling and Formatting Figures in SPE Papers

Figures that are used in SPE peer-reviewed papers should be formatted and labeled consistently throughout the paper. When creating or editing figures, please reference Section 2.10 and Appendix H in the SPE Technical Publications Style Guide, and adhere to these other stylistic guidelines.

- Submit figures in Word, Excel, or PowerPoint, or as .tif or .jpg images.
- Make sure figures are high-resolution, with a print quality of 300 dpi, and preferably designed to occupy either a single column (3.33 in.) or the width of two columns (6.83 in.).
- Use 8-point bold font for axis titles and captions, and 8-point normal font for any callouts.
- Capitalize axis titles as you would regular titles, according to the SPE Technical Publications Style Guide (Section 2.1). Capitalize only the first word and any proper nouns used in callouts within the figure.
- Make sure that the spelling and representation of callouts is consistent with the body text of the paper.
- Axis titles indicate quantity and unit, separated by parentheses, with the unit abbreviated where appropriate: Time (years) NOT Time (yr); Depth (m) NOT Depth (meters).
- Punctuate figure captions like sentences, and generally capitalize only the first word. Define in the figure caption or in a figure key any abbreviations used in the figure.
- Separate the figure number from the caption with an em dash.
- Avoid using unfamiliar abbreviations in figures.

Graph title is centered at top of figure. Each word of four or more characters is capitalized. Font is 8-point bold.

Callout is left justified. Only the first word is capitalized. Font is 8-point normal.

Axis title is centered. Each word of four or more characters is capitalized. Unit is in parentheses. Font is 8-point bold.

Figure number is separated from the caption by an em dash. Only the first word and proper nouns are capitalized (Well 5 is considered the proper name of the well under discussion). Font is 8-point bold.

Standard units of four or more digits use a comma. Metric units of five or more digits use a space (e.g., 10 000).

Last Revised: 01 August 2019