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Large Scale – Fast Volume Visualization

In a time of low oil prices, finding reserves quickly and with limited risk is essential to continued profitable operations. Explorationists, now more than ever before, need advanced technologies that reduce uncertainty. Visualization technology is an enabling tool for improving margins in a low-price environment. The success of this technique is that it lets explorationists examine very large data sets interactively, and reveals hidden but important features within 3D seismic data. The presentation will highlight projects completed using Texaco's Visualization Center. Visualization technology has helped Texaco cut cycle time in seismic analysis from, on average, the typical three weeks to three days, helped find new prospective zones not previously identified, and helped discover new reserves.

Biographical Sketch

Michael J. Zeitlin is portfolio manager of Texaco's Integrated Reservoir Information and Global Visualization Technology. He has held previous leadership positions with Texaco since 1980 including basin modeling, computer-aided exploration, and hydrogeology. During the past six years, Mr. Zeitlin has been the driving force in Texaco's effort to acquire, develop, and deploy 3D visualization technology throughout Texaco's business units including the commercial installation of the industry's first visualization center. He has received several top honors from Texaco including Texaco's General Manager's Outstanding Contributors (1993 and 1995), Bottom-Line Impact (1993), and New Product Development (1993) awards. He has also been selected to receive the Award for Management Excellence in Information Technology from Carnegie Mellon University and the American Management Institute (1998).

Before joining Texaco, Mr. Zeitlin received a B.S. double degree in earth and space science and biology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He also received an M.S. degree in geological oceanography from the Marine Science

Research Institute at Stony Brook. He is an active member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Institute of Electrical Engineers' Computer Society. □

The Reservation Code for this meeting is 5-0-6.