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Additional Abstracts

ACEVEDO, JOSÉ SANTIAGO, Pemex, Coatzacoalcos, Mexico

Petroleum Geology of Campeche Offshore Area, Southeastern Mexico

The exploratory well Chac 1, 80 km north of Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, established in 1976 the first oil-producing formation in the marine area of Campeche, located west of the Yucatan Peninsula of southeastern Mexico.

From intensification of marine seismology, several structural trends have been identified, some of which are being drilled. Oil- and gas-bearing beds have already been identified in the Makab, Akal, Nohoch, and Abkatum structures, in dolomitic rocks of Paleozoic, Cretaceous, and Jurassic ages. The oil-producing rocks are sealed by terrigenous rocks of Tertiary age.

Exploratory drilling is concentrated in an area of about 8,000 sq km, and the geologic characteristics, and stratigraphic and structural type and age of reservoirs (Cretaceous and Jurassic) are like those of the onshore area of Chiapas-Tabasco; apparently, both areas compose the same shelf-basin unit.

The depth range of the top of the productive zone is between 1,260 and 3,500 m and the rocks are basically dolomite. In some areas the zone of hydrocarbon saturation reaches up to 700 m.

Wells drilled onshore in the Yucatan Peninsula indicate that basement is constituted of metamorphic rocks, possibly of Paleozoic age, that extend toward the marine area. This is being confirmed by recent gravimetry and magnetometry work.

The exploratory drilling is being accomplished with nine different types of equipment, and the installation of fixed platforms for development and exploitation of the area has already been initiated.

BRAY, E. E., and W. R. FOSTER, Mobil R and D Corp., Dallas, Tex.

Process for Primary Migration of Petroleum in Sedimentary Basins