

HGS Luncheon Meeting September 18, 1996

Mustique and Shasta: An Independent Operator's Approach to Two Subsea Projects

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The Shasta and Mustique deepwater developments were managed by Hardy Oil and Gas USA, Inc., as operator. An integrated approach was taken to combine the geological, technical, and commercial issues that an operator must consider to efficiently carry out the development process. A cycle system was employed that defined the work activity and schedule through prospect acquisition, evaluation, development, design, manufacturing, and implementation. All issues were resolved by a project team that included the project manager of each major vendor and representatives of the working interest partners.

The Shasta development is located in Green Canyon 136 in 800 to 1,000 feet of water and consists of two subsea wells tied back to the Texaco platform in Green Canyon 6. The Mustique development is located in Garden Banks 240 in 850 feet of water and consists of one subsea well tied back to a Chevron platform in Garden Banks 236.

The challenges facing a small operator on a deepwater subsea project are considerable. Management principles and coordination of a small, highly professional technical team for the Mustique and Shasta project were crucial to the project control and the decision-making process.

The presentation will provide a review of the prospect and evaluation process, management philosophies, and cross-disciplinary team principles. It will also give a detailed description of the goals and philosophies used to define a successful project. Specifics of each project will be given, covering the design and detail engineering cycles, the manufacturing period, and the implementation of the project.

Biographical Sketches

Clint D. Smith is Vice President of Opera-

tions for Hardy Oil & Gas USA, a position he has held since 1991. Prior to Hardy, he was employed by Trafalgar House Oil & Gas, Eaton Industries of Houston, and Phillips Petroleum with work assignments in Southeast Asia, Middle East, and the U.S. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Texas.

Cory L. Loegering is Manager of Special Projects for Hardy Oil & Gas USA and is responsible for deepwater business development. He led the prospect evaluations for Mustique and Shasta and participated in the development planning, design, and project management cycles through initial production. Mr. Loegering has been active in the exploration and production business since 1977 and holds a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Montana State University. ■