



Houston Geological Society

International Explorationists Group

Holiday Party

Monday, December 18th

6:00 to 8:30 PM

Rioja Tapas Restaurant

Kirkwood & Westheimer • 11920-J Westheimer

www.riojarestaurant.com

\$25.00

Spanish Tapas — “small plates” (hot & cold hors d’oeuvres)



Monday, January 15, 2007

HGS International Explorationists Dinner Meeting

The H.E.S.S. Club • 5430 Westheimer

Social Hour 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25 Preregistered members; \$30 non-members & walk-ups

The HGS prefers that you make your reservations on-line through the HGS website at www.hgs.org. If you have no Internet access, you can e-mail reservations@hgs.org, or call the office at 713-463-9476 (include your name, e-mail address, meeting you are attending, phone number and membership ID#).

by Allan Kean, Max Torres, and
Dewi Jones, RepsolYPF,
David Connelly, dGB,
Paul Sikora, EGI,
Leo Legarretti, Patagonia

January Meeting Preview

Reducing Geologic Risk in Frontier Deep Water Explorations Settings, Suriname, South America

Working in frontier exploration areas usually means facing a situation of extrapolation based on little to no available geological and geophysical data. Fundamentally, this is why an area is considered frontier in nature! In order to justify drilling a single well with costs often in excess of \$40 million, addressing geologic and geophysical risk becomes important. Increasing the probability of success through scientific applications and integration different disciplines becomes a value-adding exercise as part of our job as geoscientists.

Having worked in frontier exploration for almost 30 years, we have found that one thing remains constant: a lack of data. The job is difficult enough to begin with. Therefore, how do we deal with convincing people to invest the

millions of dollars needed to drill to find oil? I would offer that we commit the resources, integrate our technologies and develop a consistent story for our recommendations. More importantly, we need to address the geologic and geophysical risks associated with specific areas and prospects to determine where best to spend our time, energy and resources and to determine what studies will assist in the reduction of risk.

We need to address the geologic and geophysical risks associated with specific areas and prospects to determine where best to spend our time, energy and resources and to determine what studies will assist in the reduction of risk.

This talk is based on RepsolYPF's ongoing efforts to minimize the Pg&g (probability of geological and geophysical success) for a frontier exploration project in the offshore deep water area of Suriname, South America. Through the multidisciplinary integration of

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play type analogues, biostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy and hydrocarbon charge models, a reduced Pg&g has been achieved. Utilization of these technologies allows for variations in the factors in either a positive or negative direction. As geoscientists and explorationists, our charge is to tell a story based on science and to use every possible technical means available to ensure that we recommend drilling a well that is as low risk as possible.

In the pre-drill world, one is always comfortable with the recommendation and prognosis. The post-drill results will reveal the correct story! ■

Biographical Sketch

ALLAN graduated from the University of Mississippi ("Ole Miss") with a BS degree in Geological Engineering in 1976. While a student he worked at the World Wide Standard Seismic Network Station OXF and was a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the national honor society for earth sciences. Allan likes to say that he "reverse engineered" his career path by taking his first oil and gas-related job with a small independent oil company, Haddad and Brooks, located in his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He worked as a well site geologist, surveyor and landman for a couple of summers before getting his MS in geophysics from Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) where he worked as a teaching and research assistant. His thesis title was a "Refractive Crustal Study of Southeastern USA," which was the closest subject related to oil and gas exploration he could find at Georgia Tech at the time.



Allan was hired by Amoco Production Company in 1978 to work in the New Orleans office. He started in the Technology Group, progressing through various divisions and jobs including data processing and working OCS lease sales and area evaluation such

as Lake Ponchartrain and the Tuscaloosa Trend. In 1982 he left Amoco to work internationally for Mobil Oil in Dallas, TX. He worked Africa for 14 years for Mobil mainly in the Operations New Areas (ONA) group based in Dallas. Areas of focus included Tunisia, Cameroon, Angola, Morocco, Kenya, Madagascar, Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire and Nigeria. Allan was an expat living in Lagos, Nigeria, between 1988 and 1991. He then returned to the USA to Mobil's New Orleans office to work in the Global Interpretational Services group doing 3D interpretation and visualization projects on Mobil's largest 3D survey ever acquired in Nigeria. He also worked on projects from Algeria and Kazakhstan, and before the merger of Mobil with Exxon was involved with Mobil's Brazilian efforts in the Campos Basin. He has published papers in the GCSSEPM Foundation's 15th Annual Research Conference publication on Submarine Fans and Turbidite Systems and the SEG The Leading Edge issue of July 1999 and has presented papers at an SEG summer workshop, SEG annual meetings, the Sociedade Brasileira de Geofísica and the Royal Geological Society in London.

After the merger of Mobil with Exxon, Allan went to work for Coastal in Houston, working Brazil for the international division. He was directly involved with the acquisition of three different acreage blocks through ANP bid rounds and a farm-in opportunity. He successfully shot two 3D surveys and a transition zone 2D. After the merger of Coastal with El Paso he continued in the Brazilian efforts until El Paso decided to downsize its international operations. Allan did a short consulting assignment with Devon on the Agência Nacional do Petróleo Sixth Bid round in which Devon successfully acquired interest in three blocks in the Campos Basin he had worked up.

Since July 2004, Allan has worked for RepsolYPF in The Woodlands, TX, where he has been responsible for activities in Suriname and the Guyanas. He was responsible for shooting a 2D survey in 2004-5 and a large, almost 3000 sq km 3D survey in 2005-006.



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