

Monday, January 15, 2007

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#).

HGS International Explorationists Dinner Meeting

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

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

University and College Students Please Note: the first 14 students can attend for free, compliments of Swift and ConocoPhillips. Additional students will be charged the emeritus rate, half the regular member rate. Students are encouraged to call the HGS office in advance of the meeting they wish to attend and to make a reservation; but walk-ins are also accepted at events. Students will need to identify themselves and provide school name and ID.

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 of different disciplines becomes a value-adding exercise as part of our job as geoscientist.

Having worked in frontier exploration for almost 30 years, one thing has remained 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.

This talk is based on RepsolYPF's ongoing efforts to maximize 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 play type analogues, biostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy and hydrocarbon charge models, a reduced risk and

increased Pg&g has been achieved. Utilization of these technologies allows for the 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

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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 often reveal a very different story! ■

Biographical Sketch

ALLAN KEAN graduated from the University of Mississippi with a B.S. in Geological Engineering in 1976. At "Ole Miss" he was a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the honorary earth science organization. He earned an MS

in geophysics from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech).

Alan joined the Technology Group in the New Orleans office of Amoco in 1978. In 1982 he left Amoco to work in international operations for Mobil in Dallas where he worked on prospects in Tunisia, Cameroon, Angola, Morocco, Kenya, Madagascar, Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire and Nigeria. He returned to New Orleans to do 3D interpretation and



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visualization projects for Mobil's large 3D survey in Nigeria, and on projects in Algeria, Kazakhstan and the Campos Basin in Brazil. He has published papers in the GCSSEPM Foundation's 15th Annual Research Conference and the Society for Exploration Geophysics (SEG)'s *The Leading Edge*, and has presented papers at an SEG summer workshop and at meetings

hosted by the SEG, the Sociedade Brasileira de Geofísica and the Royal Geologic Society in London. After the Exxon/Mobil merger he worked for Coastal, consulted for Devon, and in July 2004 joined RepsolYPF in the Woodlands, where he has been responsible for company activities in Suriname and the Guyanas.

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