

## The Spillover Effect: “The Quest for Coal Bed Methane and Shale Gas Outside North America”

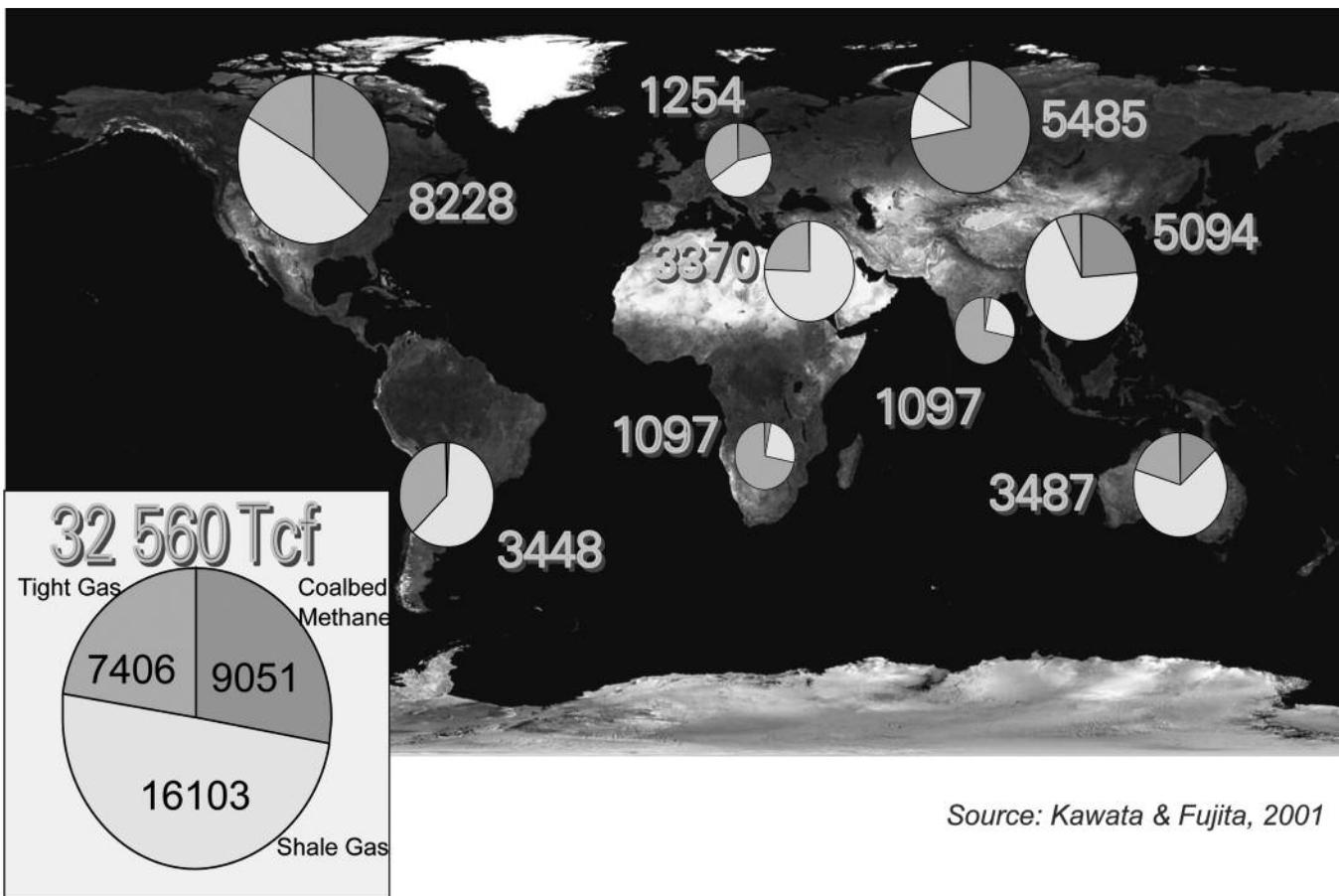
The boom in unconventional exploration in North America, mainly in shale gas and coal bed methane is spilling over internationally with Europe, Asia, the Far East, and Australia all claiming huge values for resource potential, many in excess of 400 TCFG. This quest for unconventional gas outside North America is persuading major companies (ExxonMobil, Shell, ConocoPhillips, Statoil, etc.) that they need the expertise acquired by US independents

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(Chesapeake, XTO, Anadarko, Burlington, etc.) to apply the knowledge they have acquired from the San Juan and Powder River basins and the Barnett, Marcellus, Haynesville, etc. plays and the expertise they have developed in drilling and well completion to

unleash the potential of international basins and plays. But this stampede across the pond comes with some challenges both in

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*Global Resource Estimates. Courtesy of ConocoPhillips*

terms of the subsurface and surface. No two basins are the same and the US analogs are unlikely to match the geology of Europe and Asia. At the end of the day, the geology will determine whether the rest of the world can experience the unconventional gas explosion that the US is seeing. ■

### Biographical Sketch

**GLENN McMASTER** has worked in the petroleum industry for 33 years. He started his career as a geologist with Amoco Canada in Calgary and worked on most of the plays in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, including 8 years working tight gas prior to transferring to Houston in 1989.

From 1989-2006 he was involved in Risk Assessment and Portfolio Management and the development of Amoco's and BP's Risk Programs and Geotechnical Assurance



Teams, reviewing all exploration opportunities in both Amoco's and BP's global portfolio. In 2007 he became the Senior Consulting Geologist in BP's Global Unconventional Gas Group responsible for screening, ranking, and accessing opportunities globally. He retired from BP in November 2008 and joined ConocoPhillips as a Senior Geologic Fellow in its Global New Ventures Unconventional Resources Team, focusing on China and the Far East.

Mr. McMaster has made numerous presentations at AAPG Conferences, the 13th Egyptian Petroleum Conference, the Repsol Foundation, the Petrobras Risk Workshop, the Bath Risk and Reward Conference, SPE Risk and Uncertainty Meeting in Galveston, and CSPG and APPG annual meetings. He was a Society of Petroleum Engineers Distinguished Lecturer in 2004, speaking on Risk and Portfolio Management in 17 countries worldwide. Recently he has made several presentations on Unconventional Gas Exploration to CNPC, Sinopec, and CUCBM and at OGIF in 2009 in China.