

# Ramos Field, St. Mary and Assumption Parishes, Louisiana— Significant Reserves Added to a 42-Year-Old Field

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Ramos Field was discovered in 1957 with the successful completion of the British American #1 Intracoastal Shipyard. Prior to recent discoveries, and through mid 1999, Ramos had cumulative production of 62.8 BCFG and 1.8 million barrels of liquids from Middle Miocene sediments. This relative low volume for a faulted four-way-dip structure lead to the shooting of a 3D survey to help unravel a complex fault pattern and aid in future placement of wells.

Ramos Field is located at a juncture where several major faults merge to create the Lower Middle Miocene shelf-slope break in this part of Louisiana. Expansion across the faulting is almost 2.5/1.

In the late 1950s, British American, et al., developed the upthrown north-dipping *Robulus chambersi* sediments. Most of the production to date has come from these reservoirs. In the mid-1960s, Amerada Hess attempted four tests on the downthrown side of the Ramos fault system.

They had minor success in younger south-dipping *Operculina* sands.

In late 1997, Burlington Resources and The Meridian Resource Corporation underwrote and shot 120 square miles of 3D seismic covering parts of T16S-R12E through T16S-R14E and T17S-R13E through T17S-R14E in St. Mary, Terrebonne, and Assumption parishes, Louisiana.

Inadequate subsurface and 2D seismic control precluded the recognition of the recently-drilled, syncline-separated paleo crest of the structure. In January 1999, Meridian and Burlington spudded the #1 C.M. Thibodeaux in section 36-T16S-R13E. They drilled this well to 19,270 ft; it discovered five productive expanded *Operculina* sands containing a total of 221 feet of net pay with an average porosity of 23%. The pay sands were found over a depth range of 17,590 to 19,200 ft.

Both companies agree that adequate 3D seismic coverage was responsible for recognizing this previously undrilled paleo structure.

## Notes