

### Literature Search and Document Supply For The Petroleum Industry

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The Australian Mineral Foundation (AMF) this year celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the presentation of its first course in August 1972. Since that time in excess of 800 courses and conferences have contributed to the continuing professional education of more than 17,000 minerals and petroleum industry professionals and AESIS, the national

reference database, has grown to contain more than 150,000 references. Additionally, the Foundation has responded to tens of thousands of requests for photocopies of articles, library loans and bookshop requests.

The principal role of the Foundation is enhancing technical and managerial

awareness, knowledge and expertise of petroleum and mineral industry professionals, and thereby improving the competitive position of their companies and the Australian industry at large. In its 25th year, the AMF is continuing to pioneer developments in continuing education, and information management and delivery in support of the professional development needs of its members. An office was opened in West Perth in March 1996 and in October of 1997 the office expanded and relocated to street level with a technical bookshop, displays and demonstrations of AMF products and services.

AMF is responsible for the compilation and maintenance of Australia's national petroleum and mineral reference database - AESIS. This database provides an index to both published and unpublished information covering journal articles, conference papers, books, maps and open file company reports. With a coverage extending back to the 1960s AESIS provides a depth of coverage for Australian material unmatched by any other source. Topics covered span the range of technical information required by the petroleum industry.

While AESIS provides unique and comprehensive access to Australian literature, the international literature can also be searched. The Tulsa database, for example, has more than half a million references and abstracts to worldwide literature related to oil and natural gas exploration, development and production. The Apilit database provides worldwide coverage of literature pertaining to the petroleum and petrochemical industry and API Energy Business News can be accessed to identify references to current political, social and economic information. Numerous other databases are available providing a wealth of information.

This talk will review the vision for the AMF into the next millennium for professional development and information delivery for the resources sector. A full demonstration of the AESIS database will be given as well as examples of references from international databases with the opportunity for questions from the floor.