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3-D Seismic Impacts Resource Plays – An Overview

Application of 3-D seismic as a development optimization tool in the execution of a resource play can provide significant economic impact. As a result of the relative play diversity, variety of operator experience, and overall immature execution of North American resource plays, accelerated value can be realized by learning from successful operational practices in the execution of other resource plays. One such technology application is the use of 3-D seismic as a tool for economic optimization of resource plays.

3-D seismic has been applied successfully in a sufficient number and variety of resource plays that public-domain experience has emerged indicating common beneficial execution characteristics. These factors include relevant stratigraphic and structural issues that are positively impacted by 3-D seismic, the preferred timeframe within a resource play's execution cycle for application of 3-D seismic, learnings about offensive vs. defensive application of 3-D seismic, and insight into emergent 3-D seismic technologies.

This presentation will provide specific examples of the application and positive economic impacts of 3-D seismic from a number of North American resource plays. Awareness of these benefits, and resultant adoption of 3-D seismic into a resource play's execution plan, can provide accelerated value to the savvy operator.