UK sections honoured at ATCE
Careers website launched in Aberdeen
Are you gender bilingual?
UK sections honoured at ATCE ......................... 4
Members from the Aberdeen and London sections of the SPE were out in force at the 2014 Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) in Amsterdam.

Are you ready for the power of light? ........ 6
January’s technical meeting and evening buffet delves into the realm of laser perforation with SPE distinguished lecturer Brian Gahan.

University of Aberdeen student announced as SPE Energy Apprentice 2014 ..................... 7
A University of Aberdeen student beat off tough competition from students from around Scotland to be named as the 2014 Energy Apprentice.

Inside Industry will help youngsters choose oil and gas ................................. 10
SPE Aberdeen and Subsea UK have joined forces to launch new energy industry career guidance website for schools and colleges across the UK.

Learn to be more gender bilingual in oil and gas .................................................. 11
The 2015 SPE Women In Energy conference will consider gender balance as a business issue and why it matters in the oil and gas business.

FEATURE

Advances in artificial lift technology ........... 8
SPE member Cameron Laing offers some insight into the latest developments in artificial lifts.

ABOUT US

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) is a not-for-profit professional association whose members are engaged in energy resources development and production. SPE serves more than 110,000 members in 141 countries worldwide. SPE is a key resource for technical knowledge related to the oil and gas exploration and production industry and provides services through its publications, events, training courses and online resources at www.spe.org.

The SPE provides services through its global events, publications and website at www.spe.org. SPE Review is published 10 times per year by the Aberdeen and London sections of the Society of Petroleum Engineers. It is sent to over 5,000 UK SPE members, and quarterly to an additional 7,000+ European members.

If you have read this issue and would like to join SPE and receive your own copy of SPE Review, as well as many other benefits - or you know a friend or colleague who would like to join - please visit www.spe.org for an application form.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the SPE. Extracts may be reproduced subject to a clear acknowledgement of the source.

CONTACTS

Joint Communications Committee: Nick Curum, Nikhil Shindgikar, Pamela Tempone, Diane Wood and Ian Phillips.

For queries please contact:
Editorial; Phil Allan, Fifth Ring, +44 (0)1224 626288 spe-editorial@fifthring.com
Advertising; Lorna Ord, Fifth Ring, +44 (0)1224 628139 spe-adverts@fifthring.com
Production; Jim Davidson, Fifth Ring, +44 (0)1224 628139 spe-adverts@fifthring.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you need to change any of your membership details, please visit the Update your profile link at the foot of the homepage at www.spe.org.

This edition will be the last we plan to publish as a paper magazine as we look to launch SPE Review as an online publication.

Rising production costs, coupled with new channels for advertisers making their presence felt, led to the Aberdeen and London sections taking the pragmatic view that a print edition is no longer viable. We have instead chosen to focus our resources on providing higher quality content online. In addition, reducing SPE Review costs will enable us to focus on further knowledge outreach initiatives to the benefit of all.

Moving to digital production will allow us to deliver more content, unfettered by page count. This means we can accept more contributed materials such as white papers and articles from SPE members and other industry experts. It will allow us to cover events in greater detail and also feature more in-depth interviews with industry leaders such as the exclusives we secured last year from oil and gas luminaries such as Lord Browne, Lord Cullen and Sir Ian Wood.

The SPE is an organisation that relies on the support and contribution of its membership and it is our responsibility to ensure we are investing the organisation’s resources to best effect.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our readers and advertisers who have supported us over the years and trust our future communication channels will prove to be compelling, engaging and thought-provoking. Our commitment to this remains undiminished.

It was with considerable satisfaction that the Aberdeen and London sections returned from the Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition in Amsterdam last November with their own President’s Awards for Section Excellence.

For both sections to receive this prestigious accolade (it was Aberdeen’s sixth award in total and fifth in succession), really is the best recognition for the incredible amount of hard work, commitment, dedication and enthusiasm demonstrated by the volunteer committees of both sections throughout the year.

Elsewhere in the magazine you will read about SPE Aberdeen’s collaboration with Subsea UK to launch Inside Industry, a career guidance website for schools and colleges across the UK that will give young people clear advice as they set out their individual paths to rewarding futures.

As the oil and gas industry enters choppier waters, due to the falling price for crude, there will be greater focus on all of us who make our living in the industry to work together on developing the new technology and work processes to ensure we steer a course to a brighter horizon.

Left: Ross Lowdon
SPE Aberdeen Chair 2014/15
Right: Alejandro Primera
SPE London Chair 2014/15

www.spe-uk.org |
The Aberdeen Section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) has been awarded the SPE President’s Award for Section Excellence for the fifth consecutive year – the first of 190 SPE sections in the world to achieve this.

The award recognises sections around the globe which display exemplary efforts in technology dissemination, membership programmes, contribution to society and the community, and innovation.

SPE Aberdeen received the accolade at the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) in Amsterdam during the President’s Luncheon on 27 October.

Outgoing 2012-2014 SPE Aberdeen chairman, Anthony Onukwu, said: “We are tremendously proud to have received the Award for Section Excellence for the fifth consecutive year, a fantastic achievement as the Aberdeen Section marks its 40th year.

“I would like to extend a huge thanks to the SPE Aberdeen committee, all of whom are volunteers. Without their support, hard work and dedication, we would not have been able to host our annual programmes. We had organised globally renowned events, supported young people and students to pursue a career in the oil and gas sector and continue listening to and addressing the needs of our members and the wider industry.”

The last 12 months have been filled with the world’s first initiatives and events organised by SPE Aberdeen, such as Another Perspective on Risk, in March, which saw experts warning that another disaster could be on the horizon if lessons are not learned from Macondo. At the recent Breaking the Cycle of Discrimination, industry leaders made a call to the global oil and gas industry to end ‘poster girls’ at major oil and gas events.

SPE Aberdeen was also recognised for its technical events programme, featuring speakers from major oil and gas companies including BP, Odfjell Drilling, Dana Petroleum and Statoil. The section’s Young Professionals committee was highlighted for its efforts to support and motivate those in the early stages of their career.

New Aberdeen section chairman Ross Lowdon said: “Our recent 40th anniversary celebration saw SPE International President Helge Haldorsen urge SPE Aberdeen to continue encouraging innovation in the North Sea. Sharing best practice and knowledge is at the heart of all we do and being recognised for our efforts is a great motivator for years to come.

“We are tremendously proud to have received the Award for Section Excellence for the fifth consecutive year, a fantastic achievement as the Aberdeen Section marks its 40th year.”

2012-2014 SPE Aberdeen chairman, Anthony Onukwu
Members from the Aberdeen and London sections of the SPE were out in force at the 2014 Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) in Amsterdam.

The event, which took place in October, brought together 7,600 oil and gas professionals and 350 exhibitors from around the world at one of the leading technical conferences in the exploration and production industry.

For the SPE Aberdeen section the highlight of the three-day show was winning the sixth President's Award for Section Excellence (see separate story), while SPE London also received the President's Award for Section Excellence and the Regional Management and Information Award.

SPE Aberdeen chair Ross Lowdon said: “From a section standpoint, one of the best aspects of ATCE is the ability to meet all the other sections, to see what they are doing and potentially cross-pollinate ideas and I hope we achieve a seventh president's award next year! “It was also good to see so many operators and new technologies. The challenge is to encourage adoption of these technologies and we are actively looking to do that in the Aberdeen section.”

The 2014 President's Award for Section Excellence recognises SPE sections with exceptional programmes, technical knowledge dissemination, communication, membership development, student interaction, community and society outreach and more.

The Regional Management and Information Award was presented to SPE London board member Robert Harrison of Senergy Ltd, at the North Sea Regional Section Officers’ Meeting at ATCE.

Jeff Spath, 2014 SPE President, said: “This year’s ATCE offered nearly 400 peer-selected technical papers representing all six SPE disciplines.

“Gathering in Amsterdam provided a global perspective reflecting SPE’s success with its growing membership, increased technical content, and strong financial performance.”

At the Opening General Session, panellists from ExxonMobil, the International Energy Agency (IEA), Pemex Exploration and Production, and Technip discussed the multidimensional challenge of providing and sustaining affordable energy for the world. Chris Beeson, analyst at the IEA said, “We should always remember that there are currently more than 1.3 billion people in the world without access to modern energy sources. It will take a continued international commitment to address this.”

The first day also hosted the SPE Sustainability Task Force’s panel session “People, Profit, Planet: Advancing Practices that Balance Economic Growth, Social Development, and Environmental Protection Today and in the Future.” Moderator and task-force chair, Johanna Dunlop, global citizenship manager at Schlumberger, said the goal of the session was that the operations people would go away from the session with an enriched view of how these topics can be managed and how they impact business performance.

Mexico’s approaching historic opening to international investment was a featured topic at a breakfast on the second day. “We have great expectations for undertaking these reforms,” said Lourdes Melgar Palacios, under-secretary of hydrocarbons for the Mexican Secretary of Energy. “We have everything we need for Mexico to become an energy hub bridging North and South America.”

SPE’s Annual Awards Banquet and Reception, held on the evening of the second day, honoured individuals for their contributions and service to the oil and gas industry.

On the third day, President Spath presented the State of the Society at the President’s Luncheon and Annual Meeting of Members. Also during the luncheon, Spath passed the gavel to 2015 SPE President Helge Hove Haldorsen.

Also on the final day, SPE held the energy4me Energize Your Classroom workshop for teachers and students to learn comprehensive, objective information about energy and its importance, while participating in activities that can be applied to the classroom. They participated in hands-on experiments and toured the exhibition floor.

The 2015 conference will be held 28-30, September in Houston, Texas at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Gustavo Hernandez of PEMEX will serve as the 2015 general chairperson. For more information, visit ATCE 2015 Houston.
5th European Well Abandonment Seminar
21st April 2015, Aberdeen

NEW! One day pre-conference training course
Date: 20th April 2015
An Overview on Well Abandonment
Led by industry experts from Helix Well Ops and Baker Hughes
Book early – numbers limited

Collaboration for efficient well abandonment
Decom North Sea
Update on Oil & Gas Well Decommissioning Workgroup Guidelines
Oil & Gas UK
Cost estimates and what do they really tell us
Reverse Engineering
Enhanced well construction techniques to reduce well abandonment costs
TAM International North Sea
A contractor’s perspective: considerations for selection of cost effective jointed pipe surface equipment solutions for well plug & abandonment on mature platform installations
Maidmar Rigless Intervention
Isolation scanner: power ultrasonic transducers for heavy mud systems
Shell
North Sea RLWI well abandonment case study
Helix Well Ops UK
Configuring a workover riser system to abandon a subsea field with multiple XT vendors
GE
Hindsight advice for the future – learnings from a P&A campaign
Shell

SPE Aberdeen reserves the right to amend this programme

Book your delegate places online now at www.rodgerandco.com

- Pre-conference course 20th April: SPE/EI members £180 plus VAT / Non-members £200 plus VAT
- 5th European Well Abandonment Seminar and Exhibition 21st April - Early Bird Online Discount till 23rd March: SPE/EI members £275 plus VAT / Non-members £325 plus VAT / Students £52.50 plus VAT

Group Discount: Book four places and get a fifth free (Can be bought with the Early Bird discount online)

Exhibition and sponsorship – ask about opportunities to target this specialist audience

The 5th European Well Abandonment Seminar is organised by the Society of Petroleum Engineer Aberdeen. Any profits made from the event will help to fund outreach to schools and support for students, to encourage young talent to enter the oil and gas industry.
Are you ready for the power of light?

January’s technical meeting and evening buffet delves into the realm of laser perforation with SPE distinguished lecturer Brian Gahan.

Lasers are on track to provide safe, non-explosive, damage-free perforations. For decades, experts have considered the potential of laser energy to penetrate rock as an alternative well construction and completion method. However, applications of lasers were dismissed as energy intensive and inefficient.

Current industrial laser technology addresses efficiency, portability and reliability issues required for successful commercial field applications on all rock types, including shale. The application of high power lasers for perforating could significantly reduce the primary drawbacks over traditional methods – safety and damage. Lasers can cut through steel, cement and rock, to permit fluid flow with minimal skin damage. Many drilling, completion and subsurface applications with high power lasers are envisioned.

Brian Gahan is founder and president of Laser Rock Technologies, a private energy consulting firm in Cary, Illinois, USA and has authored and co-authored more than 40 papers and technical publications and is a co-inventor on a U.S. Patent.

The event takes place at Aberdeen’s Douglas Hotel, in Market Street, on January 28, from 6pm and runs from 6.30-8.30pm.

Another successful SPE-ICoTA event

The 20th SPE ICoTA conference took place in Aberdeen in November and attracted a large number of delegates and exhibitors. The conference is Europe’s premier forum for exchange and discussion of the latest developments in well intervention and completion techniques. Pictured is SPE Aberdeen section manager Diane Wood at the SPE stand.

Lasers are on track to provide safe, non-explosive, damage-free perforations. For decades, experts have considered the potential of laser energy to penetrate rock as an alternative well construction and completion method. However, applications of lasers were dismissed as energy intensive and inefficient.

Current industrial laser technology addresses efficiency, portability and reliability issues required for successful commercial field applications on all rock types, including shale. The application of high power lasers for perforating could significantly reduce the primary drawbacks over traditional methods – safety and damage. Lasers can cut through steel, cement and rock, to permit fluid flow with minimal skin damage. Many drilling, completion and subsurface applications with high power lasers are envisioned.

Brian Gahan is founder and president of Laser Rock Technologies, a private energy consulting firm in Cary, Illinois, USA and has authored and co-authored more than 40 papers and technical publications and is a co-inventor on a U.S. Patent.

The event takes place at Aberdeen’s Douglas Hotel, in Market Street, on January 28, from 6pm and runs from 6.30-8.30pm.

RGU holds opening event

The Robert Gordon University SPE Student Chapter held its annual inauguration event on 26 October, with a technical presentation from GE.

Around 60 people, including students and some members of the Robert Gordon University staff attended. The new committee, comprising Aditya Prakash, as president, Joseph Olson as vice president, Kasko Kasim as treasurer, Louise Nguyen as secretary and Nitin Joshi as social secretary, were acknowledged by Ritika Pawar, the student development chair for the SPE Aberdeen Chapter.

The newly elected president then addressed the audience and discussed the objectives for the Robert Gordon University SPE Student Chapter for the coming year, which included more joint activity with other university SPE chapters, further technical development and learning through technical presentations held by members from industry and a greater inclusion of the undergraduate engineering students and MSc Oil and Gas commercial degrees.

The inauguration was followed by a presentation by members of GE, led by Subsea Training Manager, Mark Coxon, and his team of subsea engineers, Shaanan Smith, Craig Scott, Sean Bonner and Rebecca Darlington, all of whom previously studied mechanical engineering at Robert Gordon University.

Shaanan, Craig, Sean and Rebecca shared their experiences so far in the industry with GE oil and gas, focusing on passion for engineering, professional networking, extra-curricular activities and academic performance as the reason for their success in getting a job. They also provided some useful advice for gaining assessed internships and graduate employment, and discussed GE’s graduate scheme.

This was followed by a presentation on wellheads by Craig, Christmas trees by Sean, valves by Shaanan and chokes by Rebecca.

Robert Gordon University SPE Student Chapter thanked Mark Coxon and his team for their time and informative presentation and congratulated the newly inaugurated committee members.
University of Aberdeen student announced as SPE Energy Apprentice 2014

A University of Aberdeen student beat off tough competition from students from around Scotland to be named as the 2014 Energy Apprentice, in an event organised by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Aberdeen Section.

Enitome Buluku, 22, an MSc Oil and Gas Engineering student, was selected in November by a panel of expert judges from Halliburton, the Oil & Gas Innovation Centre, Baker Hughes and Thor Holt Limited, an oil and gas presentation training company.

Sponsored by Total, students from around Scotland took part in the competition which saw entrants whittled down throughout four challenging rounds of competition based on their individual and team performance.

The last three remaining students were asked to give a technical presentation on what they expected to be the biggest driver of the North Sea over the next 20 years, which saw Enitome triumph as the winner.

Robert Gordon University students Oghosa Ken Obazee, 25, who is studying MSc Petroleum and Production Engineering and Mohammed Ayaz Ahmed, 24, an MSc Drilling and Well Engineering student, took second and third place respectively.

SPE Aberdeen chairman Ross Lowdon, said: “The talent and enthusiasm demonstrated by the students was extremely impressive and it is exciting to see the next generation workforce beginning to show their potential.

“Events that encourage collaboration between students and more experienced industry professionals are a great way to inspire those thinking about their first steps on the oil and gas career ladder. These opportunities can be rare, however a major focus for SPE Aberdeen is initiating these links with a view to safeguard the future of our industry with the best talent.

Students from Scottish universities competed against each other to impress a panel of distinguished industry professionals for the title of SPE Energy Apprentice 2014.

Enitome, who won £300 towards his studies as part of the prize, said: “I am very proud to have won the title of Energy Apprentice 2014. There was a high level of talent and to be selected out of so many students is a fantastic surprise.

“Being recognised as the Energy Apprentice is a big confidence boost and I look forward to progressing a career in oil and gas engineering.”

This the second time the SPE Aberdeen Energy Apprentice competition has taken place, following Lalit Bhamere’s win in 2012. The event runs every two years.

Unconventional hydrocarbons impact and repercussions

The impact and potential repercussions of unconventional hydrocarbons in the UK was discussed on 19 November at the Postgraduate Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

Technical sales director and co-founder of downhole tool manufacturer, Nemein Ltd, Lawrence Till, who has a wealth of experience across the oil and gas industry, examined these challenges and the opportunities surrounding them, at a Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Aberdeen presentation and dinner. The technical presentation was followed by a networking dinner.

Recent estimates suggest that shale gas alone could potentially provide over a third of total UK consumption by 2020, reducing dependency on imported gas up to 27% by 2035.

Mr Till considered the position of the UK unconventional hydrocarbons market with particular focus on the future potential. Drawing upon examples from other geological markets – most notably the highly public shale gas revolution in the USA – he explored the potential ramifications and opportunities of these challenges.

Mr Till said: “The extraction of unconventional hydrocarbons brings with it a range of challenges. This leaves considerable market space for innovation and education, an environment best created by SMEs working in conjunction with larger political and corporate organisations.”
 Advances in artificial lift technology

Cameron Laing was excited to hear that the November SPE Aberdeen evening meeting on The Value of Smart Artificial Lift Technology by SPE distinguished lecturer Dr. Siegfried Müssig was ‘sold out’.

Artificial Lift can be something of a Cinderella subject, overshadowed by the favoured ugly sisters of Drilling and Reservoir Engineering. Yet, the future of the North Sea cash flow depends on artificial lift and if the message does not get home before midnight we will all end up looking like pumpkins.

In my view, the best thing to happen to gas lift, since retrievable valves were patented in the 1950s, is the emergence of the electronic gas lift valve, developed by Camcon Oil (www.camcon-oil.com). With multiple ports in the one compact unit actuated by a small, low power control line, which also returns tubing and casing pressure and temperature readings to surface, we get the ultimate in field wide production optimisation flexibility. Both depth of injection and port size can be altered at the click of a mouse, in response to measured changes in well performance or lift gas availability.

Intelligence in the upper wellbore has finally arrived. The first unit has been operating for the past year in an onshore well in the Middle East. Opportunities for further trial installations are now needed.

A variation on this theme is the PTC hydraulic gas lift system (www.ptc.as). This system is based on relatively standard side-pocket mandrels and valves and enables changes in depth of injection without intervention, but has yet to be installed in the field.

Hydraulic systems have been offered by Schlumberger and Baker for a number of years, but their use has been limited to single valve installation in, for example, gas cap gas lift applications. All the major suppliers have been bringing new developments to the market. Some, like Schlumberger’s X-Lift™, are related to the need or higher pressure service but the new designs have mainly focused on the secondary function of maintaining well integrity.

Retro-fit gas lift is becoming an established practice now thanks mainly to Weatherford’s development of both full and partial coiled tubing string deployed systems. Interwell (www.interwell.com) and Peak (www.peakwellsystems.com) are also giving the established PetroWell (Weatherford) wireline straddle based gas lift retrofit system some healthy competition.

Gas Lift (and well integrity) diagnostic technology has also been progressing with Archer’s acoustic based ‘Point’ tools (www.archerwell.com), CO2 Tracer services from AppSmiths (www.wellTracer.com / www.scanwelluk.co.uk) and permanent, or intervention based, fibre-optic Distributed Temperature Sensing and Distributed Acoustic Sensing systems from Schlumberger, Weatherford, Ziebel (www.ziebel.com) and Tendeka (www.tendeka.com). Nexen CNOOC has been in the forefront of installing this technology in its North Sea fields. Craig Durham made an excellent presentation on the topic at the 2012 SPE EuALF.

The use of API recommended valve performance data is finally being incorporated in standard software packages such as Petex’s PROSPER™ – but very few engineers read the API Specs and Recommended Practices. New workflows, based on this data, are also developing for both design and troubleshooting. This lack of knowledge also applies to API recommended practice of valve teardown and retesting. Only when we recognise the failure rate and modes of existing technology will we appreciate the need to develop better equipment.

The ESP world has been looking at the concept of cable deployed ESPs for over 30 years now and the problem finally seems to have been cracked in different ways by Zetecos (www.zetec.com), ZiLift (www.zilift.com) and AccessESP (www.accessesp.com). Interestingly, both Zilift and AccessESP use permanent magnet technology, as does Camcon in its EGLV.

The high frequency small OD pumps are ideal for thru-tubing retrofit and many North Sea wells could, I’m sure, benefit.

The Jet Pump world is also seeing changes. Weatherford is the recognised stable for most downhole hydraulic jet pump equipment, used effectively on the Auk field for many years, but the arrival of PTC has made life more interesting – not least because of its free web-based design software and experience of subsea installation. There is also the option of using educator technology to boost production immediately downstream of the wellhead.

Caltec (www.caltec.com) has successfully pioneered this option offshore for a number of years but it has recently been joined offshore by Transvac (www.transvac.co.uk) which has supplied this technology to other industries.

It is great also to see the Hydraulic Submersible Pump reinvigorated by EnQuest for the Kraken development after years of very successful deployment on Captain by Chevron-Texaco. Originally known as Weir Pumps, then ClydeUnion, the company is now owned by SPX (www.spx.com). Check out the YouTube video available on the EnQuest website. Emerging company Hansen Downhole Pump Solutions (www.hansenpumps.com) is also taking a fresh look at low rate wells and gas well deliquification.

Presentations on many of the systems highlighted above are available on the SPE UK website (www.spe-uk.org) under the Aberdeen Section ‘Knowledge’ tab. This hosts presentations from SPE European Artificial Lift Forum and SPE/ICoTA European Well Intervention Conference meetings.

About the author: Cameron Laing provides gas lift consulting services and runs Artificial Lift Training Courses, both public and in-house (www.letstrain.co.uk). He is also a member of the SPE EuALF organising committee and in 2010 received an award from the SPE Aberdeen Section recognising his contributions to the industry in Production and Operations.
SPE Distinguished Lecturer event

Hilton Doubletree hotel for last November’s SPE Distinguished Lecturer event featured Sigfried Müessig, who discussed how artificial lift technology is being adapted for use in mature field operations.

Herr Müessig, RAG Rohölauflaufsuchungs-AGSPE, told his audience that a significant portion of operating costs in brown fields is related to lifting costs and maintenance of artificial lift equipment. Often additional costs for workovers arise due to sub-optimal corrosion control or when sand production becomes an issue (unconsolidated reservoirs) or as the result of a long water flood history.

Any combination of these problems can lead to premature abandonment of the field despite the fact that significant oil and gas reserves remain in the reservoir.

In order to combat this loss of reserves and valuable energy resource a number of measures have to be taken. There are two keys to success: 1. the analysis of available technologies along the production chain, the identification of advanced materials and the development of stringent processes all directed to extend the lifetime of the equipment. 2. a dedicated team from all disciplines working with the asset to create tailor-made solutions for the particular applications in the field.

The presentation also provided a field case showing this process and Herr Müessig offered a detailed insight of the basket of technical solutions and the commercial impact.

SPE Consultant listing

Dr Sib Akhtar – 35+ years’ experience, reverse production decline with field-proven gas compression solutions, field studies & design of gas compression facilities for oil, gas and condensate fields; specialises in satellite integration and life extension of mature fields. Integrated Asset Modelling. Full Project Management service from concept design to commissioning. MSE (Consultants) Ltd. › email: sib.akhtar@mse.co.uk › tel: +44 (0)1372 700 760 › www.mse.co.uk

Alasdair Campbell – Completion Design & Technology Specialist, Well Design Studies, Project Management Services › tel: +44 (0)1358 720789 › mob +44 (0)7981 381294 › email: aiki@wellwizards.com › www.wellwizards.com › 38 Bruce Crescent, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 9BW

Maurice Cotterill – CEng, FIMMM › HPHT expertise, WellCat expert, well design, advanced casing/tubing analysis › thermal modelling, single/multistorey analysis, studies/reviews › email: maurice.cotterill@sede.co.uk

Merlin ERD Ltd – Extended Reach Drilling consultants › Feasibility/Design/Training/Rigsite support leading to Trouble-Free ERD, High-Angle & Complex wells ... and we do Spillfire flypasstoo! › tel: +44 (0)1738 627922 › email: iain.hutchison@Merlin ERD.com › www.MerlinERD.com

Flowsure Ltd – Providing expert flow assurance services to the oil and gas industry. Sand face to facilities steady state and transient modelling, training, and peer reviews › tel: +44 (0)1224 900 560 › email: info@flowsure.com › www.flowsure.com › Dr Gareth Smith › Mackenzie Building, 168 Skene Street, Aberdeen AB10 1PE

Dr Siva Kumaran – 35+ years’ experience in offshore fields development, FPSO, FLNG etc › email: siva6561@yahoo.co.uk › mob: +44 (0)7771 881182 › www.oleumkhaos.com

Oleum Khaos Ltd – First quartile Petrophysics, 30+ years’ experience › field studies, well planning, peer assist/review, project management › tel: +44 (0)7852 554496 › email: info@oleumkhaos.com › www.oleumkhaos.com

Petrophase Ltd – Reservoir fluid studies, sampling/PVT programmes, PVT modelling, data QC, compositional gradients, contaminants, allocation, training › tel: +44 (0)1224 900 560 › email: info@petrophase.com › www.petrophase.com › Brian Moffatt, 34 Oaklands Drive, Reading, Berks, RG41 2SB
Inside Industry will help youngsters choose oil and gas career

SPE Aberdeen and Subsea UK have joined forces to launch new energy industry career guidance website for schools and colleges across the UK.

“Inside Industry will help to turn those curious minds into the future of our industry and I look forward to seeing its development over the coming years.”

Inside Industry is the only tool of its kind focused on providing first-class industry driven career information and advice and is available exclusively to those working in academia. Over the coming months, additional industries and their career opportunities will be identified and added to the website following the initial energy industry launch.

“Aberdeen upcoming events – 2014/15

28 January 2015
SPE Aberdeen Monthly dinner meeting
Perforating with lasers: are you ready for the speed of light? Brian Gahan, Laser Rock Technologies, SPE Distinguished Lecturer. 28 January, 6 for 6.30pm to 8.30 pm. Presentation and networking dinner. Aberdeen Douglas Hotel.

21 April 2015

SPE in Edinburgh meeting and networking buffet: Removal of a large wax deposition from the 8” Heimdal to Brae pipeline using a high-friction jetting pig
Aidan O’Donoghue, Pipeline Research
Venue Senergy offices, 102 Westport, Edinburgh EH3 9DN

March 2016
SPE SMN 7th European Sand Management Forum.
Are you interested in this topic? Volunteers are invited to join the technical steering committee. Commitment: approximately eight meetings to plan the event and help secure presentations for the forum. For information contact: jane.rodger@rodgerandco.com

Details and link to book: www.spe-uk.org
Contact organisers spe@rodgerandco.com
Tel 01224 495051

Teachers from the Aberdeen area attended at Robert Gordon University last month for the launch of Inside Industry, a new career guidance website for secondary schools and colleges across the UK, targeted specifically towards the energy industry.

Supported by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Aberdeen Section and Subsea UK, Inside Industry has been developed to provide students with first-class industry driven careers information and advice, providing an overview of jobs available and the entry routes to these career options.

Careers guidance, along with maths and science teachers attended the launch event at the Drilling and Advanced Rig Training (DART) Facility at RGU. The teachers received demonstrations of the Inside Industry website and experienced the facility’s simulators.

SPE Aberdeen Section chairman Ross Lowdon said: “We are delighted to support the launch of Inside Industry. This is a fantastic tool and will act as a key support and knowledge source for attracting students to a career in this sector.

“It is great to have such a strong turnout from the teaching community, who will in turn be able to encourage students to utilise the Inside Industry resource. Working with schools and the higher education sector is a fundamental part of the SPE Aberdeen Section’s mission and we hope that Inside Industry will prove to be a popular and useful port of reference.”

SPE Aberdeen’s Schools and Career Guidance Committee worked with Inside Industry to co-develop all content including job descriptions, the prerequisites for each job shown and liaised with companies to get case studies on individuals working within petroleum engineering.

Mr Lowdon added: “I would like to thank the representatives of SPE Aberdeen’s Schools and Career Guidance Committee, each of whom has invested a huge amount of time and effort into the development of this new resource. I would also like to thank and congratulate Subsea UK and partners involved in the development of Inside Industry.”

Neil Gordon, chief executive of Subsea UK, said: “The subsea sector is one of the most fast-paced, pioneering, ingenious, hi-tech and dynamic industries on the planet with a long-term, sustainable future.

“As such it should be a natural career choice for our next generation of scientists, engineers, technicians and professionals. However due to its low profile and many misconceptions surrounding the energy industry, not least of which are around environmental and safety issues, many people have not even given subsea a second thought.

Teachers at the Inside Industry launch were treated to an offshore drilling experience on DART’s simulators
**DEVELOPMENT conference 2015 call for abstracts**

Organisers of the DEVEL conference have issued a call for abstracts. Deadline is 22 January.

The conference, which showcases subsurface and well technologies, case studies and best practices for oil and gas industry professionals, takes place at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre on 20-21 May.

More information is available at: www.development-conference.org

---

**Learn to be more gender bilingual in oil and gas**

The 2015 SPE Women In Energy conference will consider gender balance as a business issue and why it matters in the oil and gas business.

The event, which takes place at London’s Royal Institution, on 2 March, will feature a series of keynote speeches from leading women and men within the industry who will share their views, career journey and business practices.

It’s long been recognised that having a diverse workforce is beneficial to a company as a whole, but how can this actually be achieved? This seminar discusses initiatives on gender diversity in both industry and government, how to increase diversity in the STEM pipeline and what really holds back people at work.

There will be a speech by Mary Honeyball, MEP, who will share the government’s view on gender diversity and the initiatives put in place, followed by a panel session introduced by Avivah Wittenberg-Cox, the CEO of gender balance consultancy company 20-first, where senior leaders will discuss their views on achieving balance between the genders in the workplace and how companies can best encourage and support this.

A soft skills workshops on communication, networking and leadership skills will be held in the afternoon with the focus kept on being ‘gender bilingual’. Men are not just welcome, but actively encouraged to join!

The seminar is aimed all professionals, male and female, working in the energy sector in all backgrounds including engineering, finance, HR and management. Students are also welcome.

This event is sponsored by Upstream, Afren and JX. More information is available at www.london.spe.org/London/

---

**London upcoming events – 2014/15**

- **2 March 2015**
  - WIE (Women in Energy) The Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, London, W1S 4BS
- **23 April 2015**
  - Unconventional Energy Seminar – The Future for Heavy Oil and Shale Gas in the UK The Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, London, W1S 4BS
- **9-10 June 2015**
  - SPE/London Section Conference One Great George Street, Westminster, London, UK
- **10 June 2015**
  - Gala Dinner Claridge’s, Brook Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 4HR

For more information, or to book any of these events, visit: www.spe-uk.org or www.katemcmillan.co.uk

---

**SPE LONDON SPONSORS:**


---

**Emma impresses with her thesis**

Congratulations to Emma Thornton who is the 2014 winner of the OPC Imperial College Well Test Analysis Award.

The annual award of £500 is given by OPC to the Imperial College MSc Petroleum Engineering student whose thesis most impresses department chairman Professor Alain Gringarten and OPC managing director Piers Johnson.

Piers Johnson said: “I have a long-standing relationship with Imperial College and Professor Gringarten and am delighted to sponsor this award which recognises excellence in well test analysis.

“I would like to congratulate Emma on winning the award. I was impressed with her thesis utilising deconvolution and was pleased to see that it had a real practical application to the asset operator. I’m confident that she has a great future within the industry.”

Emma undertook a BSc in Geophysics at Imperial College before embarking on her MSc and has been working as an intern for companies including Nexen and JKX Oil & Gas. Emma’s thesis was entitled the Application of Multiple Well Deconvolution Method in a North Sea Field.

---

**Overseas Opportunities**

**Petroleum Engineers** Senior / Principal

**Reservoir Engineers** Senior / Principal

For more information on these positions please contact us (in strictest confidence) at: HR@axis-wt.com

www.axis-wt.com From Concept to Completion

---

**Pictured from left: Piers Johnson, Emma Thornton, Professor Alain Gringarten**
Future production and reserves
Move beyond spreadsheets

...ready for the Future?

www.serafimltd.com/future.html

SERA F I M Future
Production forecasting and reserves management system