

Report on 8th International Conference & Exposition on Petroleum Geophysics, Feb 2010, Hyderabad

8th International Conference & Exposition on Petroleum Geophysics was held at Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC), Hyderabad, India from 1st February to 3rd February 2010. The meeting brought together experts in academia, industry leaders and professionals from around the world. Most of the invited participants were provided accommodation in Novotel hotel attached to HICC and Westin hotel located in Mindspace IT Park, about 15 minutes drive from HICC. There were shuttle services connecting the hotels and HICC, though many people especially the foreigners enjoyed riding an auto rickshaw to the convention center.

There were a total of 126 oral papers and 46 poster presentations. The presenters were from a various academic institutions and industry based in India and abroad. The academic institutions that got represented were – National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) Hyderabad, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Varanasi, China University of Petroleum, Delta Studies Institute, Stanford University, School of Petroleum Technology (part of Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU)), Utrecht University, Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Indian School of Mines (ISM) Dhanbad, Institute of Geology and Geophysics (part of Chinese Academy of Sciences), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai, Valia Institute of Technology, University of Wyoming, University of Texas at Austin, University of Cambridge, US Naval Research Lab, University of Texas at Arlington, Colorado School of Mines. The convention was truly international as the participants were from various countries in Asia, Europe and North America.

Also there was a healthy growth in the participation of various international oil companies, service companies and independent consultants based in India and abroad. The industries that got represented in technical presentations were Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), Reliance Industries Ltd., Eni E&P division, Ion Geophysical, CGG Veritas Services, CGG Veritas – Hampson Russell, PGS, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd., Essar, Slb Westerngeco, iseis co, Oil India, Mindset Seismic Pvt Ltd., GETECH Group plc, SERCEL, Suvira Geotexture, Global Geophysical, Geofizyka Torun, Geomechanics International, Cairn India Ltd., Paradigm Geophysical, Scintrex Ltd, PANGEA, EMGS ASA, Fugro Gravity and Magnetic Services Inc., Computational Research Laboratories Ltd., KMS Technologies, BP, Hess Corp, Ohm Rock Solid Images, Arcis Corp Calgary, Data and Consulting Services, Pore Pressure consultant, Shell India. Most of the above mentioned companies and others participated in the Exhibition booth. Representatives from EAGE and SEG were also present in the Exhibition hall. A poster from SPG North America Chapter was prominently displayed in the hall adjacent to Exhibition room where poster sessions were held.

The keynote speakers in various technical sessions were internationally renowned and prominent scientists specializing in their area of research. To name a few – Dr Tapan Mukerjee (Reservoir Characterization), Dr Brian Russell (Seismic Modeling, AVO & Inversion), Dr. Satinder Chopra, Ian Jones, Sylvere Depagne (Depth Imaging), Patrick Connolly (Reservoir Characterization), Dr. G. Sanmugam (Exploration in Deepwater),

Kurt M. Strack (Time Lapse Reservoir Monitoring), Dr. Stefan Helwig, Dr. John Joseph (Gravity, Magnetism and EM Methods), Dr. Jerry Kapoor, Mr. Chris Carter, Dr. Denis Mougnot (Seismic Data Processing), Dr. Rabi Bastia (Exploration in Frontier Areas), Guillaume Cambois (Seismic Data Acquisition), Dr. Zvin Koren (New E&P Technology), Andrey Kazurov, Gopal R. Amruthapuri (Petrophysics & Borehole Geophysics), Dr. Warren T. Wood (Alternate Energy Resources), Satish Chandra Singh, Dr. Emmanuel Labrunye (G&G Interpretation), Zia Khan (IT & Data Management), R. K. Tyagi (Health Safety and Environment),

The convention was preceded and followed by several pre- and post-conference workshops organized in different cities including Hyderabad, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, New Delhi, Jorhat, Vadodara. In total there were 21 such workshops. A variety of topics including Deep Water Depositional Environment, Water Flood Analysis in Mature fields, Seismic Modeling, Inversion, Depth Imaging, Reservoir Characterization, Gas Hydrates, Gravity and Electromagnetic methods, Carbonate Reservoirs etc.

The SPG Hyderabad 2010 also had a mix of various cultural events, spouse programs, health-related presentations from Apollo Hospital and discourses on Art of Living. The programs were designed to make the convention a great place for exchange of technical knowledge in a fun-filled and relaxing atmosphere. For the Indian geoscientists studying or working abroad, an event like this provides a great opportunity for networking, knowledge sharing, career progression, communication with alma mater and off course fun.

Report was prepared by Chandan Kumar (BP, Houston)