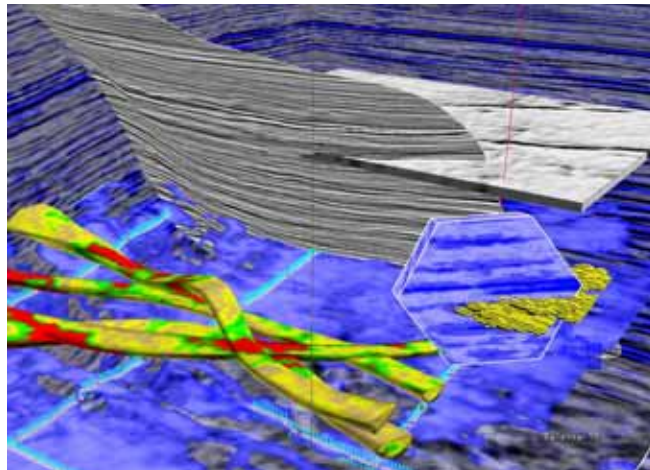


EDS Gocad User Meeting
Paris, March 2004



Multiple probes with draped attributes in Gocad 2.1¹

About 50 attended this, the second European Gocad user meeting. Earth Decision Sciences (EDS²) has seen ‘significant growth’ over the last few years – which stretched the financial structure of the old company. EDS successfully completed a bout of fund raising last November, with a €6.1 million cash injection³ from venture capitalists [Galileo Partners](#), [Matignon Technologies](#) and [Rothschild Gestion](#). The plan – which is clearly evidenced by the expanding functionality of Gocad – is to emulate, or surpass, Petrel. Whether the plan also includes purchase by a major vendor is unclear! Emmanuel Gringarten described last year as having ‘stability’ as the focus for software development. This year the focus shifts to usability – and automation, with ‘less unnecessary actions’. More knowledge management related functionality, with audit trails and improved project suspension and resume. In general, Gocad 2.1 is continuing to move toward a full-blown 3D interpretation system. New developments also mean that Gocad can handle increasingly large data volumes – with data stored on disk and paged into memory as required. HP chipped in with its ‘[Sepia](#)⁴’ project – a cluster-based visualization solution – making a Gocad/Sepia combo resemble Schlumberger’s GigaViz. Despite these improvements and the multiple re-branding,⁵ Earth Decision Sciences has yet to persuade its users to match their presentations to its software aspirations. While EDS demonstrates impressive ease-of-use and powerful functionality in its new ‘shrink-wrapped’ products, the users’ presentations are more focused on the ‘old-style’ use of Gocad as a research tool, a plug in to in-house developed modeling software, or an adjunct to competing products, notably Paradigm’s VoxelGeo!

¹ All images in this report are © and courtesy of the companies involved.

² Here we use EDS to refer to Earth Decision Sciences. Unfortunately, Earth Decision Sciences cannot use this acronym because of the risk of confusion with EDS the IT services company.

³ According to www.journaldunet.com.

⁴ ServerNet Enhanced Parallel Image Accelerator.

⁵ The first corporate identity was the Gocad consortium. Since then the product was commercialized through the T-Surf company. T-Surf recently changed its name to Earth Decision Sciences. The Gocad name remains as the flagship product line.

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