

Petrotechnical Open Standards Consortium (POSC)

2005 AGM and Member Meeting

Rice University, Houston November 2005.

Around 120 pre registered for the 2005 Annual POSC member meeting, held in the architecturally intriguing [Duncan Hall](#) in Rice University. The meeting was the end of an era with the surprise departure of POSC CEO David Archer following a divergence of views with the board. Another surprise was the announcement, made by POSC Chairman Herb Yuan, that POSC, PPDM and PIDX are in 'merger discussions' – although the outcome of these remains unclear.

As in other recent POSC meetings, the topics covered ranged widely, including internal oil company developments from BP and Pioneer that have a tenuous link with POSC standards. POSC's major ongoing project, the well site information standard WITSML, is spawning a production reporting standard PRODML, currently being developed by a group of oil and service companies. PRODML will be handed over to POSC next year. POSC is planning to extend its XML activity to other domains – seismic, geological and even facilities, to offer a 'single integrated standards family.'

The POSC fee structure has been revised, with lower initial membership fees and higher SIG fees – to 'increase attractiveness to members'. This is the second time that the financial support for POSC has shifted from up front membership to SIG participation fees. One result is that much of the interesting stuff within POSC has a somewhat restricted visibility to non SIG members. The long running saga of the well identity standard, first mooted at the 2003 PNEC continues, with a 'Letter of Intent' signed by five companies. The Data Storage Solutions SIG was referred to as the 'Epicentre Data Model SIG', but whether this marks a *retour en force* of POSC's flagship or a 'slideware' initiative is unclear. The POSC/CAESAR Association was another returnee to the POSC fold, with a presentation of the Norwegian construction and facilities standards body's activity in the ISO 15926 sphere.

The high point of the meeting was Matt Simmons impassioned presentation of his book 'Twilight in the Desert.' Simmons' main thesis is that Saudi oil reserves are insufficient to meet forecast future demand. But he also presents an apocalyptic view of the US' production and refining post Katrina/Rita, calling for a 'Marshall Plan' for energy.

Disclaimer: The Data Room/Oil IT Journal is a member of POSC but this report has no official value and represents an independent view of the 2005 POSC AGM and member meeting. The official Agenda and slides are available on the [POSC website](#). We have included pointers to the original PowerPoint presentations where available.

Highlights

[Twilight in the Desert \(Matt Simmons\)](#)

[BP's real time architecture](#)

[Pioneer's Portal](#)

[PRODML](#)

[Seabed data modeling](#)

[POSC 2005 activity](#)

[POSC AGM](#)

[Archer's farewell](#)

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