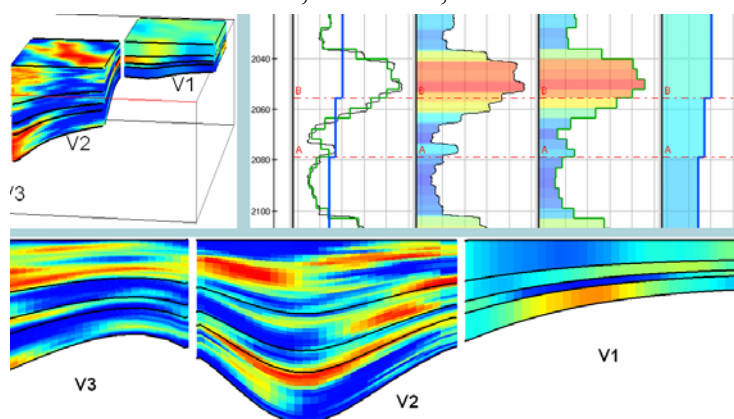## GoCad 2005 European Users meeting

Paris, March 31, 2005

CGG's nested, multi-scale models in GoCad[1].

About 45 attended the 2005 European User Meeting of **Earth Decision Sciences**' (EDS) flagship GoCad geological modeling software. GoCad novelties include the off-handedly named '**YACS**' (Yet Another Channel Simulator) offering 'revolutionary' simulation of fluviatile environments, enhanced tools for up and downscaling of gridded models, more seismic interpretation functionality and a new cartographic display. More development too, on the statistical front – with the release of '**ALEA**', the first in a trilogy of uncertainty assessment tools from EDS. Finally, EDS is moving into production data analysis, offering closer integration with reservoir simulators.

CGG have developed an interesting plug in for GoCad which allows 'fit for purpose' models to be **embedded** in a single GoCad earth model. These can hold models at different horizontal and vertical cell sizes, or even with a time sample for seismic use. Another plug-in, from Total, offers **statistical** functions within GoCad – a bit like DecisionSite's SpotFire – with perhaps less bells and whistles but possibly more tuned to the geology domain. These third-party developed plug-ins raised the interesting question of '**who pays**?' For the IPR[2] of the plug-in, and for its ongoing development. Seen from the plug-in developer's standpoint, the software has a value that should be worth something to the vendor, EDS. To EDS, more plug-ins means more maintenance, and a cost to be borne by the developer! No doubt EDS will fix these issues in a more amicable manner, since both tools would appear to be valuable extensions for all GoCad users.

3D modeling is very much center stage in upstream software at the present time. Schlumberger is moving its modeling focus to Petrel and Landmark is stopping development of its GoCad-based PowerModel. Rumors of a failed *rapprochement* between Landmark and EDS abound. On the sidelines, ESRI is being pressed by its user community to further develop the 3D functionality of its mapping software. All in all, interesting times for EDS and its clients!

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[1] Courtesy CGG.

[2] Intellectual Property Rights.

Highlights
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