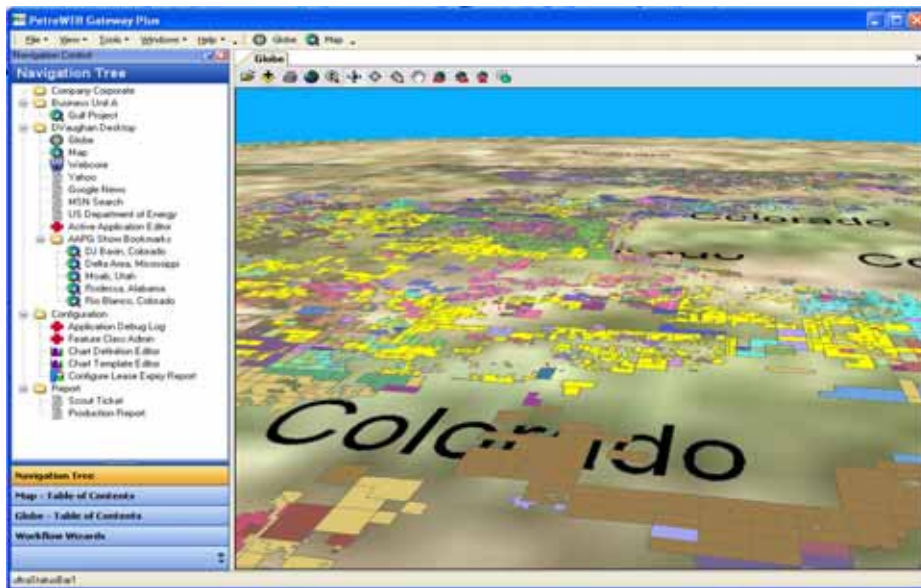


**AAPG 2006, Houston.
Houston, April 2006**



PetroWeb's new ArcGlobe-based Gateway Plus

The AAPG, like the other major trade shows, may have up to a dozen simultaneous presentations. This means that there is something for everybody, as just about every geoscience nook and cranny is covered at some time during the proceedings. It also makes it hard to choose which to presentations to attend. But a side effect of the geological 'feast' is that more and more attendees spend most of their time at the talks and less on the exhibition floor. Exhibitors naturally complain about the poor traffic. But it could be that declining traffic means less preparation, fewer announcements or new software timed to coincide with the show – leading to a vicious circle. Petris and Paradigm, despite being firmly in the geology business, took this to the extreme and did not exhibit at this year's show. We did manage to dig out one significant software development – the transmutation of Landmark's GeoProbe seismic interpretation flagship into a full blown geomodeling environment – a process that will likely take some time.

The message of the state of the industry forums confirmed the strengthening position of the National Oil Companies. People shortages in the industry are forcing companies to look to Asia and Central America for graduates. Scott Tinker (University of Texas) highlighted the International Oil Company's (IOC) 'trilemma'¹ of reserves, technology and talent, all of which are 'at risk'. Only 7% of worldwide reserves are open to US companies. This contrasts with the NOCs' growing technology strength as witnessed in presentations from Saudi Aramco – which is also developing a major training program to balance the dwindling geoscience graduate population.

The AAPG Forum on reserve estimation and reporting offered a good summary of the sometimes divergent views on this timely and complex issue. Finally, again on the technology front, an interesting presentation from Tim Killeen of the NCAR gave an insight into the huge IT resources that are devoted to weather forecasting and how they could be applied to 'decision support' for the oil and gas industry.

Highlights

- [Forum – state of industry](#)
- [Forum – R&D, staffing and training](#)
- [Forum – Reserves](#)
- [Forum – E&P Organizations](#)
- [3D modeling in GeoProbe](#)

¹ [A three-way dilemma!](#)

Contents

TW0605_I	AAPG Forum – state of industry	3
0605_1	<i>New energy equation for 21st century – Robert Ryan, Chevron</i>	3
0605_2	<i>Saudi Aramco's exploration program – Aboud Afifi, Saudi Aramco</i>	3
0605_3	<i>Shell's Global Scenarios – Matthias Bichsel, Shell</i>	3
0605_4	<i>Meteorological decision support – Tim Killeen, NCAR</i>	4
0605_5	<i>Exploration in Saudi Arabia – Ceri Powell, Shell</i>	4
0605_6	<i>Saudi Aramco's technology strategy – Abdulkade Alfifi</i>	4
TW0605_II	AAPG Forum – R&D, staffing and training	5
0605_II.1	<i>Geoscience training in ExxonMobil – Carlos Dengo, ExxonMobil</i>	5
0605_7	<i>People shortage – Jack Casey, University of Houston</i>	5
0605_8	<i>R&D in decline – Ricardo Rodrigues, Shell E&P Technology</i>	5
0605_9	<i>Schlumberger's employment policy – Rod Nelson</i>	6
TW0605_III	AAPG Forum: Reserves Now and In the Future PPA/AAPG.....	6
TW0605_IV	Reinventing E&P organizations	7
0605_10	<i>AAPG membership – Jeffrey Lund, AAPG and Access Exploration</i>	7
0605_11	<i>The IOC's 'trilemma' – Scott Tinker, University of Texas</i>	8
0605_12	<i>Geoscience pipeline dries up – Ed Roy, Trinity University, San Antonio</i>	8
0605_13	<i>Innovation diffusion – Art Berman (consultant)</i>	8
0605_14	<i>Venture capital and E&P R&D – Peter Duncan, MicroSeismic</i>	8
TW0605_V	Exhibitors.....	9
0605_15	<i>Landmark – GeoProbe as 3D geomodeler</i>	10
0605_16	<i>Genetek – AVO in Earthworks</i>	10
0605_17	<i>Geomodeling – SBED 2006</i>	10
0605_18	<i>Perigon – iPoint subsurface data viewer</i>	11
0605_19	<i>Oilware's Log Index Agent</i>	11
0605_20	<i>ZetaWare's Trinity petroleum system analysis and risking</i>	12
0605_21	<i>Dynamic Graphics – CoViz, Well Architect</i>	10
0605_22	<i>Reservoir Visualization – turning well logs to 3D 'seismics'</i>	12
0605_23	<i>C&C Reservoirs and French Petroleum Institute</i>	9
0605_24	<i>PetroLink PowerStream real time rig to shore communications</i>	11
0605_25	<i>HRH sedimentology module for Gravitas</i>	10
0605_26	<i>Bureau of Economic Geology – Laser Assisted Analogs</i>	9
0605_27	<i>Petroweb – 'GateWayPlus' ArcGlobe-based data browser</i>	12
0605_28	<i>Badleys, Midland Valley, IES Alliance</i>	9
0605_29	<i>HRT Petroleum</i>	10
TW0605_VI	Posters of note	13
0605_30	<i>Growing the forest – Melanie McQuinn, IHS Energy</i>	13
0605_31	<i>Geological information from semantic webs – Emil Platon, University of Utah</i>	13
0605_32	<i>Data mining the Barnett Shale – Pete Stark, IHS Energy</i>	13
0605_33	<i>Gravity-Driven Compression in the GoM Gwénael Guérin, Total</i>	13
TW0605_VII	Oral papers of note	13
0605_34	<i>Computer Assisted Petrography – Lori A. Hathon, Shell</i>	13
0605_35	<i>Integrating digital outcrop geology – David Hodgetts, Manchester University</i>	13
0605_36	<i>GIS Activities in the U.S. – Laura Biewick, USGS</i>	13
0605_37	<i>Well location datasets accuracy – Don Downey, Chevron</i>	13
TW0605_VIII	Technology Watch subscription information	13