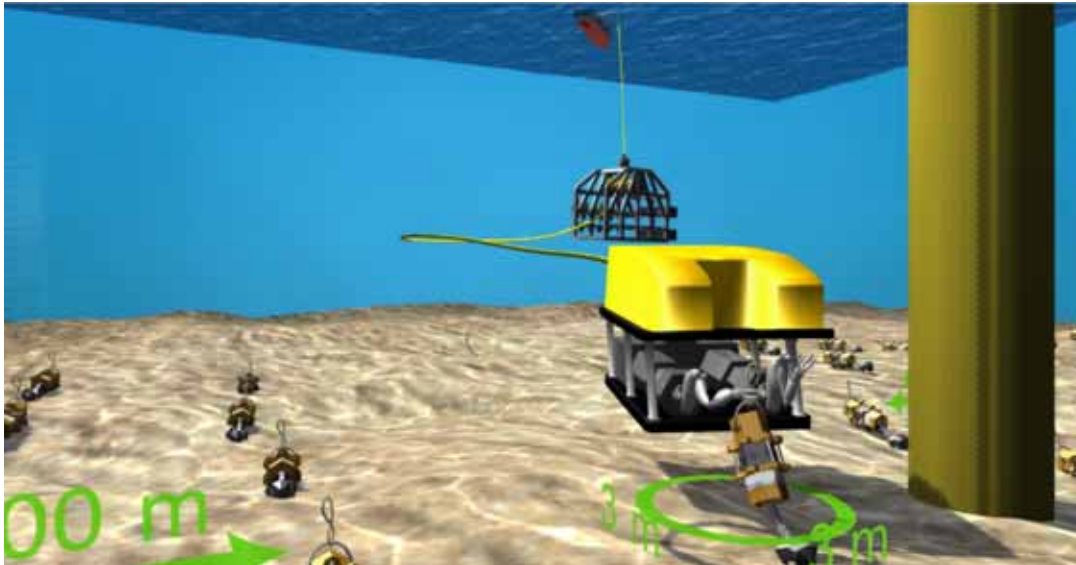


**European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE) -
Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)
EAGE/EUROPEC – Vienna, June 2006**



[2D3D Animation](#)'s rendering of [CGG](#)'s ROV-deployable seismic recording system.

The EAGE and SPE/EUROPEC conference was well attended with 4,760 visitors and 265 exhibitors. Keynote speakers included the Austrian Minister for Economics and Labor, Martin Bartenstein and Mohamed Hamel of the Vienna-based Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC. This ensured that the debate was on the plane of energy geopolitics rather than geoscience or engineering – although talks from OMV and RAG redressed this to some extent. The geopolitical consensus seems to be that energy demand from a growing world economy is likely to outstrip conventional supply over the next couple of decades. For Austria, which has turned its back on nuclear, clean coal is seen as a major component of future energy production. In the context of ‘possible’ global warming, OPEC sees CO₂ sequestration as a viable option for large stationary sources that produce 50% of world CO₂. OMV described the fierce competition for acreage, people and supplies that characterizes today’s booming oil and gas business. Helmut Langagnger described the current situation as ‘boom time for suppliers – or should that be revenge time?’ For RAG’s Eric Steenken, the conference theme of reworking old basins is particularly apposite in the present climate – but he noted that prolonging the lifetime of existing fields means working ageing facilities for much longer than originally planned – implying a great need for investment in infrastructure – especially pipelines. Our report includes an update on the UN Framework Classification for reserves, a Shell presentation on the continued success of controlled source electromagnetic prospecting and Total’s move to ubiquitous pre-stack depth migration of its seismic data. On the exhibition floor we heard of the current thinking from Schlumberger on Petrel data management, Saudi Aramco’s J2EE-based Drilling Knowledge Base and software updates from Petrosys, IronMountain, Roxar, ScandPower, MVE and Zeh/SeisInfo. On the hardware front, IBM was showing off its ‘Blue Gene’ supercomputer blades and an RFID ‘time and motion’ personnel tracking system. DMT has added structural analysis to its CoreScan II system. Finally we spoke to Paradigm CEO John Gibson about his involvement with OpenSpirit, the future of Epos and ‘openness’ in general.

Highlights

[Total’s depth domain interpretation](#)

[UN Framework Classification](#)

[Shell CSEM review](#)

[Saudi Aramco’s Drilling Knowledge Base](#)

[Wheeler domain sequence stratigraphy](#)

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