

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Americas Petroleum Survey Group September 16, 2004

1. The meeting convened at ExxonMobil Conference Center, 233 Benmar, Houston.
2. The 12th meeting was called to order by Mr. Kevin Crozier, Chairman at 8:55.
3. Mr. Barry Barrs gave a safety/security briefing. And advised about the facilities (restrooms, telephones etc)
4. Mr. Bish Karko, Secretary was absent on vacation. Mr Jon Stigant, Vice Chairman was appointed acting secretary.

5. Introductions:

Kevin Crozier (PGS Land)
Barry Barrs (Exxon Mobil)
Noel Zinn (Exxon Mobil)
Denis Taber (C&C Technologies)
Norm Berls (Schlumberger)
Jim Cain (Barnes and Cain)
Shorty Shipp (Harvey Lynch)
Don Ross (Pegasus)
Tony Maultsby (Conoco)
George Buhler (C&C Technologies)
John Conner (EnSoCo)
Rick Burris (Open Spirit)
Michael Barnes (Barnes and Cain)
Derek Salvage (Exxon Mobil)
Hugh Beattie
Jon Stigant
Stuart Porteous
Jim Nash (Terra Hydrographic Surveys)

6. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted Proposed - Derek Salvage and Seconded - Mike Barnes
7. Feature Speaker - Rick Burris (Open Spirit) made a presentation of the next generation of Open Spirit, with emphasis on the management of geodetic functions. The goal is to provide total interoperability between databases and applications. There are many applications and databases and these cannot communicate across platforms and operating systems. There is a huge variety of formats and heterogeneous datasets and no shared displays outside of each application.

Rick was keen to point out that Open Spirit is not:

1. An end user G&G application
2. A database
3. A GIS system

Open Spirit is an integration framework that sits between applications and Open Spirit interface. It tries to meet the business objectives through a subsurface and drilling data model. For example combining Seismic data from a SEG Y DB, horizons from Geoframe and Wells from Openworks.

Major problems surround the combination of languages and operating systems and the management of metadata.

Rick went on to describe the way in which Open Spirit intends to manage the transfer of geodetic and cartographic metadata during the sharing process.

There was a great deal of discussion after the end of the formal presentation. Some concern was expressed that even the most recent applications are not yet able to manage the storage and implementation of metadata within their own structure. A second point was a lack of provision of audit trails and warnings when limits of computational models were reached.

A copy of the talk was supplied to APSG and is available on the website.

Rick Burris' talk completed at 10:15. The meeting adjourned for a short break until 10:35

8. After the break Jim Cain provided a summary talk about the EPSG Geodesy working group.

The report detailed the current subscription levels and the distribution between the O&G industry and other users, now a significant proportion. An overview is:

- **Current status**
 - subscribers
 - membership
 - database
 - guidance notes
 - external influence
- **GWG proposed future activity**
- **Resources required**

Jim provided a list of the members of the group

Roel Nicolai (Shell)
Roger Lott (BP ret)
Jim Cain (JCain and Associates.)

Alan Faichney (Concept)
Walter Jardine (BP Trinidad)
Mike PostleHacon (RPS Hydrosearch)
Bruno Ravanias (Total)
Geir Simensen (Statoil)
Derek Salvage (ExxonMobil)

Jim discussed the most recent activity, including the latest database release and guidance notes 7 and 17 in support of formulae and SW development. Jim outlined the result of discussions regarding changes to the database.

A full version of Jim's talk is available on the APSG website.

His talk closed at 11 a.m.

9. Following the EPSG WG discussion, Jim Cain and Michael Barnes gave a talk about the availability of National and Regional DGPS networks around the world, and a new SW package by Microsoft which incorporates a mapping package with 'Pharos' 12 channel GPS receiver.

A full version of the talk is available on the APSG website.

About 11:45, the meeting adjourned for lunch.

10. Following lunch there was a discussion about forming an equivalent to the EPSG EPSG....APSG combined working group....some discussion points were:

- a. Don't re-invent the wheel
- b. Speak same message to vendors and suppliers
- c. Have meetings near international meetings
- d. Send minutes – to each other – including EPSG to APSG – edit the minutes.

A key question – what is the task

- a. User group
- b. Liaison committee?
- c. Subcommittee –

Further discussion tabled until the afternoon.

11. At 1300, Norm Berls spoke regarding “The Petroleum Industry Data Management – A Spatial Method” discussing how to manage the coding and selection of data that falls within a prescribed area. The talk is available on the APSG website.

12. 13:30 – Meeting continued with open discussion regarding both the Open Spirit and Norm Berls presentations.

Discussion with Jim Cain, Norm and Rick Burris presentations – issues that came up:

Early and Late Binding
Dealing with inline cross-line vs. X,Y

Who loads the data?

How we manage distributed computing?

Jim Cain summarized some of the issues from the EPSG Working Group DB management

Added functionality in DB

Assessed accuracy in meters of datum transformation

Showed EPSG Database additions to narrow field of selecting transformations

13. Membership Committee Report

Barry Barrs advised that he is updating names and addresses. He will make a field to show dues paid.

14. Education Committee Report

Hugh Beattie – Discuss Continuing Education for SEG, AAPG, plus available speakers. It was agreed that Hugh would pursue opportunities to develop a slot at these two meetings.

Posters – EM can supply?

New Members – Jim Cain, Don Ross.

15. APSG Website:

Norm Berls said he had no action from Stuart Lindow.

He had renewed the website at a cost of website \$200/year.

ESRI PUG – PPTs are there. Very large files. - Jim Cain to look at making these more accessible and he and Jon need to fine tune the notes pages.

Norm advised that he still needed someone to check the Oblique Mercator issue.

The meeting talks will be placed on website .

Yearly fees. Voted last meeting.

Paid: Hugh Beattie, Derek Salvage, Mike Barnes, Jim Cain, Shorty Shipp, Jon Stigant, John Conner, Don Ross, Noel Zinn, Kevin Crozier, Tony Maultsby, George Buhler, Jim Nash, Norm Berls. Received \$280. Norm was Paid \$200 Balance \$80 (Held by Jon Stigant pending Bish Karko's return.

16. Elections - VC

One Nominee - Jim Cain. A formal vote was held. Jim's election was unanimous. Jim will be President in 2006.

17. Next Meeting: Feb and September at Devon. Jon Stigant as new 2005 chairman will set and promulgate a date.

18. New Business: Setting up a WG committee: APSG Geodesy Working Group

Repeat from above:

“Following lunch there was a discussion about forming an equivalent to the EPSG EPSG...APSG combined working group...some discussion points were:

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Further Discussion:

How populate? Support from EPSG to have closer relations with them and to be more pro-active.

Possible candidates for the group: Derek Salvage, Jim Cain, John Conner, Barry Barrs.

How to work together?

Form a small group to discuss and formulate task.

Feed back to members and EPSG.

We recognize that EPSG has made a major contribution made to the geodetic industry of the work that EPSG does.

Problems (Derek)

Language too academic – to be addressed.

Non oil industry use of database - feeding in requirements – time of oil company members.

Diverse input from non operators - Our Geodetic Knowledge – can be mined.

Proposal to form an equivalent group to cooperate and work together with EPSG GWG:

Slate of Members: Barry Barrs, Jim Cain, Derek Salvage, Jon Stigant, John Conner.

Proposed by Michael Barnes, Seconded by Kevin Crozier. Unanimously elected.

EM thanked for their hospitality - Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.