

Americas Petroleum Survey Group (APSG)

Minutes of the first meeting, Omni Hotel Houston. November 12th 1997

Present

Robert Frost, Amoco (New Orleans LA)
Danny Kinsler, Amoco (Houston TX)
Tim Misek, Amoco (Houston TX)
Mike Chamberlin, Arco (Piano TX)
Roger Lott, BP (UK) (in name of EPSG WG, taking minutes)
Peter Boorman, Canadian Occidental (Calgary Canada)
Tim Mills, Chevron (Houston TX)
Betty Groth, Conoco (Houston TX)
Pat Wheeler-Holohan, Exploration Geodesy (Dayton WY)
Barry Barrs, Exxon (Houston TX)
Derek Salvage, Exxon (Houston TX)
Craig Aldrich, Marathon (Houston TX)
Jim Day, Marathon (Houston TX)
Ron Blair, Mobil (Dallas TX)
Bob Bush, Pennzoil (Houston TX)
Rod Harwood, Phillips (Bartlesville OK)
Jean-Patrick Girbig, Petroconsultants (Geneva, Switzerland) (chairman for meeting)
Pete Brennan, Texaco (Houston TX)

1. Introductions.

Jean-Patrick Girbig welcomed attendees to the meeting and presented a message of good wishes from Tim Magee, the chairman of the European Petroleum Survey Group (EPSG). Attendees then briefly introduced themselves and their organizations.

2. EPSG Presentation

Roger Lott gave an overview of EPSG organization, its membership and activities with particular reference to the geodesy working group and the geodetic database available at <http://www.petroconsultants.com.epsgweb/epsg.htm> (Slides from this presentation are attached as appendix 1).

3. Creating an APSG

Discussion took place on the creation of an APSG organization.

- using the EPSG document of April 1990 as a basis for discussion, goals suggested for APSG were:
 - exchange of geodetic information.
 - education about geodesy for the oil industry - material might be created.
 - promotion of exchange standards.
 - lobby standards bodies and applications vendors to produce products of an acceptable geodetic standard.
 - maintenance of close links with the EPSG.
 - support, augmentation and promotion of the EPSG database.

ACTION: Barry Barrs, Exxon, to draft Scope, Aims and Objectives document, and circulate for comment.

ACTION: Roger Lott, BP, to circulate a glossary of geodetic terms.

- discussion took place on the structure of the group:
 - it must meet US anti-trust legislation. Membership exclusive to oil companies might therefore be a problem.
 - proceedings should be open - a web site would assist this.
 - it was agreed that membership should be open to any organization with an interest in domestic or international petroleum surveying and positioning.

- the number of representatives from each organization was discussed. Limiting
- representation to one per member was considered to be contrary to the education goal.
- legal sign-off should be acquired.

ACTION: Barry Barrs, Exxon, to draft terms of reference, obtain legal overview, and circulate for comment.

- noting that attendees including participation from Canada and there was potential to include Latin American organizations, that he name was agreed as the Americas Petroleum Survey Group.
- a modified version of the EPSG logo, with the world centered on the Americas, was agreed. It would be distributed as a meta-file.

ACTION: Pete Boorman, CanOxy to modify and distribute logo.

- it was noted that a chairman was required to ensure the group had focus and a champion. Mike Chamberlain volunteered for this position. This was agreed by general acclaim.

4. Contact List

It was suggested that a list of contacts be produced and maintained.

ACTION: Pat Wheeler-Holohan, Exploration Consultants, to draft contact list.

5. Next meeting

It was agreed that meetings would be held biannually, perhaps in conjunction with the OTC and SEG conferences. It was suggested that at least initially attendance would be greatest if meetings were in the Houston area. It was agreed that the hosting of meetings would rotate amongst member organizations with the host arranging the meeting venue and being responsible for the production of minutes. Texaco offered to host the next meeting.

ACTION: Pete Brennan, Texaco, to arrange next meeting, in May 1998.