

**The Americas Petroleum Survey Group Minutes
May 3, 2000**

Convened at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 2900 Briar Park Drive, Houston, Texas

APSG Web

The outline was presented and reviewed. A Glossary of Terms was recommended. Although there still is some work to do, consensus was that this is a good foundation.

Education Committee

Task priorities are:

- Develop Web site

- Find links to avoid duplication of information

- Related web sites – EPSG, UKOOA, USGS, NIMA, NTS

All to send any comments and/or suggestions to Norm Berls

Gave recognition to Dean Mikkelsen for article in Leading Edge (edgeonline.org – Feb 2000)

The options for a program of education was discussed without conclusion

Geo Forum

Explanation given as the GOM Geophysicist, Geotechnical Membership, in common accord. Set up three years ago on an informal basis

Recent cross discipline education was very successful – Geophysicist, Geotechnicians. 160 attendees with quality sessions and significant raising of awareness

Since, E&P spatial data is part of the APSG remit, APSG group has agreed to getting involved in discussion with GeoForum to find some common ground

Membership

Web site application form initiated soon

Recruiting – proactive / inactive ? discussion

Recruit South America counterparts (Petrobras), expand awareness to Latin America

Move slowly in Houston for the present, inviting appropriate candidates as they become apparent

Nomination / Elections

Dean Mikkelson and Barry Barrs– nominated for Chair

Barry Barrs elected to Chair position

Michael Barnes accepts Vice Chair Position

Articles of association will be revisited for minor revision to be presented to membership

Long Range RTK - Briefing by Stewart Evans

30 Km capabilities

safety perspective – testing still required

overcomes ionosphere problem

promote with one set of results

What type of test will be required?

Economic Margin is advantageous in emerging technology

BP Amoco and ExxonMobil have agreed to become involved in a validity test

GPS Frequency Issues – Barry Barrs

Contact with many Ministers of Communication concerning frequency issues.

Feedback difficult to quantify

UNCLOS – EEZ – Michael Barnes

Delineation of continental shelf and sovereign rights to seabed / waters

Oil licensing will probably be an issue in the next one or two years

Access United Nations website for information

This is important because it will impact resources exploitation and has a strong spatial element, therefore, petroleum surveyors need to be aware of the topic

Solar Max discussion lead by Derek Salvage

ExxonMobil Angola- Dual frequency example of problems of rig moves. DGPS Services gave problems. Solutions were coming through

Redundant systems: Inmarsat, Spot Beam gave some protection

Age of corrections between two was significantly different

No land operations to relate too at present

Brazil – operation re-shot was necessary due to scintillation ?

Reported incidents included:

Angola – Lost time due to Problem in VSAT

Arctic Alaska shuts down

EPSG Update - Roger Lott

Data Management – Electronic Charting

Database – Limited to Operators

Knowledge of pipelines – disarray

UKOAA – Researching database problem

3D seismic surveys

What are you measuring?

What are you projecting?

What are you talking about?

Enterprise brought consistent approach for offshore Brazil A&P preferred method use in UTM

Exxon – various internal issues due to previous work with different projections, extent of database vast, issues with data management

EPSG Geodesy Working Group

Version 5 of geodetic parameter database

Significant change in data allows complete machine readability consistent with POSC beta version circulated including local coordinate systems

Working group took recommendations from Geodetic experts

Coordinate system model circulate release for comment

Petro-technical Operational Software Corp.

non-profit, rational single logic data model O&G applications compatible

Changes include plant engineering, 3D seismic

Improve browsing through forms distributed through MS access and allow users to add data

Version 5.1 will include data update function

Jim Cain appealed for background on Venezuelan Geodetic Data

Origins of EPSG – Chief Surveyors of European companies means of exchanging Geodetic data

Western EPSG database portion proprietary to specific clients, problematic transformations

Magnetic decline, geodetic, survey sub-contract, test points > All Linked together

AOB – none raised

Next meeting time and location **TBA**. Early November ?