

APSG

2nd Meeting

June 5, 1998

Hosted by Texaco

Houston, TX

APSG Spring Meeting 1998

Agenda

9:00 Opening. Comments from the Chairperson.
Parliamentary activities. Minutes of last meeting.

9:15 Barry Barrs. Report on attendance at EPSG.

9:30 Barry Barrs. Presentation of SCOPE and TERMS.

9:45 Open Discussion of SCOPE and TERMS.

10:15 Vote on acceptance

10:30 Break

10:45 Comments on new release of EPSG Geodesy database
Jim Cain Report

11:00 GEOQUEST Presentation(Maybe)

12:00 Lunch

13:00 BP Presentation on “MMS Hazard Survey NTL and POE Requirements”

thru Each attendee come prepared to spend 10 minutes presenting project
that you are working on or would like to work on that is of interest to
the group.

15:00 Open floor

15:30 Meeting Adjourns

Present:

J. Allen	GeoQuest
A. Hill	BP Exploration Inc.
B. Schostak	Shell Deepwater Development Systems Inc.

J. Cain	Western Geophysical Company
S. Van Metre	Phillips Petroleum Company
W. Quinlivan	Schlumberger
C. Sutherland	GeoQuest
J. Goodin	Phillips Petroleum Company
M. Chamberlin	Arco International
R. Harwood	Phillips Petroleum Company
P. Brennan	Texaco E & P Technology Department
J. P. Girbig	Petroconsultants
B. Barrs	Exxon Exploration Company
P. Winters	Exploration Geodesy, Inc.
P. Forbess	PI/Dwights
J. Adams	Conoco Inc.

Opening

- The meeting was held at TEXACO EPTD, Houston, Texas on the 5th June, 1998.
- P. Brennan welcomed group to Texaco. Covered safety and administrative details of meeting place.
- M. Chamberlin opening remarks. Stated that he did not have the minutes of last meeting. Minutes were provided to members previously by J-P Girbig.
- Brief discussion of last meeting for benefit of new attendees.
 - Provisional Organizational Charter
 - Assembled Goals
 - Reviewed by Barry Barrs and Exxon Attorneys
 - Will be working on achievable goals

- Requires individuals have time for tasks
- Relationship to EPSG

Report on Attendance at EPSG 25th Meeting – B. Barrs

- B. Barrs reviewed his presentation made at the EPSG 25th meeting in Paris.
- Comments about meeting structure of EPSG
 - Started at ELF
 - Meetings conducted in English
 - Meet two times per year
 - Rotate between member companies
 - Chair is a two year post
 - Minutes taken by host company
 - Each company sends one representative
 - Usually a presentation by contractor
 - Person suggesting project gets to do work
 - Working Group on geodesy meets before annual meeting
 - J-P Girbig and J. Cain are members of EPSG Geodesy working group
 - Handout of EPSG meeting highlights
 - Standing invitation from EPSG to APSG to attend meetings.
 - Possibility of joint contact list.
 - Sent appreciation for APSG attendance
- Presentation materials available as file “APSG2.ppt”

Presentation of the SCOPE, AIMS and OBJECTIVES and the TERMS OF REFERENCE – B. Barrs

- B. Barrs worked with Exxon attorney, Wally Rasmussen, to get a new “Articles of Association”
- Revised copies from November meeting and attorney’s new version were distributed
- Rasmussen’s opinion that APSG is an “unincorporated association”
 - May not receive or hold property
 - The name “APSG” can be protected and may need to be registered
 - Joint and several liability
 - Action against APSG could become action against individuals
 - Recommends non-profit organization status
 - Patterned after AAPG

Discussion of SCOPE and TERMS

- Jim Cain: EPSG is comprised of organizations represented by individuals. Organizations are the members. Because APSG is setting up with individuals as members, there are anti-trust issues that have to be recognized.

- P. Brennan and B. Barrs: Intent was to keep everything open. Individual/organization membership discussed briefly with lawyer. Setting up as a non profit may result in a more formal organization than than what people want.
- J. Girbig: Any issues if non U. S. companies participate?
- J. Cain: Not if non-profit.
- A. Hill: Contrast with Gulf of Mexico Geo-Hazard Group. Had same questions. Wound up leaving completely open. Open meetings, etc. Some discussion on comparison with other organizations.
- J. Cain: Some financial obligation incurred to qualify as 501C3. Suggested that he and B. Barrs form a sub-group to study non-profit status. Are members individuals or organizations? Do we want to pursue tax exemption under non-profit?
- M. Chamberlin: Raises issue of dues to cover costs.
- B. Barrs: EPSG is just getting to issue of dues. Trying to defer until absolutely unavoidable. Some consensus to keep the organization “light”.
- J. Adams: Finder users group has charter – Ad Hoc.
- R. Harwood: Suggested evolve the activities before we evolve the organization.
- B. Barrs: Asked the question what is the level of satisfaction with the SCOPE and TERMS “pre EXXON attorney” ?
- J. Cain: Said there was contradiction in mentioning member companies, but considering individuals for membership.
- J. Cain: How does one become a new member? (Refer to subcommittee?)
- Consensus that new members must apply to chairman for consideration.
- M. Chamberlin: The doc is clear on aims. What needs to be resolved are the organizational issues.

Vote on Acceptance of SCOPE and TERMS

- No vote was taken.
- Agreed by everyone that Barrs and Cain would work the “terms of association” issue, primarily in terms of defining the legal status of the organization and report back at the next meeting.

BREAK

Comments on New Release of EPSG Geodesy database – Jim Cain

- Cain asked if anyone had reviewed the new release. No attendees had made any careful review. Some have looked at it.
- Comment was made that datum shifts appear to be mostly DMA shifts.
- J. Cain: It is true the shifts are DMA published plus a few others that are officially approved by the local governing body.
- B. Barrs: Asked question if special purpose datums used in an area by just one company would be included.
- J. Cain: Answer is no. They have found that the EPSG database is heavily used outside the oil industry. Want to have official data only. One of the strengths of database is that all the info related to a datum such as Ellipsoid, Units, Geographic, and projected Coordinate System can all be found in one place. Currently maintained as an MS Access database. Working group is R. Lott, J. Cain, R. Nicolai, and J. Girbig. Database is being used by people who don't know anything about geodesy, so guidelines will be published. Web page is on Petro-consultants site. Will be adding bin grids and mapping standards. We are receptive to new information. Next meeting in July. Working on modified SEG(Y?) standard. They would like to link to EPSG standards.
- B. Barrs: Some of the Access queries are cryptic. Don't know what it does until you do it.
- J. Cain: There is a readme file. The database does not support good reports or search capabilities. Would like to provide an area search, i.e., return appropriate datums/coordinate system for a geographic area. Building an intersection table as an interim solution. Long term want to associate polygons with coordinate system. Goal is to make database POSC compliant. There are a few places we've asked POSC to change.

GEOQUEST Product Perspective – Jeff Allen

Two systems

<u>Geoframe</u>	POSC compliant data model. Software layers Units Coordinate Transformation – Mentor Software
<u>Finder</u>	PPDM data Model Data Management Tool Uses USGS Projections and GDT(BP) After Finder 9 projection and datum info will be on map.

Finder 9 and Geoframe 4 will both have Mentor.
CPS-3 Surface Modeling Tool – May use different projection routines.

No presentation materials available at this time.

M. Chamberlin: Question on ability of a user to define and use custom datums.

B. Quinlivan: Supported at the low level, but probably not exposed at (41 ?)

M. Chamberlin: May want to form a (SIG ?) on how geodesy is being supported by the vendors.

J. Adams: Also an issue for the Finder users group. (Adams involved with this group)

M. Chamberlin: Products require expertise that users don't have.

B. Barrs: IESX ? allows you to define an ellipsoid and inconsistent datum.

M. Chamberlin: Good to have the transformation tools as long as it is explained to users. We have
a) systems for experts, b) systems in general use

J. Adams: We promote the distinction. Most people don't want to have to know about this stuff.

B. Barrs: Question about building 3D grids. Currently have to go back to the headers.

J. Allen: We are gathering requirements for updates

B. Quinlivan: Numbers ??????/?. Geodesy/cartographic experts. ???

LUNCH

BP Presentation on "MMS Hazard Survey NTL and POE Requirements" – Andy Hill

Gulf of Mexico Geo Hazards and Site Investigation Forum has a wide breadth of membership.

Has response to MMS Draft NTL (Notice to Lessees)

Follows 1983 version, makes small revisions.

Presentation materials not available in digital form at this time.

Member Presentations/Contributions

J-P. Girbig - Petroconsultants

Global Cartographic Competency
Petroconsultants, Dwigths, IHS merged
Denver, Houston, Geneva
About 900 employees

Will organize cartographic conference in Oct/Nov linked EPSG/APSG meetings

Presentation materials available as file "petro.ppt".

- J. Goodin: Reconciling elevation data with other geodetic reference systems in EPSG database. Databases for converting datums, etc, but ignore that we work on the surface of the earth. Elevations are relative to spheroid, not geoid. No one is addressing this in a general way. Argue for inclusion of geoid with geodetic database.
- M. Chamberlin: Problem addressed to some extent with 2D vs 3D coordinate systems.
- J. Cain: Next EPSG version will reference the geoid models. June 30 workshop will address this issue.
- M. Chamberlin: Survey? WGS-84 relative elevations because that is what is available from GPS.
- P. Winters: Conveying e-mail notes from P. Wheeler-Holohan. Hopes the group may set themselves up to create standards for software packages. May be a problem from a liability standpoint.
- M. Chamberlin: Group could establish standard test suites.
- B. Quinlivan: It is hard to get agreement on endorsing particular products.
- J-P. Girbig: This was a goal of EPSG from the start – validating software. Originally hard to get taken seriously, but there has been an attitude change just very recently. Now it's public and people are aware of it(?).
- J. Cain: There are a set of guidance notes. Very helpful if they were to be reviewed from the U.S. side of the Atlantic.
- P. Brennan: Education – Is there still an interest in this area? i.e., preparing a syllabus or creating a videotape or publishing a book?
- J. Goodin: Geodesy for the Layman is available on the Web.
- B. Barrs: Who has formal training within our organizations? None at Exxon.
- P. Brennan: Texaco has a semi-formal one day class taught with Dave ?????.
- B. Barrs: Has heard that Amoco has a “Principles of Cartography” class.
- J-P. Girbig: Heard same thing in Europe.
- B. Quinlivan: There is value in inventorying existing resources.
- P. Brennan: Volunteered to coordinate.
- M. Chamberlin: Maybe good to put a tutorial on the Web.
- J. Cain: Need to at least get people to recognize that there is a problem.
- R. Harwood: Sounds like a good project for a working group.

J. Adams: Would be nice to identify/provide some speakers who could visit our sites and give a class/presentation.

M. Chamberlin: Proposes a compilation of the geodetic related oil and gas law in the various countries._

J. Adams: Thinks Petroconsultants already has a product with that information.

P. Brennan: Passed out list of datum shifts that Texaco uses.

Open Floor

Next Meeting – November 11. Western Geophysical will host. Same hours – 9 to 15:30.

Action Items

Formed an Association Committee. B. Barrs and J. Cain. Will work on revisions to Articles of Association and present at next meeting.

Education Committee. P. Brennan, B. Schostak, M. Chamberlin, D. Salvage

Finder. John Adams will continue evaluation
Some short term fixes needed
Some long term development issues

Software Evaluation Committee. B. Quinlivan, D. Mikkelsen, J. Adams
J. Goodin says he could look at Petrosys
J. Adams says this work should focus on developing guidelines
B. Schostak suggests checklist for evaluation of products.

All to review EPSG database, guidelines, and the message from Tim Magee

J-P. Girbig to check Petroconsultants CDROM for info on petroleum law

P. Brennan to get South America story straightened out with Fourth Wave.

