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## **RECORD NUMBER OF PAPER SUBMISSIONS FOR IPTC**

### **International Petroleum Technology Conference receives overwhelming industry support and endorsement from OAPEC**

Doha, Qatar, XX June, 2009: The international oil and gas industry has responded in record numbers to the Call for Papers for the multi-disciplinary International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) taking place in Doha from 7-9 December 2009.

With 1,128 papers submitted, the highest amount ever to be received in the history of the IPTC, the programme committee selected nearly 600 papers, representing 130 companies from 35 countries.

The select committee, which includes some of the world's foremost leaders in the oil and gas sector, set high selection criteria for the papers, as part of their efforts to make the conference a must-attend event for everyone working in the industry.

“The response has been unprecedented and we applaud our industry colleagues for making such a valuable contribution to the development of the oil and gas sector,” said Khalid Al-Hitmi, Manager Gas Development at Qatar Petroleum and Co-Chairman for the IPTC Conference Programme.

“The conference is an important date in the calendar, coming to the Middle East only every two years. All 52 technical topics we initially proposed for the event will be addressed and due to the calibre of the papers, we have added a further six technical discussions so that delegates truly get the most out of the conference,” added Al-Hitmi.

“The conference programme will focus on the dissemination of new and current technology, best practices and multi-disciplinary activities, designed to emphasise the importance of the value chain and the maximisation of asset value,” said Olivier Dubrule, Director of Total Research Centre – Qatar (TRC-Q) and Co-Chairman for the IPTC Conference Programme.

The fourth edition of the IPTC, held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, is on target to be the biggest and most comprehensive yet. The 2009 exhibition, running alongside the conference, will feature seven national pavilions including China, Denmark, India, Italy, Malaysia, North America and Norway, as well as dedicated environmental, health and safety and intelligent energy pavilions.

The event has been given a further boost from the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), which has pledged its full support and endorsement. Taking place under the theme of ‘World Energy Challenges: Endurance and Commitment’, IPTC is the first event ever to receive such backing from OAPEC.

IPTC has also gained the support of sponsors; the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE), the Gas Processors Association (GPA), the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE).

The conference will provide a platform for the world’s leading oil and gas professionals to address their colleagues. Andrew Gould, Chairman and CEO of Schlumberger, will be joined by Olivier Appert, Chairman and CEO of Institut Français du Pétrole, Rich M. Kruger, President of ExxonMobil Production Company and Saad Al-Kaabi, Director of Oil and Gas Ventures for Qatar Petroleum.

Returning to the region from the 2008 edition held in Kuala Lumpur, the IPTC has now been established as a biennial event and will be held in alternative years between the Middle East and Asia.

One of the most comprehensive events of its kind, the IPTC, taking place at the Sheraton Doha Resort and Convention Hotel, will include features such as an awards ceremony to celebrate the oil and gas industry's successes, educational field trips, an exhibition, young professionals' workshop and a social programme for delegates' partners.

Industry professionals who are interested in booking delegate and exhibition spaces are being encouraged to act now to take advantage of discounted rates and accommodation the organisers of IPTC have arranged in Qatar. More information can be found at [www.iptcnet.org/2009](http://www.iptcnet.org/2009).

**Caption:** The select committee for the IPTC has been overwhelmed by the record number of papers submitted for the fourth edition of the multi-disciplinary oil and gas event, taking place in Doha, Qatar in December, 2009.

## **Ends**

### **Notes to Editors**

The International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) is an international oil & gas conference and exhibition. The event rotates various venues in the Eastern Hemisphere. The scope of the conference programme and associated industry activities will address technology and relevant industry issues that challenge industry specialists and management around the world, particularly in the gas business and certain overarching issues such as HSE, Security, HR and training.

The IPTC is a collaborative effort among the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG); the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE); the Gas Processors Association (GPA); the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG); and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE). The synergy of these five leading individual-member driven societies provides the most comprehensive opportunity to form multi-disciplinary committees and an outstanding technical programme.

Regional oil ministers, industry leaders and governmental representatives will have an opportunity to discuss and share their views on timely industry topics and trends, exchange expertise and experience, present state-of-the-art technology and innovation, and to stimulate further research of technical and business activities. In addition, awards and recognition will be given for individual and organisation efforts for technical and business contributions to the industry. There will also be a range of integrated social activities to encourage networking and off-line discussion.

The Conference Programme will be focused on dissemination of new and current technology, best practices and multi-disciplinary activities designed to emphasise the importance of the “value chain” and maximising asset value. The knowledge, capabilities and strengths of the participating countries and the sponsoring societies’ global membership, over the spectrum of multi-disciplinary technologies, will be central to the success of the conference and the corresponding exhibition.

More than 3,000 comprising delegates from around the world. In the inaugural event in 2005, the conference hosted 2,809 delegates and visitors representing 49 countries from Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and North America. This rose to 3,682 participants from 80 countries for the 2007 event held in Dubai, U.A.E. The third edition in 2008, the first to be held in Asia Pacific, attracted over 7,500 attendees from 57 countries. It is expected that delegate numbers will include a significant percentage of the sponsoring societies’ membership.