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OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS GIVEN GLOBAL PLATFORM TO ADDRESS SECTOR ISSUES

International Petroleum Technology Conference announces Call for Papers as part of multi-disciplinary conference programme

Doha, Qatar, xx February, 2009: The world's leading oil and gas societies have announced the official Call for Papers from industry professionals as part of the multi-disciplinary International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC).

The theme of the fourth edition of the IPTC, taking place 7 to 9 December, 2009 in Doha, Qatar and under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, is World Energy Challenges: Endurance and Commitment.

The programme committee, which includes some of the world's foremost leaders in the oil and gas sector, have 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.

In what will be an unrivalled multi-session programme, 52 topics have been made available for industry professionals to present, which are representative of the issues facing the oil and gas sector today.

“We are reaching out to our industry colleagues, giving them an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to the development of our 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 four years, and it is vital that all 52 topics are covered so that delegates get the most out of the event.”

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The deadline for abstracts of paper proposals is 21 March 2009; the full seminar programme will be announced once the committee members have selected the highest calibre presentations.

“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 technical committee from the sponsoring societies will rate and select the best papers submitted, taking into consideration the quality of the technical information and the regional diversity of the content. Participants are being given the platform to be recognised as a published author.”

The IPTC is sponsored by 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).

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, celebrating the oil and gas industry’s successes, educational field trips, an exhibition, young professionals’ workshop and a social programme for delegates’ partners.

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Industry professionals who are interested in submitting their papers are advised to visit www.iptcnet.org/2009 for the full list of topics and further information on applications.

Caption: The programme committee for the International Petroleum Technology Conference, taking place in Doha in December 2009, has announced the official Call for Papers from the oil and gas sector.

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.