



## **OIL & GAS INDUSTRY’S BIGGEST NAMES AGREE TECHNOLOGY AND COLLABORATION GIVE CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM**

**7 December 2015, Doha** – The 9th International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) - the largest multi-society, multi-disciplinary oil and gas event in the Eastern hemisphere – began in Doha today, with 5,000 oil and gas professionals expected to attend and contribute.

Taking place from December 7th – 9th at the Qatar National Convention Centre, the 9th IPTC themed “Technology and Partnerships for a Sustainable Energy Future” is hosted by Qatar Petroleum, co-hosted by Shell and takes place under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, The Emir of the State of Qatar.

Over the next three days, professionals from over 450 companies and 50 countries will gain valuable insights from high-profile industry leaders, get the latest updates from a comprehensive technical programme with over 230 papers discussed that were carefully selected after a strong selection process from over 1,500 submissions. Participants will also experience a showcase of leading-edge technology and innovations at the event’s exhibition.

Speaking at the Opening Ceremony, H.E. Sheikh Abdulla bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, Prime Minister and Interior Minister of the State of Qatar stated that: “The State of Qatar is still on track to optimise its natural resources to meet global demand, despite the new price structure in the energy markets”.

He continued: “Any fluctuation that is not linked to supply and demand will not be in the interests of producers or consumers in the long term”.

H.E. Dr Mohammed bin Saleh Al-Sada, Minister of Energy and Industry of the State of Qatar, praised the theme of this year’s IPTC, adding that it was on the top priority list of any nation striving to achieve progress: “The world today needs to maximise the utilisation of modern and new technologies to reduce capital and operational expenditure”.

He added that a billion dollar project is on-going to recover more than 90 per cent of the gas flared at LNG loading jetties at Ras Laffan Port.

In his address, Eng. Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi, President and CEO of Qatar Petroleum, said “the petroleum industry has and will always be an international industry that effects and is effected by all economical and political turmolis. It requires a massive and continuous investment and continuous advancement in technology. Our projects always need longer time to starts showing a real return in investment. He called upon industry leaders to convert current challenges facing the industry into opportunities for the future development of the industry”.



Andy Brown, Upstream International Director, Shell touched on his personal experience of working in Qatar: “My own experience here in Qatar when delivering Pearl GTL was a great testament to the principles of technology and partnership”

Later in the morning, the first of two CEO Plenary Sessions saw global industry heavyweights including the CEOs of Saudi Aramco, Qatar Petroleum, Shell, Total, and ConocoPhillips, and discussing how investment in clean technology (such as carbon capture and storage) will mean a sustainable energy future.

The IPTC series is renowned for its technical quality, and the commitment to excellence continues with a nine-stream technical programme in which world experts will present on how technology is being applied to address the most pressing industry challenges.

The future of the global oil and gas industry is recognised with a very strong educational strand running through IPTC. At the IPTC Youth Pavilion, for example, there will be a range of activities aimed at students and young professionals, including IPTC’s Young Professionals programme, which aims to help the next generation gain communication and learning agility skills.

For more information on the 9<sup>th</sup> IPTC, please go to [www.iptcnet.org/2015/doha](http://www.iptcnet.org/2015/doha)

Principal sponsors include: ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Maersk Oil, Occidental Petroleum (Oxy), RasGas, Saudi Aramco and Total.

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### **About IPTC**

The International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) is an annual event rotating between Asia Pacific and the Middle East. IPTC is organised to further the advancement of scientific and technological knowledge related to the exploration, development, production, transportation and processing of oil and natural gas.

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