
Oil Search sponsors Applied Sequence Stratigraphy workshop in Port Moresby

PNG Media Release

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Thanks to Oil Search, nineteen participants had the opportunity to learn about a specialist area of exploration geoscience called Sequence Stratigraphy from an expert in the field.

A two day Applied Sequence Stratigraphy workshop was held in Oil Search's Port Moresby office. The workshop was sponsored by Oil Search's exploration team, who brought Mr Rob Kirk, a 30-year internationally experienced and recognised world expert Australian based consultant into PNG to share his knowledge. Rob has been working with Oil Search on data from the Gulf of Papua for the last six months and is a highly skilled geoscientist, a great trainer and excellent mentor who is very effective in imparting knowledge.

The course was attended by Geologists from the Department of Petroleum and Energy, Mineral Resources Development Company and Geology students and lecturers from the University of Papua New Guinea.

Oil and Gas explorers think, talk and assess the risk of their drilling opportunities using the concepts and language of Sequence Stratigraphy.

Sequence Stratigraphy is the building block and is a key skill for exploration geoscientists. It involves recreating and understanding the environment that rocks containing oil and gas were originally laid down so that the geoscientist can better predict where potential reservoirs might be and where the oil and gas has come from. It involves integrating all data sets from surface data, well data and seismic data. The approach is based on identifying and categorising packages of rock into units that are deposited within a specific time period (over millions of years). By understanding the distribution of these types, it is possible to predict (with a reasonable degree of confidence) the nature of rock packages in the areas where the rocks have not been drilled. This lets explorers assess where reservoir rocks, source rocks or sealing facies may occur: even when they have not been drilled. By understanding these items explorers can identify new places to drill as they look for new accumulations of oil and gas.

Oil Search will regularly bring in international experts to train our staff and we will utilise these times to ensure Papuan New Guinean geologists and geophysicists get exposed to these world class training opportunities. All those that attended the course highly commended Oil Search for the initiative and hoped that the Company will continue to offer such training opportunities.

Holding the course in Port Moresby promoted in-country geoscience knowledge and allowed each participant to improve their geoscience understanding and expand their scientific toolbox. Oil Search believes that through sponsoring such training, all industry participants benefit through the propagation of a common technical language. Most of the participants were women.

Oil Search General Manager for PNG Exploration, Dr Shane Schofield, in his closing comments at the end of workshop told participants that he was "Proud to support geoscience knowledge and training in PNG. The course that you have just completed is a demonstration of Oil Search's commitment to continually working to improve in-country exploration expertise. Our objective through in-country training is to develop our citizen geoscientists and to deliver public courses to those geoscientists who do not have access to petroleum exploration training resources. It is a program that we will continue."

End.

For further information, please contact:

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Photos



Rob Kirk helping final year Geology students from the University of Papua New Guinea understand an aspect of Sequence Stratigraphy.



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