14 Named to First-Ever PETEX Advisory Board!

Introducing The University of Texas PETEX Advisory Board

President Larry Faulkner to Formalize Appointments in April

This spring, Tom Hatfield, dean of Continuing and Extended Education at The University of Texas at Austin, will convene the first-ever Advisory Board in the history of PETEX. The purpose of the Board is to provide a means for increasing the value and reach of PETEX training and training materials for oil- and gas-related personnel. Part of the Board’s charge will be to advise and assist PETEX staff members regarding curriculum, promotion of courses and publications, and program evaluation.

For the most part, the Board will comprise noneducators who have experience and knowledge in the petroleum industry, with Dean Hatfield serving as an ex-officio member of the group. We want to keep membership numbers somewhere between five and twenty, with overlapping terms not to exceed three years.

The Board will meet at least two times a year, the time, place, and date to be determined by agreement among the members. The first meeting will be held in May at IADC headquarters in Houston.

Dean Hatfield and I have put together a fine group of individuals to serve on the Board. The qualifications we considered were experience, availability, character, and the extent to which an individual is representative of the industry. Larry Faulkner, president of UT Austin, will make formal appointments in April. A Board chair will be selected at the May meeting.

Members of the Board follow:

Calvin Barnhill is president of Northstar Exploration Company and is an instructor in the PETEX short courses. He will serve a three-year term.

Rick Bobigian has served as the executive vice president and director of Osprey Petroleum Company, Inc., since October 1999, and is the managing general partner in NGL Associates. He will serve a two-year term.

Bob Burnett, presently the international training manager for GlobalSantaFe, is also chairman of the IADC’s Well Control Committee. He will serve a three-year term.

Ed Burbach is the deputy attorney general for litigation for the Attorney General of Texas and an instructor in the PETEX short courses. He will serve a three-year term.

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Doug Elliot is founder of IPSI an affiliate of the Bechtel organization. He will serve a two-year term.

David Fish has been employed by Welker Engineering Company since 1978. Mr. Fish teaches for PETEX in the Gas (Fluid) Measurement course and in the Instruments and Controls course. He will serve a two-year term.

Ed Geissler is manager of Training and Development for Nabors Drilling International at the corporate headquarters in Houston. He will serve a three-year term.

Ron Hinn is the knowledge management lead for Occidental Oil and Gas. He will serve a two-year term.

Matt Isbell is the Central U.S. district engineer for Hughes Christensen in Norman, Oklahoma. He will serve a three-year term.

John Lansing is a mechanical engineer working in ultrasonic metering for Daniel. He will serve a two-year term.

Dado Matkins is director of corporate training for Transocean. He will serve a two-year term.

Gregg Perkin is a principal with Engineering Partners International, Inc., and an instructor in PETEX short courses. He will serve a two-year term.

David Toalson is a principal in OPT International LP headquartered in Houston. He will serve a three-year term.
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is an honor to take on the role of the new director of PETEX and to begin to meet all of you at various conferences and committee meetings. Former director Ron Baker left me in great shape in many ways, including having made wonderful friends. Ken Fischer, Calvin Barnhill, Dado Matkins, Gregg Perkin—all these guys have been super in terms of helping me feel comfortable in my new job.

When Dean Tom Hatfield first mentioned to me that Ron was retiring, I was serving as director of the Distance Education Center, a sister unit to PETEX at The University of Texas, where I focused on delivering for-credit courses in online environments. Dean Hatfield said that he was looking for someone who could resurrect an organization that has suffered along with other oil- and gas-related businesses in a troubled economy. After almost 60 years of success in carrying out its mission through good times and bad, he told me, the last drop in oil prices dealt a blow from which PETEX has yet to recover.

To accomplish the kind of resurrection he had in mind, he said he needed someone who understands and has had experience in two key areas: 1) high-performing organizations, and 2) teaching and training adults. This person would have to understand not only return on investment, performance measures, threats and opportunities, a focus on results, and customer-driven excellence, but also how to best deliver quality training in a variety of modes, including online, face-to-face, and through paper materials.

As I listened to the dean, I remember thinking, “This is the kind of challenge I love!” With my credentials as a state and central Texas Baldrige examiner, and as a teacher and trainer of many years, it occurred to me that I fit the criteria the dean was describing. I had initiated some turnaround programs at the Distance Education Center based on systems-thinking strategies, including a customer-focused business model, a balanced scorecard, and a process improvement cycle.

Could it be that what I had to offer was what the dean needed to help refocus PETEX?

I polished my resume and gave it a shot. A few weeks later, I had the job.

I moved into the office early in February and have begun the hard work of any new leader, imprinting my management style and imposing some major changes that will bring immediate results. We are thinking innovatively and trying new things. For example, we’re closing the Kilgore office this spring, and putting all of the short-course staff in the Houston office. We are also looking hard at how we can get closer to each of you by listening to what you need and responding quickly and efficiently. In doing that, we realized that some key processes appeared to be sluggish, so we’ve mapped those processes and are now reengineering them to be sleek and systemic and customer focused.

Probably the boldest initiative so far, and likely the one that will have the biggest long-term payoff for PETEX, is the appointment by UT President Larry Faulkner of the first Advisory Board in PETEX history. Dean Hatfield will convene the Board in May to help me as well as my staff better understand a competitive environment that’s a new experience for an organization accustomed for many years to little or no competition at all. This group of industry leaders will help us restore PETEX to the vigorous, valued contributor to the industry it once was. (Please see the related article on page 1.)

I am proud to have been chosen to carry on the tradition of quality training and materials you have come to expect from PETEX, and I look forward to working with all of you to help make this happen.
HYDRAULICS FOR PIPELINE OPERATORS

The School of Hydraulics for Pipeline Operators was held twice in March for the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP) LLC, in Cut Off, Louisiana. Both classes were made up of 12 individuals, a combination of schedulers, oil movement controllers, operations technicians, and supervisors. Popular hydraulics instructor Gerald Moreland taught both classes. As well as serving as director of Hydraulic Consulting Services for Advantica, Gerald also teaches in the regularly scheduled class in the Houston Energy Training Center.

LOOP was organized in 1972 as a Delaware corporation, and then converted to a limited liability company in 1996. Ashland Inc., Marathon Ashland Pipe Line LLC, Murphy Oil Corporation, and Shell Oil Company are LOOP’s parent companies.

The port facility is located in the Gulf of Mexico, 18 miles south of Grand Isle, Louisiana, in 110 feet of water. LOOP is the only port in the U.S. capable of off-loading deep draft tankers known as ultra large crude carriers (ULCCs) and very large crude carriers (VLCCs). Along with off-loading crude from VLCCs, LOOP also off-loads smaller tankers.

The port consists of three single-point mooring buoys used for the off-loading of crude tankers, and a marine terminal consisting of a two-level pumping platform and a three-level control platform. The onshore oil storage facility, twenty-five miles inland at the Clovelly facility, is connected to the port complex by a 48-inch diameter pipeline. It provides interim storage for crude oil before it is delivered via connecting pipelines to refineries on the Gulf Coast and in the Midwest.

The oil is stored in eight underground caverns of a naturally-occurring salt dome. The caverns are capable of storing up to 48 million barrels of crude oil (a barrel of oil is equal to 42 U.S. gallons). In 1996, a cavern was dedicated to the MARS stream coming in from the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. The MARS crude oil system uses the same distribution system used by the foreign barrels.

Four pipelines connect the onshore storage facility to refineries in Louisiana and along the Gulf Coast. LOOP also operates the 53-mile, 48-inch LOCAP pipeline that connects LOOP to CAPLINE at St. James, Louisiana. CAPLINE is a 40-inch pipeline that transports crude oil to several midwestern refineries.

LOOP is connected to over 50 percent of the U.S. refinery capacity and has off-loaded over 6 billion barrels of foreign crude oil since its inception.
ON-SITE TRAINING FOR THE GAS (FLUID) MEASUREMENT SCHOOL

The Petroleum Extension Service conducted the School of Gas (Fluid) Measurement at the Richmond terminal in Richmond, California, April 5–8, 2004.

Sixteen students attended the class from various parts of California and represented several companies including ConocoPhillips, ChevronTexaco, Berry Petroleum Co, CPN Pipeline, and Dick Brown Measurement Services. ConocoPhillips hosted the group.


This was an excellent session! A special thanks goes to all of the excellent teaching staff for making the school a success.

For more information about having a school brought to your facility, please call Training Manager, Bill Brantley, at (903)984-8689, or the Houston Training Facility, at (281)-443-7144.
SKILLS TRAINING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Center</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Petroleum Measurement</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>4½ days</td>
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<td>Completion &amp; Workover</td>
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<td>Instruments and Controls</td>
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<td>Introduction to Offshore Operations</td>
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<td>Petroleum Fundamentals</td>
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<td>June 7–11</td>
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For more information about course schedules and availability, please call the Houston Energy Training Center at 1-800-687-7052 or 281-443-7144.
FOUR NEW EDITIONS COMING SOON!

Buoyancy, Stability, and Trim

Applied Mathematics for the Petroleum and Other Industries

Plant Processing of Natural Gas

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