



SIPES Foundation Distinguished Speaker Program

Michael A. Fogarty, #1720, of Pennant Exploration, LLC in New Orleans, Louisiana has been named the first **SIPES Foundation Distinguished Speaker**. He will travel to various SIPES Chapters to present a luncheon meeting program entitled, "Examples of Fluvial Sequence Stratigraphy from High Resolution 3-D Seismic Data." Travel expenses will be paid by the SIPES Foundation. Mike Fogarty can be reached at 504-891-5400 or at fogarty@airmail.net.

In an abstract of his presentation, Mr. Fogarty notes that historically, both 2D and 3D seismic data have proven of limited value in petroleum exploration in the Wilcox Group (Paleocene-Eocene) of central Louisiana. Modern, conventionally processed 3D seismic data is useful for general sequence stratigraphic interpretation (e.g. delineation of sequence boundaries), but does not have the vertical and horizontal resolution required to image the details of fluvial-deltaic stratigraphic features necessary to identify subtle hydrocarbon traps.

Reprocessing of existing 3D seismic data using propriety software algorithms sufficiently enhanced the seismic data resolution to make it an effective tool for hydrocarbon exploration in such fluvial-deltaic sequences. Once the reprocessed seismic data is calibrated with geological information, not only can small-scale fluvial-deltaic stratigraphic features, such as individual channels, be identified, but their sand-filled or shale-filled nature can also be distinguished. The high-resolution seismic data make subtle trapping situations that result from sand pinch outs and differential compaction recognizable. When integrated with the subsurface data, it is possible to create a more detailed stratigraphic framework for use in a petroleum exploration program.

The SIPES Foundation Board of Directors will expand the number of speakers in this new program. Recommendations for speaker candidates should be sent to SIPES Foundation President Paul Britt (email: pbritt@texplore.com) or to the SIPES Foundation office in Dallas (email: sipes@sipes.org).