# **Unconventional Resources**



Innovative Stimulation Technology for Future Energy

- More with Less

#### Liu Hai

General Manager, Schlumberger Well Services, North Asia



## **Background of Hydraulic Fracturing**

#### **First Generation**

- July 1947: Hugoton Gas Field, Grant County, Kansas
- Small Treatments to Bypass Formation Damage
- Minimal Sophisticated Engineering

#### **Second Generation**



## **Evolution of Hydraulic Fracturing in N. America**



## Horizontal rig count started to climb with Shales





## **Stimulating the Future of Energy**



## **Future Stimulation Vision**





## **Surface Efficiencies**

- 24 Hour Operations
- **Factory Completions**
- Fit for Purpose Equipment







## **Downhole Placement Efficiency**

- Unlimited zones/stages
- Open and cased hole independent
- Extend length of horizontal wells
- Short cycle time











## **Treatment Efficiency**

Connector

(secondary)

**Primary fracture** 

WB

**Tertiary** 

fracture

Fabric

Spacing

0.5, 6, ...ft





- Efficiency per frac stage has not significantly increased
  - We create 80 100 million ft<sup>2</sup> of fracture surface area
  - We produce from 6 10 million ft<sup>2</sup>

After Closure



**Chemical transparency** 

**Environmental profile** 

**Footprint reduction** 

## **Public Questioning the Industry**



The Queensland Government has moved to ban petroleum compounds containing benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes, commonly referred to as B-TEX, from use in coal seam gas (CSG) operations or 'fraccing'.

Minister for Natural Resource Mines and Energy, Stephen Robertson, said the emerging CSG to LNG industry has the potential to generate thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in investment for Queensland.

QLD Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade

The Honourable Stephen Robertson Wednesday, August 04, 2010

Government bans BTEX use in Coal Seam Gas Sector

"But our number one priority is the health and safety of the community and the environment," Mr Robertson said

We want to make sure we strike the right balance between environmental sustainability and economic growth.

"I have already sought and received assurances from industry that these chemicals are not currently being used.

"But further to that, to ensure the protection of the community and the environment is our commitment to legislate to ban them from ever being used in Queensland

The message is very clear - no one is allowed to use these chemicals in the extraction of CSG.

"I will also be writing to all companies involved in CSG extraction to advise them of the new regulations and my expectation that the current non-use of B-TEX chemicals will continue until such times as new legislation is in place.

"Queensland has a rigorous mining approvals and Environmental Authority process but to ensure this process continues to address new questions that may be raised by changes within industry technology, government must adapt to these processes.

The Government will use the existing head of power in the Environmental Protection Act 1994 to require the Department of Environment and Resource Management to refuse any application for new coal seam gas activities that involve the use of B-TEX chemicals to fracture the coal seam.

The Government will also move to amend the Environmental Protection Act 1994 to include a provision that 'deems' a new condition on all existing coal seam gas environmental authorities.

Fraccing involves pumping fluid at high pressure into a coal seam to fracture the seam and allow gas to flow readily into gas wells, although the vast majority of gas wells do not need to be fracced.

"In Queensland, fraccing fluids are commonly 99 percent sand and water. Around 1 percent is made up of additives: typically widely used chemicals including sodium hypochlorite, hydrochloric acid (both used in swimming pools), cellulose (used to

Gift bei Bohrung beunruhigt Damme Exxon Mobil setzt bei Erdgas-Suche im Borringhauser Moor gefährliche Chemikalien ein



#### 6° Six Degrees Moratorium on CSG and fracking in US: Queensland government must follow suit

#### 6th of Aug 2010

NDERMINED

ueensland. The process used and the risks of this technology in Queensland and the US are identical. As we have consistently maintained, there is o justification for rushing ahead with gas extraction in Queensland before the science is known and the impacts understood.

exploration that uses hydraulic fracturing and the injection of millions of gallons of chemically treated

concerns since fracking (or hydraulic fracturing) has been blamed for contaminating water supplies and endangering human health, especially in the Rocky Mountains states. In effect, the moratorium will prevent new drilling permits from being issued until May 15, 2011 at the earliest

island farmers and environmentalists alike are highly concerned the process, which involves setting aquifers and could contaminate fresh groundwater supplies used for farming and town water

ording to Six Degrees spokesperson Drew Hutton, the decision of the New York State Senate sends a reful message to the Queensland Government about the need for due process.

There is no difference between the fracking process in the US and here in the Surat

The same companies are doing it, the same chemicals are being used and there is a similar reluctance on the part of the companies to tell communities, or even the regulators what chemicals are in the fracking fluids

![](_page_12_Picture_41.jpeg)

FRUNNING

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **Reservoir Focused Stimulation Methodology**

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Workflows and optimization
- Reservoir specific technology
- A stimulation domain

# Establishing Fracturing in Reservoir Workflows

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

**Reservoir Simulation** 

Optimization

Leverage Seismic-tosimulation modeling workflow

#### New HF stimulator:

- Inserts stimulation tools and workflows into the reservoir context
- Enables evaluation of the effect of optimized multistage stimulation treatments

## **New HF Simulator: Key Components**

### **Multistage Optimization**

- Staging and perforation design based on reservoir characterization for
  - Horizontal wells
  - Vertical wells

#### **Fracture Models**

- Fit-for-purpose and Rigorous
  - Natural fractures
  - Stress anisotropy differences

![](_page_17_Picture_9.jpeg)

## **Technology is Changing the Landscape**

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **Unconventional Reservoirs**

- Largest growth market
- Largest dependency on stimulation
- **Dependency on technology** advancement

![](_page_20_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_5.jpeg)

**Tight Gas** Carbonate CBM

## **Unconventional Production Mechanisms**

Utility TECHNOLOGY Tec

- Shale Gas Flow Mechanisms
- Cleanup, Flowback
  Mechanisms and Modeling

![](_page_21_Figure_4.jpeg)

**ESV** 

HEN

![](_page_21_Figure_5.jpeg)

## **Fracture Geomechanics and Modeling**

## Geomechanics

- Hydraulic Fracture Geometry Prediction
- Proppant Placement
- Impact of :
- Geometrical complexity (existing NFs)
- Heterogeneity (variation in properties)
- 3D stress field

![](_page_22_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_9.jpeg)

## **Unconventional Reservoir Chemistry** Improving Productivity in Hydraulic Fractures

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)

A 3D optical microscope image of 40/70 proppant embedment into a Haynesville shale sample

#### Fluid retention and partitioning

#### **Chemo-mechanical rock failure**

#### **Chemical scale deposition**

BaSO<sub>4</sub> scale deposition on proppant grains recovered during flowback from a Haynesville well

![](_page_23_Picture_8.jpeg)

## **Geothermal Well Integrity Challenge**

## Challenge

- Produce hot water or steam
- Geothermal reservoirs generally naturally fractured
- Chemistry of Produced fluid
- Consideration on cementing design
  - Potential casing creep
  - HT reservoir
  - Salinity of produced brines/Possibility of dissolved CO2
  - Potential lost circulation

## **Geothermal Well Integrity Solution**

- Casing must cemented to surface
  - Best cement practice with engineered design
- Lost circulation solution
- Thermal stable cement with resistance to corrosive brine/CO2

![](_page_25_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **Innovation for a Step-Change in Conductivity**

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **Channel Fracturing: A Paradigm Shift in Hydraulic Fracturing**

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

**1947** First hydraulic fracturing job **1950** Fracturing using gelled oil

- 1960 Water-based, non crosslinked fluids
- 1968 Borate crosslinked fluids
- 1973 Crosslinked derivatized guars (HPG, CMHPG, etc)
- **1977** High-strength ceramic proppants **1980** Foamed fracturing
- 1988 Encapsulated breakers
- 1990 Fiber based flowback control1994 Low polymer loadings
- 1997 Viscoelastic surfactants (VES)
- 2001 Micro-seismic used to monitor frac jobs2003 Horizontal well, multistage fractures2005 Fiber based proppant transport
- 2010 Flow-Channel Fracturing 2011 Complex fracture modeling

![](_page_28_Picture_12.jpeg)

## **Integrated Technology to Improve Completion**

**More Optimization Less Waste** 

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)