



## Sowing the Seeds of Recovery

■ OTC's chairman reveals optimism among the gloom.

BY RENOWA DUEY

It's its second year of crippling low commodity prices, the oil and gas industry is, by and large, in bunker-down-and-survive mode. But even the darkest times occasionally see a ray of sunshine.

If OTC Chairman Joe Fowler has anything to say about it, that ray of sunshine will be this year's conference, which is charging forward in a business-as-usual fashion with only a couple of minor tweaks. The main one of those is to exchange the Annual OTC Dinner for a luncheon to reduce costs.

"By giving out awards at a luncheon at OTC, we can continue our tradition of contributing to a charity," he said. This year's charity will be Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas.

One of the biggest changes in this year's program is the training courses taking place on the Saturday and Sunday before the show.



Joe Fowler

These are put on by OTC's "sponsors," professional societies such as the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society.

"They're not-for-profit, professional associations, and they all offer professional development programs," Fowler said. "They're always looking for new ways to do these programs." The training course will be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston.

"This is a nice way to piggyback professional development courses onto a conference that many people attend. With travel down this year, this might be the only chance for some people to attend these courses."

"Since there are a large number of people who are coming to Houston anyway for OTC, it's a good opportunity for the societies to run some of those training courses before OTC," he said. "Local people in Houston come as well, but this is a huge service to those attendees who are coming in from out of town."

See **SEEDS OF RECOVERY** continued on page 21

## Strength in Depth at OTC

■ If strength does come through adversity then the global offshore oil and gas business is getting stronger by the day.

BY MARK THOMAS



Mark Thomas

If all those attending the 2016 Offshore Technology Conference, one thing is for sure. This industry has proven, time and again, that it can overcome the most difficult of circumstances.

The evidence of how it does so is on show all the week. Whether within the technical conference program or on the bustling exhibition floor, visitors will be able to access invaluable insight into the latest innovations, experiences, new and evolved technologies and global perspectives from many of the world's leading offshore experts.

In challenging times, the need for sharing and disseminating knowledge—whether about technology, strategy or cost-reducing standardization initiatives—is paramount. The offshore E&P industry has been heavily focused on these areas since the last OTC, driving down project expense, increasing operational efficiency and enhancing digital and smart solutions to remain competitive and able to in ever more challenging energy supply environments.

Offshore spending is dramatically down on previous years, but many believe the industry has reached the bottom of the trough, and that the long-term growth curve will eventually start to re-establish itself, as companies kickstart currently deferred exploration and development activity to meet future demand for oil and gas.

These and many other issues will be among the major talking points at OTC, the world's biggest offshore event. Much of the 2016 OTC conference program reflects the industry's current desire for improved efficiency around the world, and where new opportunities are appearing.

This year's event could not be better located. Paid session topics range from Brazilian investment opportunities, deepwater innovation in cost competition and Mexico sweeping energy reform, to how to cope with lower oil prices, ensure cybersecurity and further improve offshore safety through collaboration.

For early risers and lunchtime balancers the menu also includes an outstanding lineup of topical breakfasts and lunches each day, with subjects including the future of subsea separation

See **STRENGTH** continued on page 14

## Diverse Views Strengthen Program

■ OTC brings together talent from around the world for weeklong event focused on learning, growing and surviving in lean times.

BY RENOWA DUEY



Darrel Harvey

At the gates of NRG Park, thousands of attendees from more than 130 countries will spend today through Thursday seeking solutions for troubling challenges and new approaches to surviving current market conditions in the years to come.

The conference is chock full of opportunities for attendees to learn about new

technologies or applications from the two dozen breakfasts and lunches, the 11 panels or the 300-plus technical presentations covering the many areas of interest present in the offshore industry.

"We cover a broad range of topics that we feel are in the interest of OTC attendees," said Darrel Harvey of Alan C. McClure Associates Inc., this year's technical program chairman. "A lot of that is due to the diligent work that the subcommittee do in ferreting out things as well as the direction that provided by"

See **PROGRAM** continued on page 21

**REDUCE NPT**

Ground-breaking SameDrift™ technology isolates trouble zones while keeping the same ID. Expandables have reduced drill time up to 73 percent – and that means vastly **reduced NPT**.

NRG Arena  
Booth 5003

OTC Show Daily Newspaper  
May 2, 2016

## Control System Optimizes Production

Technology allows users to close ICVs from any position and also allows for multistep positioning, reducing the number of pressure cycles needed to step through the positions of an ICV.

Read more on **page 18**...

[http://2016.otcnet.org/files/otc\\_2016\\_show\\_daily\\_preview.pdf](http://2016.otcnet.org/files/otc_2016_show_daily_preview.pdf)