

THE SOCIETY OF PETROLEUM ENGINEERS

**SPE INITIATIVES
2000–01**



www.spe.org

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INTRODUCTION

SPE's future is the product of a far-reaching vision. Tomorrow's SPE will feature a global community of members who are in charge of determining the programs, the products, and the services that the Society provides. Today's SPE is setting the stage with growing electronic services, more accessible technical information, and a diverse membership.

To maintain the vitality of SPE, the Society's membership must continually represent the diversity that exists in the industry. By making membership more attainable for more industry professionals, SPE will:

- Continue to provide essential programs for the exchange of technical information.
- Sustain the continuity of current membership, while making membership attainable for other professionals.
- Develop products and services, particularly electronic, that will eliminate such barriers as geography and economics.

The SPE Board of Directors has developed a plan that will establish a solid foundation for the Society's growth over the next several decades.

SPE TODAY

SPE continues to build its strength by regularly enhancing member benefits. With new means of providing information, the Society has made strides to improve member benefits.

Through the Internet, SPE offers no-cost or lower-cost access to a wealth of information that can be accessed on-demand from SPE. Working within the Society's global community, members can share experience and knowledge and also have access to a variety of unique services, publications, and programs. Regardless of where a member lives or works, SPE's technical information is available.

SPE Online

SPE Online provides on-demand access to electronic services and products that are uniquely designed for SPE members.

- *Member Record Update*
A new service that allows members to change or add to their primary personal information, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- *Online Dues Payment*
Members can pay their dues through www.spe.org and take advantage of a special offer—10 downloads at no charge from the SPE eLibrary when they pay online before 1 January 2001.
- *SPE eLibrary*
More than 30,000 technical papers from SPE. Members can search, preview, purchase, and download information immediately. Individual paper downloads are available, as well as individual and corporate subscriptions.
- *Membership Directory*
An online directory of member listings.
- *Technical Interest Groups*
Membership to electronic discussions in 25 areas of technical interests. Four no-charge memberships are part of SPE membership.
- *SPE Store*
An online inventory of publications, videos, and software covering a variety of topics in the upstream oil and gas industry.
- *SPE eUpdate*
A new monthly e-mail communication to SPE members that provides information about the latest special offers, member benefits, products and services, and special information about the Society that can be found through www.spe.org.

- *Distance Learning*
An online, self-paced, individual study and one-on-one guidance from instructors for three industry courses.

SPE Publications

SPE publications, from up-to-the-minute periodicals to state-of-the-art treatises, remain essential to the practicing oil and gas professional. Members receive these publications at no charge or at discounted rates.

- *Journal of Petroleum Technology*
- *JPT Online*
- *Oil & Gas Executive Report*
- *SPE Drilling & Completion*
- *SPE Journal*
- *SPE Production & Facilities*
- *SPE Reservoir Evaluation & Engineering*
- Books, Reprints Series Volumes, and Monographs
- Conference *Proceedings*
- Individual Papers

SPE Meetings

SPE delivers emerging technologies, new operating methods, and hands-on experiences. With more than 35 meetings per year, in every oil-producing region of the world, SPE comes face to face with its members. Our members receive reduced registration fees.

- *SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition*
A key industry meeting with more than 10,000 participants that focuses on leading technology and emerging issues.
- *Topical Meetings*
Discipline-specific technical programs such as drilling, coiled tubing, formation damage, and improved oil recovery.
- *Regional Meetings*
Presentations of topics and technologies of interest to members within specific regions.
- *Forum Series*
Discussions of cutting-edge topics bringing key people together.
- *Applied Technology Workshops*
One- to three-day, limited-attendance workshops on “use-it-now” technology.

SPE Sections

Through SPE sections, members gather with their peers to discuss common issues and share knowledge and experiences.

Members enjoy a vital part of SPE member services through sections:

- Networking
- Distinguished Lecturer Program
- Study Groups
- Monthly Meetings

Governance

The Board of Directors, which historically has been structured on the basis of geographic and at-large representation, is proposed to be modified to include representation based on the Society's major technical areas. IT is proposed that these specialty areas, presently called Specialty Directorates, include areas such as:

- Management and Information
- Environment, Health, and Safety
- Reservoir Description
- Drilling and Completion
- Production and Operations
- Facilities and Construction

To ensure the Society's governance structure evolves with member needs, the Board also is considering a more decentralized governance structure directed at empowering both the geographic and specialty areas. Presently there are 14 geographic regions. The regional structure is proposed to expand to Regional Directorates, and Specialty Directorates are envisioned to provide more focus for technical areas. Initially, it is proposed to pilot both the regional and specialty directorates-possibly as early as 2001.

SPE Dues

SPE's 2001 dues were established following the work of a task force appointed by the SPE Board of Directors in 1999. The task force was asked to evaluate membership and industry demographics and determine how best to grow the Society in response to member needs and changing industry dynamics. The result is a structure that blends age and location to make SPE membership accessible to a broader group of professionals than was previously possible.

Dues are now based on a member's country. The following table illustrates the dues for the 2001 membership year. All members will receive equal benefits regardless of what dues they pay.

Age/Status	Group I Countries*	Group II Countries*	Group III Countries*
30+	U.S. \$70	U.S. \$55	U.S. \$38
Under 30	U.S. \$55	U.S. \$45	U.S. \$35
Student	U.S. \$12	U.S. \$10	U.S. \$ 8

** See Appendix A for a list of country groups, or visit www.spe.org.*

SPE TOMORROW

The New SPE

While continuing the traditional services that SPE currently has in place, the advancement of electronic services and communications will rapidly affect the future of SPE membership. To enhance the Society's response to its mission of providing the means to collect, disseminate, and exchange technical information in this electronic evolution, the SPE Board of Directors has embraced a bold initiative, the Electronic SPE, also known as "eSPE."

The eSPE initiative provides both the means and the opportunity to re-architect SPE's core function—providing members with access to technical knowledge. The vision of the eSPE includes:

- The automation and extension of member services. This aspect includes online customer service, online education, and streamlined volunteerism. All projects are aimed at providing members with workflow tools and putting the SPE office within their reach.
- New products and services. Specifically, the framework of eSPE will provide virtual communities, improved search capabilities, the aggregation of services, personalization, enhanced information and news, and expanded content.
- The premier industry portal. By providing unequalled content, community, and commerce, eSPE will extend its reach. Some of these benefits include a collaborative community, the comparison of common upstream products, and volunteer research.

In today's SPE, there are no boundaries. For the 52,574 members in 150 sections in 57 countries, SPE will be wherever our members are.

Concurrent with the expansion of Online services, the SPE Board of Directors is committed to continue providing a full range of services in traditional formats as well for "unwired" members, despite the additional expense this represents for the Society.

Long Range Plan

The SPE Board recently approved a Long Range Plan, covering the period 2000–2010. This plan is based on the existing Mission and Vision of SPE, and on current requirements for high technical standards, ethics and professionalism. The plan includes:

- *Governance and Structure*
The composition of the SPE Board of Directors is proposed to encompass representation of regional and specialty directorates in addition to current at-large directors.
- *Electronic SPE*
The intent is to make eSPE the portal of choice for upstream professionals, while still continuing traditional services for those unable or unwilling to access the Internet.
- *Publications*
Various electronic formats will expedite the content submission and review process.

- *Conferences and Exhibitions*
A fast cycle time and efficient capture of presented material is critical. A range of meeting types, places, and timings will ensure that all major technical subjects are adequately covered.
- *Role and Nature of Sections*
In the global SPE, a diversity of section structure and activities to respond to varying member needs is beneficial.
- *Education, Academia, and Credentialing*
Without trying to emulate major training organizations, SPE will provide a range of training opportunities to appeal to both specialists and generalists.
- *Membership Benefits and Funding*
Distinctive membership benefits need to be highlighted. SPE programs will be adjusted to changing member needs as indicated by regular surveys.
- *Management Support for SPE*
More involvement of corporate management in SPE activities will be encouraged by invitations to participate, and the provision of articles and case studies highlighting the impact of technology on corporate results.
- *Financial Robustness*
New projects for SPE will only be proposed with a business plan and success criteria. Reserve fund income may be devoted to projects crucial to SPE's long-term future, and SPE Foundation support will be sought for major projects such as eSPE.
- *Relationships With Other Societies*
These should be characterized, both locally and internationally, by a spirit of cooperation rather than competition, with the identities for the respective societies being maintained.

The full SPE Long Range Plan 2000 can be accessed on
<http://www.spe.org/content/0,1116,1149,00.html>.

CONCLUSION

The objectives of tomorrow's SPE build on the accomplishments of today's SPE. SPE has aggressively accepted the challenge of meeting the needs of a new generation of members, while adapting to the globalization of the oil and gas industry and taking advantage of rapidly changing technology.

The ultimate goal of tomorrow's SPE is to remain relevant to its members. The Society can accomplish this through the enhancement of existing programs, the vision to foresee the future needs of members, and the high standards of quality and delivery the Society has already established.

APPENDIX A

LISTING OF GROUP COUNTRIES

For original World Bank report, see:

<http://www.worldbank.org/data/databytopic/databytopic.html>

- Gross National Product

- GNP per capita, 1998, Atlas Method and PPP

Group I Countries

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Brunei
Canada
Cyprus
Denmark
Faeroe Islands
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong, China
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Kuwait
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Netherlands Antilles
New Zealand
Norway
Portugal
Qatar
Singapore
Korea, Rep.
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United States

Group II Countries

Algeria
Argentina
Bahrain
Barbados
Brazil
Bulgaria
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Croatia
Czech Republic
Dominican Republic
Gabon
Hungary
Iran, Islamic Rep.
Kazakhstan
Lebanon
Libya
Lithuania
Malaysia
Mexico
Namibia
Oman
Peru
Poland
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Slovak Republic
South Africa
Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Venezuela

Group III Countries

Albania
Angola
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bolivia
Cameroon
Central African Republic
China
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Ecuador
Egypt, Arab Rep.
Equatorial Guinea
Ghana
Guatemala
Guinea-Bissau
India
Indonesia
Jordan
Morocco
Myanmar
Niger
Nigeria
Pakistan
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Syrian Arab Republic
Tanzania
Ukraine
Vietnam
Yemen, Rep.
Yugoslavia, FR
Zimbabwe

