

Highlights Barcelona '10

The EAGE conference in Barcelona 14-17 June 2010 was interesting as always. Points I'd like to mention:

The new company INOVA split off from ION with large BGP interest was very much present. Interesting is that the analog geophones are still with ION, together with all marine instrumentation.

Paper D003 Lecerf et al. discussed mirror imaging of nodes using pseudo-COV gathers assembled from hexagonal offset-vector tiles. This is a logical consequence of arranging the nodes in a hexagonal pattern.

Paper B029 Beaudoin et al. discussed a node-on-node time-lapse survey across BP's Atlantis field. 500 out of 1628 original locations were re-occupied with smaller maximum offsets than used in the baseline survey. Intriguing was the replacement of Fairfield's Z3000 system by Seabird's CASE Abyss system.

Paper B030 Ross et al. Thriller on 3D towed streamer survey in Beaufort Sea with narrow escape at the end of the shooting season.

Paper B033 Hansteen et al., fascinating story on the use of refractions for time-lapse analysis in the Alberta heavy oil province. The data is redatumed to a level just above the reservoir at about 550 m.

Paper B046 Poole showed great examples of interpolation and regularization using the anti-leakage Fourier transform.

Paper B047 Zimine et al et al et al., use non-linear slope tomography to correct for azimuthal moveout variations. The method is based on sorting the data into pseudo-COV gathers. This technique produces better images even for mild structures.

Acquiring wide orthogonal geometry with OBC tends to be extremely time-consuming and expensive due to the limited number of cables that can be laid out. Felix Bircher of ION assured me that this should now be something of the past, because the buoy-based architecture of their VSO II allows a much more efficient acquisition with more cables. RXT is no longer the exclusive user of VSO.

Lowlight: upon arrival in Barcelona my wallet was stolen in a metro station.