

New Museum Will Offer Year-round Viewing of More than 2,000 Fossils

Fossil collection will be featured in the PETEX exhibition hall at booth D3.

CONTRIBUTED BY THE ETCHES COLLECTION

There's a not-to-be-missed opportunity at the upcoming PETEX 2014. It's the chance to meet and share the stories of Steve Etches, the hugely engaging and knowledgeable collector of Kimmeridgian fossils (more than 2,000 incredible examples—many of which are a scientific first). He will be talking about his amazing collection, bringing to life these unique examples, their significance and their place in the Kimmeridgian story. It's an opportunity that no petroleum geologist should miss.

Details about a new museum that has been purpose designed to house this amazing collection also will be discussed.

The Etches Collection, as the new museum will be called, will offer year-round viewing of this important collection and will serve as a resource from which Etches can continue his incredible work. Based in the village of Kimmeridge and close to the important Kimmeridgian oil shales, it will be a must for those planning educational field trips or who would like to hold an event, seminar or meeting in a most inspiring and unusual venue. The museum will open in early 2016.

Etches will be talking about his collection and the museum on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in the theater space at PETEX. The Etches Collection also will be featured in the PETEX exhibition hall at booth D3, close to the theater.

Presentation in the theater

The presentation is scheduled to take place at 13:30 and 15:30 on Tuesday, Nov. 18, and will be given by Etches, in company with Professor Simon Conway Morris FRS from the Department of Earth Sciences at Cambridge University and Dr. David Martill from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Portsmouth.

Lively talks will explore the extraordinary collection and discuss its value to science and the oil industry. There also will be a glimpse of the exciting plans to create a new, independent museum to house the Etches Collection, making it publicly available for the first time.

Questions and discussion will be encouraged during the informal talk session.

Meet the team

Delegates will have the opportunity to meet Etches and members of the Kimmeridge Trust. The team will be on hand throughout the conference to talk and answer questions about the Etches Collection and the new museum at booth D3.

See a cast of a superb, fully articulated ichthyosaur, possibly the finest ever from the Kimmeridgian Clay Formation. This is a cast of a specimen from the collection.

Explore the website and online database of the collec-



A beautifully preserved and curated new species of undescribed Ichthyosaur shows a large orbit eye and very fine delicate teeth indicating it fed on squid. (Image courtesy of The Etches Collection)

tion, which have been developed with funds from the Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain. Using the database, delegates can see many more of the specimens in the collection through the detailed images and information.

See design images of the new museum building, including the facilities that will be available for use by companies and organized groups. Enjoy a virtual walk through the building through the design animation. ■

New Features Make Exhibition Best Yet

Complementing the technical conference, the PETEX 2014 exhibition space will feature industry operators, service companies, consultancies, international oil ministries, universities and professional organizations. The opportunity remains to host a booth in the exhibition, alongside other leading companies, with most returning to exhibit year after year. Benefits include:

- Connecting with more than 3,000 subsurface and upstream professionals;
- Showcasing your latest projects and technologies with potential clients and partners; and
- Significantly raising your profile across the industry.

Find out why 87% of PETEX exhibitors return year after year. Visit the organization's YouTube channel today and hear about one exhibitor's "Ten Million Dollar Day" at PETEX 2012.



Scene from the 2012 PETEX Conference and Exhibition in Earl's Court, London. (Image courtesy of PETEX)

Graduate Career Fair

The Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain Graduate Career Fair will provide companies with a designated area for recruitment right on the PETEX exhibition floor. This 252-sq-m (2,713 sq ft) purpose-built space contains mini-booths for each company, a networking area for graduates to meet with the companies and six interview rooms on site. Companies also will have the opportunity to speak directly with students at the student lunch on Thursday.

International Pavilion

The PETEX International Pavilion provides a place for governments and their agencies to showcase the areas they have available for exploration, and this year the area is larger than ever, with more regulators keen to encourage explorers from the U.K. and Europe. New participants join many regulars, with representation from Greenland in the north to Mozambique in the south. Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas are all represented with a large variety of exploration areas on offer or open to discussion, both offshore and onshore. There are those with well-established fields but also newer players to the oil and gas scene so it should provide something of interest for everyone. Countries represented this year are Faroe Islands, Greece, Greenland, Indonesia, Ireland, Isle of Man, Morocco, Mozambique, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Tunisia. The International Pavilion is in the corner of the main exhibition hall and includes plenty of seating for discussions as well as a private meeting room and is well worth a visit.

University Forum

This dedicated area will provide the U.K.'s leading geoscience universities with an arena to forge and develop links with the industry, promote their courses to potential post-graduates and promote their research.

3-D Visualization Theater

PETEX 2014 provides an opportunity to showcase the latest visualization case studies supporting E&P solutions in a purpose-built 3-D Visualization Theater on the main floor of the exhibition. The theater is open to all delegates and will showcase offerings from universities, service companies, oil companies and exhibitors, all of which have the opportunity to present current hardware and software technology, outlining how 3-D visualization in the oil industry is likely to develop going forward. Delegates will have the opportunity to view everything from deepwater sediment to continental earth scale modeling, from Eocene cliff sections in the Faroe Islands subsurface to Central America, and achieve an understanding of how the evolution of digital cinema technology has changed the way in which we visualize the subsurface. PETEX would like to thank Schlumberger and Barco for their sponsorship of this exciting opportunity for delegates to immerse themselves in a 3-D world. ■

EM at the Center of the Exploration Workflow

It's been a busy few months for Norwegian geophysical services company EMGS as it comes to PETEX this year on the back of a number of recent contracts and positive results from its 3-D controlled source electromagnetic (CSEM) surveys.

With 3-D CSEM surveys mapping resistive bodies in the subsurface, the integrated interpretation of EM anomalies into the exploration workflow is providing operators with a clear correlation between the response of the EM measurements and the fluid content of the reservoir as well as acting as a key complement to seismic.

CSEM surveys and subsurface resistivity are being used to improve play and prospect evaluation and well positioning, to optimize portfolios, to define appraisal programs and characterize gas hydrates (either as drilling hazards or for commercial exploitation) and for structural imaging in salt and basalt environments.

Furthermore, the growing popularity of CSEM has been reflected in a number of recent contracts awarded to EMGS including 3-D EM data acquisition surveys offshore Malaysia and offshore Brazil and the provision of 3-D EM data from EMGS's multient data library for operators involved in exploration in the Barents Sea.

In terms of completed surveys, EMGS has been playing a key role in the harsh and sensitive environment of the Barents Sea, influencing lease sale decisions and reducing the occurrence of expensive dry holes and non-commercial discoveries.

In an area of complex geology and where seismic data alone can struggle, multient EM data has improved the success rate of subscribing operators and has led to a new play type in the Hoop area as evidenced by the Wisting discovery. Furthermore, in the case of the Skrugard and Havis discoveries (now the Johan Castberg Field), two adjacent dry wells could have been avoided with the results correctly predicted by the EM data.

On the other side of the Atlantic, EMGS also has played an important role in the Mexican Gulf of Mexico where an extensive 3-D EM program has lowered exploration costs and increased discovery rates for Mexican operator PEMEX.

In one case involving PEMEX, CSEM is complementing seismic as part of a 3-D CSEM inversion survey. Here, imaging results have demonstrated that the incorporation of resistivity data into the seismic velocity model building workflow has significantly enhanced the resolution of seismic sub-salt imaging. In such cases, a 5% to 10% improvement in the imaging of the structure post-migration can have a huge impact on future drilling and appraisal decisions and accompanying costs. ■