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# MONITORING & REGULATION OF THE UPSTREAM SECTOR

1 – 5 October 2012, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Michael Bunter

Former Chief Petroleum Geologist of Fugro Robertson, UK.

Over 40 years of international experience in exploration and development programmes in Libya, Malta, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the USA, Egypt, the Sudan, Kuwait and Oman.

In collaboration with



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## Course Description

The oil industry is now more than ever under intense scrutiny. Oil prices have declined somewhat from the giddy peaks of \$146 per barrel achieved in July 2008 but now there are huge pressures on the E & P sector as deep-water offshore rig costs exceed \$500,000 per day. Oilfield salaries too have been soaring as the industry chases a dwindling pool of skilled manpower although costs have recently moderated slightly. However this is not expected to last as the world enters the period of Peak Oil production and then world energy demand becomes ever more difficult to fulfil. At the same time our politicians, never well-qualified scientifically, are having to consider the impact of regulatory legislation on technology-based industries that they are less-and-less able to comprehend.

Petroleum regulation involves the imposition of **Good Oilfield Practice**, the customary (common) law of the oilfields. It is not a top-down or over-prescriptive process dictated by a remote and unresponsive bureaucracy but it is the self-imposed standards of professionalism applied by oilfield professionals. It has developed over a hundred and fifty years from the sound working practice of expert oil-men: petroleum engineers, geologists and geophysicists, together with other specialists...accountants, lawyers and tax experts who have jointly developed the rules of **Good Oilfield Practice, GOP**.

The imposition of **GOP** involves an evolving process of self-regulation by skilled oil-men who are professionally-obliged to put the highest technical standards into practice. But this process of self-regulation is also subject to the open, independent and detailed scrutiny of central and local government regulatory auditors, to the best international standards. The government petroleum regulators are mandated by the Petroleum Legislation and must be responsive to the advances of contemporary technology and have also to be mindful of the protection of the Public Interest and the legal consequences of the Duty of Care.

## Course Objectives

Modern petroleum regulation should be goal-setting and principles/outcomes-based rather than prescriptive and rules-based. It relies on a process of self-regulation and the application of the Safety Case by skilled industry professionals working in the challenging frontier conditions of today's world of petroleum. It recognises that the rapid development of the new technologies of ultra deep-water and Arctic drilling must rely on new and evolving standards of Good Oilfield Practice. The monitoring and regulatory process is audited and inspected by independent, external and rigorous governmental and sub-federal regulatory inspectors and scrutineers.

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## Upstream Petroleum Monitoring and Regulation takes into account the following:

- ❖ International standards as devised by professional groups within the ISO of Geneva, the Energy Institute (Institute of Petroleum) of London, The Institut Francaise des Petroles of France and the American Petroleum Institute. Industry-focussed expert self-regulatory bodies such as the London-based Association of Oil and Gas Producers and its Global Industry Response Group (focussing on the recent events in the US Gulf of Mexico) as well as trans-border industry co-operative bodies such as those collaborating in standard-setting in the Norwegian, UK, Netherlands and Danish sectors of the North Sea
- ❖ It examines in detail the sequence of events and applies the lessons learnt from the Occidental Piper Alpha tragedy in the UK sector of the North Sea and BP Macondo blow-out, fire and spill in the US Gulf of Mexico as well as other events such as the Mexican Ixtoc blow-out and the recent Australian Montara blow-out and spill through industry/governmental co-operative task forces and information exchanges so as to apply best international practice for the task of safe drilling in the increasingly challenging modern environment. Taking into account recent events the industry and government have carried out and reported on preliminary studies of what went wrong at the BP Macondo catastrophe in the US Gulf of Mexico. In addition the industry has set up expert groups (for example in Shell, Chevron, ConocoPhillips and ExxonMobil) under the overall heading of Safe Drilling Operations with sub-headings of Well Containment and Intervention, Spill Response Capability and Prevention and Industry Drilling Standards with a view to restoring confidence in GoM (and by extension other) deep water operations. The same group is working on and has commissioned detailed responses and response hardware/vessels to be employed in the event of a blow-out, fire and spill with the objectives of mobilising within 24 hours, become operational in spill containment within three weeks, operate in 10,000 feet of water and operate at blow-out rates of up to 100,000 BOPD.

Technical and legal lessons learned can be useful in translating into the upgrading of standards of Good Oilfield Practice for upstream petroleum operations worldwide. The Upstream Petroleum Monitoring and Regulation course will focus on these as well as other key matters.

## Who should attend:

Government civil servants and geo-scientists working in the fields of petroleum legislation/licensing and monitoring/regulation, corporate lawyers or in-house counsels, negotiators, business development and economists, and representatives of the Host Communities as well as International Oil Company and State Oil Company experts concerned with compliance issues and also with their drilling engineers and operations geologists concerned with formation evaluation and with safe well design.

## What previous participants said about Mike's other courses in 2010?

- ✓ *"Great course – a lot learnt & a lot to contribute to my organization with further training in specific topics covered in this course"* **Talisman Energy/Foreland Oil Ltd**
- ✓ *"Increase my knowledge and experience"* **Kangean Energy Indonesia Ltd**
- ✓ *"Great training and very useful for my knowledge enhancement. Exactly what I need."*  
**PT Medco Fep Indonesia**
- ✓ *"It's really fascinating!"* **Talisman Malaysia Limited**

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## Detailed Course Schedule

### DAY ONE

- An introductory analysis of current regulatory mishaps
- Some regulatory concepts and definitions: the Public Interest and Regulation, the Duty of Care, the legal position of the monitoring/regulatory jurisdiction particularly beyond the state's territorial waters, the nature of Good Oilfield Practice and its development through time, the development of public regulatory practice from early mining operations, Regulation and Self-Regulation
- The sovereign rights over, ownership, management, control and the monitoring/regulation of the international upstream oil and gas sector
- The growth of public and administrative law, English and continental (EU) points of view, the EU and petroleum regulation, the legal situation of the regulator: his/her immunities and liabilities

### DAY TWO

- International institutions and practice in petroleum monitoring and regulation
- Permanent sovereignty over mineral resources
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- The OECD and its anti- corruption provisions
- The establishment of international standards of Good Oilfield Practice: the Energy Institute (Institute of Petroleum) of London, L'Institut Francais des Petroles, the American Petroleum Institute, North Sea trans-border joint regulatory practice, the International Standards Institute of Geneva, Piper Alpha/ the Lord Cullen report and new standards of regulation, the Safety Case and Quality Assurance, the UN-ECE Aarhus Declaration on freedom of access to information
- A historical review of petroleum monitoring and regulation: the UK Board of Trade, early regulation in Persia (Iran) and Trinidad, early regulatory practice in Pennsylvania, California, Oklahoma and Texas, the regulation of petroleum in Burma in the early twentieth century, MIGAS and Pertamina, NPD and Statoil, regulation in the command economies
- Government and other institutions in regulation: the Ministry of Oil and Gas/Petroleum/Energy/Power/Natural Resources, the National Geological Survey, the Ministry of Petroleum/ the Petroleum Monitoring and Licensing Unit, the structure, management and establishment of the petroleum regulator, an independent inspectorate: the Health and Safety Executive, financing government's expenditure in petroleum monitoring and regulation, local institutions in petroleum regulation, the citizen as regulator

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## DAY THREE

- Data collection and archiving in the monitoring and regulatory process, the legal position of petroleum data, state and private issues in the reporting requirement, the confidentiality of data
- The monitoring and regulation of the upstream petroleum sector: how the process works, from Exploration to Discovery to Appraisal to Commerciality to development to Production, the working of Hazards and Operability Studies, HAZOPS and the “Safety Case” in modern methods of Regulation and Self-Regulation
- Financial issues in petroleum monitoring and regulation, including Abandonment and Decommissioning (in the UK North Sea alone 284 installations in 144 separate fields will need to be dismantled by the year 2020, does this represent a new industrial development with its own regulatory requirements?)

## DAY FOUR

- Case histories and discussion relating to a selection of Petroleum Regulatory Incidents and Accidents in the 21st century
- A comparison of new structures in petroleum regulation: the Indian example
- The UK Health and Safety Executive: fit for purpose?
- The legal status of the petroleum regulator in the UK
- Climbing E and P costs in the era of high oil and gas prices and their impact on the regulatory process
- Corruption and the regulatory process
- Freedom of Information and the citizen as regulator
- Terrorism, security and the safety of the upstream, midstream and downstream operations
- Intrusive and aggressive citizen litigation as an effective and cheap, non-institutional regulatory method
- The new twists and turns in the UK crime of corporate manslaughter
- The advent of Russian and Chinese companies into the international E & P sector and their impact on monitoring and regulatory and on corporate governance
- Modern practice in the decommissioning of petroleum installations
- Corporate insurance and the strengthening of Good Oilfield Practice
- Some recent developments in regulatory incidents and accidents and their lessons: the One Hundred Foot Rogue Wave and the construction of offshore facilities and vessels
- The Buncefield Tank farm explosion in England
- The Texas City USA explosion and fire
- The Alaskan pipeline corrosion issue
- The divers’ strike in the UK and its regulatory consequences
- The Java gas blow-out and its impact on local people
- Helicopter operations in the oilfields and the need for regulatory collaboration
- The Nigerian pipeline fire and its lessons for the petroleum legislation and for good governance in the oilfields
- Other regulatory incidents and accidents in 2008-2009

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## DAY FIVE

### • Drilling operations world-wide:

- Hazards and unfavourable outcomes
- The BP Macondo “well-kick” in 2010, the hydrocarbon incursion, the subsequent fire, the oil-worker deaths and injuries, the blow-out and oil-spill/pollution in the US sector of the Gulf of Mexico
- Oil seeps, slicks, spills, “kicks” and blow-outs around the world
- The safety record in the US Gulf of Mexico
- Regulatory institutions in the USA: the onshore Bureau of Land Management
- Regulatory institutions in the USA: the offshore Minerals Management Service and its successor body
- A comparison with the regulatory apparatus in the Norwegian and UK North Sea
- A prescriptive, rules-based approach in the USA versus a principles/outcomes-based regulatory approach in the UK
- The BP Macondo (the BP MC 252-1-01 exploratory well)...the geological well objective and Total Depth, the well plan, the drilling operations (the hole, the planned casing programme, the cementing programme, formation evaluation, the monitoring of down-hole pressures and safety, the blow-out preventers) the sequence of events at the BP Mississippi Canyon MC 252 1-01 well: what we know so far, the lessons to be learnt, regulatory implications for the future

## Your Expert Trainer: Michael Bunter



Michael Bunter is a Petroleum Geologist with 40 years of experience working in the international oil field sector.

He has lived and worked on petroleum upstream projects including exploration and development programmes in Libya, Malta, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, the USA, Egypt, the Sudan, Kuwait and Oman. Michael has extensive experience in Indonesia, the Middle East the USA and North Africa which includes operations geology, geological and geophysical interpretation leading to prospect generation and basin evolution, management recommendations for the acquisition of new acreage, recommendations and plans for drilling of E&P wells and supervision of geological operations.

Michael’s career started in Garmac in Libya where he worked as a petroleum geologist, he moved to Conoco in the 1970’s where he worked as a geologist in operations and a supervisory role he then moved to Fugro Robertson to work as their chief Petroleum Geologist focussing his skills on consultancy to governments & oil companies. Throughout his career Michael has been extensively involved in delivering training programmes and workshops during which he imparts is extensive knowledge and experience.

## About **petroEDGE**

The core competencies of professionals in the Oil & Gas industry are constantly evolving. To meet this ever growing gap, PetroEdge provides targeted up- to-date, practical and technically sound training solutions that enable engineers to be continuously relevant in industry.

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# REGISTRATION FORM

<b>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</b>	<b>EARLY BIRD</b>	✓	<b>NORMAL</b>	✓	<b>petroEDGE</b> recognises the value of learning in teams. Group bookings at the same time from the same company receive the following: 3 or more at 5% off 5 or more at 7% off 8 or more at 10%  All other promotions including early bird are exclusive of the group discount.
<b>MONITORING &amp; REGULATION OF THE UPSTREAM SECTOR</b> 1 – 5 October 212	<b>S\$4,999.00</b>		<b>S\$5,199.00</b>		
In-House Training <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to organise this training on-site and save over 20% of total course fees! For further information about On-site Solutions, please +65 6741 9927 or email <a href="mailto:caroline@asiaedge.net">caroline@asiaedge.net</a>					

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title : \_\_\_\_\_

Department : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. : \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Dept. : \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT METHODS

By Cheque/ Bank Draft  
 Make Payable to Asia Edge Pte. Ltd.

By Direct Transfer  
 Please quote your invoice number with the remittance advise  
 Account Name: **Asia Edge Pte. Ltd.**  
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All bank charges to be borne by payer. Please ensure that Asia Edge Pte Ltd receives the full invoiced amount.

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 Mr  Ms  Mrs  Dr  Others: \_\_\_\_\_

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title : \_\_\_\_\_

Department : \_\_\_\_\_

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### PAYMENT POLICY

Payment is due in full at the time of registration. Full payment is mandatory for event attendance. By submitting this registration form, you have agreed to Asia Edge Pte Ltd's payment terms

### CANCELLATIONS & SUBSTITUTIONS

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### PROGRAM CHANGE POLICY

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### Please note

- Indicate if you have already registered by Phone +Fax +Email +Web
- If you have not received an acknowledgement before the training course, please call us to confirm your booking.

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