

# PROJECT facts

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY  
NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

Petroleum Exploration  
and Production

04/2005



## TARGETED TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FOR U.S. INDEPENDENTS

*Timely, Informed Technology Decisions*

### PARTNERS

Petroleum Technology Transfer  
Council

### PROJECT DATA

DE-FG26-03NT15394

Sep. 2003-Sep. 2008

### REGIONAL CENTERS

Appalachian  
Central Gulf  
Eastern Gulf  
Midwest  
North Midcontinent  
Rocky Mountain  
South Midcontinent  
Texas  
West Coast

### MAIN SITES

Houston, TX  
Morgantown, WV  
Baton Rouge, LA  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
Champaign, IL  
Lawrence, KS  
Golden, CO  
Norman, OK  
Socorro, NM  
Austin, TX  
Los Angeles, CA

### Description

Innovations emerging from the Energy Department oil and natural gas research programs do little good unless the nation's petroleum producers are made aware of them and deploy them in actual exploration and production operations.

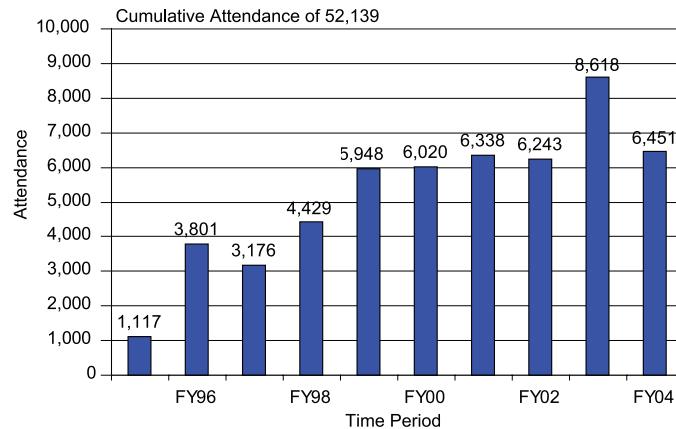
The oil and gas industry in the United States today has a much different character than the industry of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. No longer does "Big Oil" dominate the makeup of America's oil and gas sector. For the most part, the major oil companies have focused their attention on more lucrative prospects outside of the United States.

Independent oil and gas producers - small businesses typically employing no more than 10 full-time employees - now drill 85 percent of the Nation's wells and produce 65 percent of the natural gas and nearly 50 percent of the oil that flows from wells in the lower 48 States. Most of these companies, however, are working on small financial margins and have few resources to risk on developing technological solutions to the problems they encounter in their oil or gas fields.

Therefore, the Department of Energy has made oil and natural gas technology transfer targeted specifically to small independent producers as one of its highest priorities.

Every major field project that receives federal funding from the Department's oil and gas research program must include a technology transfer element. Typically, the private operator is required to share the techniques and results of the project with other producers through workshops, technical papers, or site visits.

In addition to these contractual requirements, the Department of Energy helped industry create the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC) in 1993. It is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create bridges between producers, and solutions.



## CONTACTS

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## COST

**Total Project Value**  
\$21,261,500

**DOE/Non-DOE Share**  
\$13,000,000/8,261,500

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-553-7681

## WEBSITE

www.netl.doe.gov

The PTTC conducts most of its technology transfer activities through 10 Regional Lead Organizations, each representing an oil and gas producing area that may have similar geologic features and technology needs. Technologies come from many sources—vendors and service companies, government laboratories, universities, producers themselves, and, notably, the DOE Fossil Energy R&D program

Core elements of each regional program are technology workshops, an Internet information system, newsletters, and resource centers. Regional resource centers offer

- access to information/data resources,
- expert response to inquiries, and
- access to demo/training for E&P software.

Staff in the resource centers also conduct special outreach efforts and develop value-added, revenue-generating products. Nationally, PTTC relies on a newsletter, website, and information products to more broadly spread technology insights.

## Goal

The goal of this investment is to increase domestic oil and natural gas production.

## Benefits

PTTC's technology programs help producers reduce costs, improve operating efficiency, increase ultimate recovery, enhance environmental compliance, and add new reserves.

- Increase recovery from existing mature fields
- Increase environmental stewardship
- Realize recovery from unconventional reservoirs that are increasingly a source of domestic production and reserves
- Profitably develop ever-smaller domestic exploration projects

