

IPEOT hosts SPE TechConnect Workshop on Hydraulic Fracturing to spark innovative solutions for unlocking tight reservoirs

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The Institute of Production Engineering & Ocean Technology (IPEOT), in collaboration with the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), Mumbai Section, recently hosted an engaging and forward-looking SPE TechConnect Workshop centred on Hydraulic Fracturing. Held at the IPEOT campus in Panvel, the event brought together a distinguished gathering of industry leaders, technical experts and service providers to explore the future of hydraulic fracturing in India's upstream oil and gas sector.



The inaugural address of Director (Production) Pankaj Kumar

The workshop was inaugurated with a welcome address virtually by Director (Production) Pankaj Kumar, who highlighted the pressing challenges faced by the Asset teams in optimizing fracturing operations. He underscored the critical need for revisiting the tight sands where conventional hydro-frack treatments have failed with innovations observed in the industry over the past few years. He also urged the participants to ponder on the key ideas and present cost-effective strategies tailored to ONGC's operational realities.



ED-Head IPEOT Rajiv Nischal welcoming the gathering in his address

Echoing this sentiment, ED-Head IPEOT Rajiv Nischal highlighted the pivotal role of hydraulic fracturing in unlocking the vast potential of tight reservoirs. He emphasized the value of peer learning, pointing to the significance of case studies that exemplify both the challenges encountered and the innovative solutions applied. Mr. Nischal highlighted the importance of practical implementation, collective problem-solving and sustained stakeholder engagement in overcoming persistent bottlenecks in field application.

The workshop was graced by eminent dignitaries, including SPE Chairperson and former Director (Offshore), ONGC, N.K. Mitra and former Director (Offshore), ONGC, T. K. Sengupta, Director Sales & Marketing, Schlumberger, Deepak Aggarwal and Sr. Country Manager from Expro Reghu Padmanabhan, among others.



Dignitaries attending the workshop

The subsequent technical presentations captured the keen interest of the audience, sparking insightful discussions and active participation during the Q&A sessions. The core of the workshop featured a series of cutting-edge presentations by leading service providers, including ONGC work centers and Private Oil Companies, each addressing real-world challenges in hydraulic fracturing.

N. K. Mitra (SPE Chairperson) set the technical tone with a comprehensive analysis of hydro-fracturing in HPHT oil and gas wells focusing on the learnings obtained from GSPC fields.

Pankaj Kumar (Selan Exploration Technology Ltd) presented the methodology to re-fracture sands with higher-sized jobs to improve and sustain productivity in matured fields.

Shahbaz Ahmed (Baker Hughes) introduced *Maxperm HVFR* for deep well fracturing, presenting a non-damaging frac fluid to enhance performance in HPHT reservoirs. His global case studies offered compelling evidence of its success.

Arindam (WSS, Ahmedabad) delivered a multi-faceted presentation on optimised fracturing design, covering innovative themes such as Zipper Sequence jobs, fracture conductivity enhancement, real-time monitoring, hybrid fracs, and water usage reduction.

Shashank Narayan (Schlumberger) presented on Fracture Geometry Control through the use of degradable fibres to minimize the fracture growth out of the zone by proactively controlling the geometry.

Ujjwal Nand (Halliburton) showcased Digital Frac Initiatives and Enhanced Lab Testing, emphasizing the role of intelligent systems in managing the complexity of modern fracturing operations.

Deepak Rana (WSS, Rajahmundry) shared successful case studies involving multistage fracturing in HPHT tight sands using global Plug & Perf (P&P) technology, demonstrating significant hydrocarbon unlock.



Brainstorming during Technical Presentations delivered on the topics of Hydraulic Fracturing

Each presenter delivered a well-structured and insightful presentation, showcasing their deep technical expertise and practical understanding of hydraulic fracturing challenges. Their contributions covered a wide range of innovative solutions, sparking active engagement and thoughtful discussions from the audience. The quality and relevance of the content kept the participants thoroughly engaged and added significant value to the workshop.

The session closed with remarks by Mr. Nischal, reinforcing the organization's commitment to strategic collaboration and excellence in hydraulic fracturing. He reaffirmed the role of SPE TechConnect as a catalyst for professional growth, cross-sector collaboration and the practical resolution of technical challenges. The success of the SPE TechConnect workshop underscores ONGC's and SPE's shared commitment to innovation, cost-efficiency and sustainable hydrocarbon production through knowledge exchange. The program also included a networking session, offering attendees from ONGC and global firms a chance to interact and ideate.

The program concluded with the distribution of mementoes and certificates of appreciation to all presenters.



Distribution of Mementos and Certificates of Appreciation

Team IPEOT

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