

# stripperwellconsortium

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## SWC Insider - 2007

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Welcome to the SWC Insider. If you have comments, information or suggestions you would like to share, please feel free to contact us at [swc@ems.psu.edu](mailto:swc@ems.psu.edu)

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### Membership Support

The end of 2007 fast approaching and the SWC is positioning to begin the eighth year. The SWC has awarded over \$8.42M to co-fund 81 projects since inception. Many thanks to those that have guided the Consortium the past seven years. The membership in 2007 expanded to 70 members, the largest thus far. We are looking forward to your continued support. The SWC is also seeking new members for 2008. We are specifically seeking members to suggest new technologies to improve the production of oil and natural gas by America's independent operators. To become a member or for additional information on by-laws, meetings, list of members, projects, etc., visit the SWC website.

### Executive Council Elections

The Stripper Well Consortium will be electing 3-members to serve on the SWC Executive Council for a two-year term (2008-2009). Full members are eligible for these elected positions. The Council's responsibilities include attending a 2-day proposal meeting to review and select proposals for SWC funding and are encouraged to serve on Ad hoc committees to steer the SWC research projects. The election form was due December 14, 2007. The Consortium will compile a list of those who wish to serve on the Council and submit the list to the SWC Full and Affiliate membership for

a formal vote in January 2008. The election results will be announced in early February 2008.

We would like to express a special thank you to the following 2006-2007 council members:

- Robert Metzgar, North Penn Pipe and Supply
- Len Paugh, Great Lakes Energy Partners, LLC
- Paul Willhite, University of Kansas

Another special thank you to the council members who will continue to serve until the end of 2008:

- Dee Combs, Chesapeake Energy
- Bill Fustos, East Resources
- John Holko, Lenape Resources
- Jim Ashbaugh, Pennsylvania General Energy

## **Be a Mentor**

The SWC awarded 10 projects at the 2007 Spring Meeting in May. The period of performance for the projects is August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008. A project mentoring team will help guide and direct the projects, hence assuring the project is best answering the needs of the industry. The mentoring conference calls will be quarterly, around 30 minutes in length and will include the mentors, PI, industry partners, and SWC administration. The list of 2007 projects is on the website. If you are interested in participating, please advise.

## **IOGCC Marginal Wells: 2007 Report Available**

The 2007 Marginal Well Report from the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission is available at: [http://www.iogcc.state.ok.us/news\\_PRbody.aspx?PRID=50](http://www.iogcc.state.ok.us/news_PRbody.aspx?PRID=50). The SWC is beginning the eighth year and has several projects that are nearing or have matured to the commercialization stage. The SWC will be working with the IOGCC to highlight various technologies from SWC projects for the 2008 report.

## **Airlift Services International and Kenda Capital B.V., manager of Shell Technology Ventures Fund 1 B.V. Announce Agreement**

SWC member, Airlift Services International, Inc (ASI), Alexandria, Indiana has secured a significant investment from OptiLift Inc., a portfolio company of Shell Technology Ventures Fund 1 B.V. (STV Fund)).

ASI developed a pumping System that uses compressed gas to lift oil and other fluids to the surface. Since beginning testing in 90's the Airlift Pumping System has been used to lift 175,000 barrels of fluid from wells in Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, and Texas. The SWC has funded two projects for ASI: the Increased Pumping Capacity and Depth fro Airlift System in 2006, and the Continued System Efficiency Improvements for Airlift Pumping System in 2007. For the full story: click [here](#).

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## Vortex Flow Tests

New patented technology developments on forming spiral flow in surface flowlines and pipelines as well as in downhole applications to extend critical flow have been tested in a variety of programs by Vortex Flow. Six different contract programs were developed through the DOE. All but one of these were subcontracted through the SWC with one University and four different operating company partners in these field tests. One additional program was conducted by the DOE through RMOTC. The testing at the Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center (RMOTC) started in April 2002 and continued through December 2004. There was a two year restriction on disclosing these results. To view the full results of the study: [Hein NW-SWPSC 2007 Review of DOE Testing](#).

## Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center Open House



The Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center (RMOTC) partnered with the SWC this summer to host an open house at Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 3 (NPR-3). Forty-seven people attended the open house and field tour that featured several RMOTC projects from the past and present, including projects sponsored in part by the SWC.

With the help of RMOTC and the SWC, SmithLift has tested its diaphragm pumps under a variety of field conditions to determine real-world performance. Early stage funding for this pump was part of a 2002 SWC project by Leland Traylor, Pumping Solutions. As failures occur, SmithLift has improved the pump and redeployed using conventional installation techniques. Several tests have been performed. Usually, pumps are installed on conventional tubing into Shannon formation wells at depths of approximately 800 feet. A few tests have used the SmithLift developed cable suspension system and coiled tubing installations. Measurements have been taken on power consumption, run time, and production.

RMOTC has also seen success in its ongoing test of a Stirling Cycle generator with WhisperGen. Stirling Cycle engines are ?external combustion engines? which offer some advantages over traditional ?internal combustion engines? including lower maintenance costs, low NOx, and the recovery of heat for process uses. A 1-horsepower Stirling Cycle generator built by WhisperGen Ltd. is being used to power a 3-horsepower low-rate, shallow oil well beam unit at NPR-3.

## 2007 SWC Fall Meeting, Roanoke, WV

The SWC held the 2007 Fall Meeting for the northeastern US at the Stonewall Resort, Roanoke, WV on September 20, 2007. Thirty people attended the meeting, which included updates from eight of the SWC projects. The meeting also

included an "Opportunity Meets Potential" segment with ideas and research that is not funded by the Consortium but might have potential for the industry.

## Oklahoma Oil and Gas Trade Expo

The SWC participated in the 2007 Oklahoma Oil and Gas Trade Exposition, OK City, OK on October 18, 2007. This is the twelfth year for the event that has grown from inside a dirt floor barn to selling out booth spaces in the Travel and Transportation Building of the OK State Fair Grounds. The Expo provides an opportunity for large and small operators and service companies to have an opportunity to meet face to face, exchange ideas and showcase new technology. This year's event drew 2100 attendees and 271 booths. The next trade show will be October 16, 2008.

[http://www.ok.gov/marginalwells/Trade\\_Expo](http://www.ok.gov/marginalwells/Trade_Expo)



## 2007 SWC Fall Meeting, Wichita, KS

The SWC held the 2007 Fall Meeting for the southwestern US at the Hyatt Regency, Wichita, KS on October 30, 2007. Forty people attended the meeting to hear technical updates from eleven of the 2006 and 2007 projects. Prior to the start of the general meeting, the Kansas Geological Survey and the American Energies Inc. conducted a field trip to the Micro-scale N<sub>2</sub> rejection plant to upgrade low BTU gas being built at Elmdale field, Chase County, Kansas. This plant is designed to economically operate at low feed volumes (200 mcfpd or less) and will demonstrate to small independent operators how to add their sub-pipeline N<sub>2</sub>-rich gas to the nation's gas grid.

To learn more about the SWC, please contact:

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