



The Geological Society

Two Day International Conference

Global Infracambrian Hydrocarbon Systems and the Emerging Potential in North Africa

29 – 30 November, 2006

The Geological Society, Burlington House, London

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Infracambrian sedimentary basins are a major producer of hydrocarbons in many parts of the world. The equivalent succession in North Africa is now widely accessible for research and exploration and is already emerging as a hydrocarbon exploration target with considerable reserve potential and with proven petroleum systems in several different areas. Large basins with excellent surface outcrops and thick sedimentary fills of Infracambrian and Palaeozoic age are widespread throughout North Africa. Given the current petroleum industry interest in the region, and the re-emergence of Libya as a focus area, there is a widespread and growing perception that the Infracambrian succession will form an important target for future frontier exploration in the North Africa region.

The aim of this conference is to highlight recent developments in the understanding and correlation of Infracambrian basin fills across North Africa and to review their existing proven petroleum systems and the future potential in the region. The conference will also offer an opportunity to examine the broader issues relevant to petroleum exploration and development, such as the role of major environmental change and the emergence of life and also the impact of global carbon cycle on source rock development. The broader aim is to compare and contrast the major active Infracambrian petroleum systems around the world as well as to identify the range of potential analogues that may be applied globally in the further exploration for Infracambrian petroleum systems.

The conference will include keynote presentations from invited speakers. The following have agreed to present: Joachim Amothor (Arabian Peninsula), John Gorter (Australia), Moin Khan (Pakistan), Jon Noad (Oman), Alexander Postnikov (Russia), VK Sibal (India)

The conference is intended to engage a broad audience from across the full spectrum of industry and academia by covering a wide range of critical geoscience issues associated with the Late Precambrian-Early Phanerozoic transition. Topics will include:

Global Infracambrian tectonics and palaeogeography.

Global Infracambrian hydrocarbon systems.

Sequence stratigraphy of North African Infracambrian successions.

Glacial events and global climatic models

Faunal and floral evolution and the formation of petroleum source rocks.

Chronostratigraphy, biostratigraphy, evolutionary, biology, palaeoecology.

Geochemistry and isotope studies.

Proven petroleum systems and the hydrocarbon prospectivity of the Infracambrian successions in North Africa.

The conference will conclude with a 4-day field trip to examine the classic outcrops of the Infracambrian succession in the AntiAtlas of Morocco.

Maghreb Petroleum Research Group (MPRG) based at the Department of Earth Science University College London (UCL) will aim to publish the conference proceedings as a Geological Society Special publication, jointly in association with the Earth Sciences Society of Libya, Moroccan Association of Petroleum Geologists and Sonatrach, Algeria.

Abstracts to be submitted to Bindra Thusu (b.thusu@ucl.ac.uk) by 18 August 2006

For further details please contact Lucy Kimber, Conference Office, The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7434 9944. Email: lucy.kimber@geolsoc.org.uk.



Technical convenors:

Jonathan Craig, Eni, Milan
(and Chairman, Maghreb Petroleum Research Group), jonathan.craig@agip.it

Faraj Said, Tripoli,
Earth Science Society of Libya

M. Morabet, Rabat,
Moroccan Society of Petroleum Geologists, morabet@onhym.com

Jürgen Thurow,
UCL, London, j.thurow@ucl.ac.uk

Bindra Thusu, Project Co-ordinator
Maghreb Petroleum Research Group, b.thusu@ucl.ac.uk

O. Al Jaaidi, Muscat,
Geological Society of Oman, Omar.AlJaaidi@shell.com

Andy Whitham
CASP, agw4@cam.ac.uk



At the forefront of petroleum geoscience

www.geolsoc.org.uk/petroleum