

IN THIS ISSUE

Greeting	1
Special Thanks to Sponsors	2
Additions to the CBTH Research Team	2
Meet Our Company Contacts	2
Past Meetings and Events	4
Data Distribution	6
Progress and Upcoming Information	7
Upcoming Meetings	8
Contact Information	9

GREETING

In this edition of the CBTH Newsletter, we will provide an update on our completed activities from May 2007 and an overview of our activities in the coming months of year three of the study. We hope you have become even more acquainted with the GIS database and website and that it is assisting you in your exploration efforts in the Phase I study area. We are very happy to have learned that many of you are using the GIS and accessing and downloading data from the website. Keep those questions coming in!

If you are not a member and are interested in participating in the CBTH consortium, we encourage you to take a minute to review our website (www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth) where you can also download our project proposal, demos and previous newsletters. Please feel free to contact us at cbth@ig.utexas.edu

Phase I of CBTH will be completed 31 August 2007. We plan to send contracts and invoices in early February. Phase II will begin 1 September 2007. We hope that you

will continue funding our efforts to make a synthesis of the available data.

Scope of CBTH Phase II. Our plan is to continue work in the Phase I area, as well as, the new Phase II area. We recognize that many of our sponsors are heavily linked to the Phase I area of Trinidad, Venezuela, Colombia, Suriname, and Guyana and for this reason it will continue to be a priority of study for the 2008-2011 period. In order to avoid confusion, we are renaming the areas, Areas 1 and 2, rather than Phase I and II which has a time connotation. So, for the 2008-2011 second period or phase of this study, we will be working in both areas 1 and 2 as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Area 1 outlined in yellow. Area 2 outlined in red. Phase I focused only on Area 1. Phase II will include Area 1 and 2.

The Phase II period of 2008-2011 will divide the work between both UTIG (Mann, Bingham) and the University of Stavanger (Escalona). At UTIG, we will continue with mapping and data compilation, while Stavanger will focus on mapping and basin modeling using software developed at the University of Stavanger. In addition, research activities will continue to include graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at both institutions.

SPECIAL THANKS TO SPONSORS

A special thanks to our sponsors who participated in our yearend meeting.

British Gas – Kurt Rattansingh

BHP – Karen Tindale, Casey Conohue, Gerard Haughey, Laura Jennings

Chevron – Richard Parrish

ExxonMobil – Bolaji Famakinwa, Ron Johnson, Robyn Schapiro, John Reistroffer, John Guthrie, Aart Dronkers

PDVSA – David Contreras

Repsol – Mo Etemadi, George Iusco

Shell – Fernando Sanchez-Ferrer, Luke Jensen

Talisman – Kevin Meyer

Special thanks to **Ivar Gimse** and **Halvor Snovold** from Wavefield-Inseis for attending and presenting their plans for acquiring new data in study areas 1 and 2.

ADDITIONS TO THE CBTH RESEARCH TEAM

Thanks to the funding support of our sponsors, the CBTH research team is growing.

Xiangyun “Shawn” Jiang is a new post doctoral researcher for CBTH. She began working with us on September 15, 2007. Those of you that attended the yearend meeting were able to meet her as she participated in the short course and was

present at the meeting. We are very excited to have her on board with us!

To learn more about Xiangyun, visit her website:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/people/staff/xiangyun/>

Irina Filina is a new part-time research scientist associate for CBTH. She begins working with us January 17, 2008. We are excited about the gravity modeling expertise Irina brings to the consortium.

To learn more about Irina, visit her website:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/people/staff/irina>

Since we are part of a major university, some of the research "products" that you are supporting with your annual payments are trained geoscientists at levels ranging from undergraduate through post-doctoral. Please let us know if you would like to support any of our personnel as summer interns or permanent employees at your company.

MEET OUR COMPANY CONTACTS

The following people have volunteered to serve as our main contacts for CBTH. All data generated by CBTH is provided to the sponsoring companies through these individuals. Please let us know if your company representative changes over the three-year course of this study. In order to better track deliveries, we send an invoice with all data shipments. The contact signs and returns the invoice to us by fax or mail. That way, we have documentation of the person and time that the data was received at the company. The contact person also acts to disseminate our products to

other people in their respective companies along with representing the company at our annual meetings. We greatly appreciate all the extra efforts of the contacts for the project!

BHP Billiton Petroleum, Inc.

Karen Tindale
karen.tindale@bhpbilliton.com
Houston, Texas

British Gas T&T Limited

Stephen Babb
steve.babb@bg-group.com
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

British Petroleum Trinidad and Tobago

Randy Partap
Randy.Partap@bp.com
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Chevron

Richard Parrish
rparrish@chevron.com
Houston, Texas

Exxon Mobil Exploration Company

Pinar Yilmaz
pinar.o.yilmaz@exxonmobil.com
Houston, Texas

Newfield Exploration

Bruno Maldonado
bmaldonado@newfld.com
Houston, Texas

Petrobrás

Fausto Machado
faustomachado@petrobras.com.br
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

PDVSA

Miguel Nuñez

nunezmf@pdvsa.com
Puerto la Cruz, Venezuela

Repsol

Dewi Jones
djonesj@repsolypf.com
The Woodlands, Texas

Shell

Fernando Sanchez
f.sanchez-ferrer@shell.com
Houston, Texas

Talisman

Kim Safton
ksafton@talisman-energy.com
Calgary, Canada

CBTH software support

Landmark Graphics

Bill Agee
bagee@lgc.com

Landmark Graphics is kindly providing our interpretative software.

IVS3D

Bill McKernan
bmkernan@ivs3d.com

We are also using an exciting visualization package called Fledermaus from IVS3D. We are using the software to create interactive “flyovers” that combine topography, bathymetry, surface geology and seismic reflection profiles.

Zetaware Genesis

Zhiyong He
zhe@zetaware.com

Zetaware has generously provided CBTH with two copies of Genesis which is their

basin modeling package. We have been experimenting with its many uses and display options. If you would like to find out more about how you can obtain this software, please contact Zhiyong He at the above email address.

PAST MEETINGS AND EVENTS

GSTT Meeting

When: June 17-20, 2007

Where: Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Paul Mann, Alejandro Escalona and Lisa Bingham attended this meeting to present talks on CBTH-related work in the Trinidad-Barbados data release area for 2006-7. We were happy to visit with many of our sponsors at this meeting and to also have a meeting with Wavefield-Inseis to discuss seismic acquisition possibilities. You can review the abstracts or view the presentations online at:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/Other/other.htm>

Bingham et al. – Building an Integrated, Digital Database Using HTML and GIS Tools: A Case Study for the Northern South American Petroleum Province

Escalona and Mann – Overview of the subsurface geology of on- and offshore northern South America: implications for hydrocarbon exploration

Mann et al. – 3D anatomy of the Columbus foreland basin, eastern offshore Trinidad

Northern South America shortcourse at GSTT meeting

When: June 21-22

Where: Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

This course was taught to 23 people on Thursday, June 21 and Friday, June 22 by Paul Mann and Alejandro Escalona, following the Geological Society of Trinidad and Tobago meeting.

We are also available to present this shortcourse at your company if you were unable attend the meeting. If you have new hires or transfers with the group, these courses provide a quick way to get them “up to speed”. You can take a look at the course outline at:

http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/documents/Venezuela_course_outline.pdf

Condensed Caribbean shortcourse for CBTH sponsors

When: September 13, 2007

Where: Austin, Texas

In preparation for CBTH Phase II, Paul Mann and Alejandro Escalona offered a condensed one day shortcourse at the annual meeting at no additional cost to sponsors. In this course, we reviewed stratigraphic and structural information on the southern Caribbean (particularly the newer results from this study) as well as the northern Caribbean, Central America, and southern Gulf of Mexico. This was especially valuable for representatives new to the area and helped to provide a framework for the more topical talks given the next morning during the meeting.

CBTH Year Two Yearend Meeting

When: September 14, 2007

Where: Austin, Texas

This year, we hosted the meeting for 20 participants in our new building on the J. J. Pickle Research Campus. We were glad to see that each of our sponsor companies was represented at the meeting. It was a productive day full of presentations and feedback.

Geological Society of America Annual Meeting

When: October 28-31, 2007

Where: Denver Colorado

Lisa Bingham and Will King presented poster presentations related to Caribbean research. Xiangyang Xie presented findings from the Ordos basin of China from his doctoral research at the University of Wyoming. You can view the abstracts and presentations at:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/Other/other.htm>

King et al. – Possible existence of an unidentified, seismogenic fault zone along the southern coast of Jamaica: A compilation of earthquake and remote sensing data

Bingham et al. – GIS-based active fault map of the Caribbean plate margins

American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting

When: December 10-14, 2007

Where: San Francisco, California

The Jackson School of Geosciences had many presentations at this meeting. Paul Mann presented an invited talk in a session called “Caribbean Subduction Zones: Past and Present” regarding the structure of the deepwater South Caribbean deformed belt. This study was the focus of the UT master’s thesis study by Margaret Kroehler who graduated in December of 2007. Xiangyang Xie presented findings from his doctoral research on the Ordos basin of China.

Sponsor visits

We’ve had two visits from different sponsors since our yearend meeting in September.

Lisa Bingham has visited four companies in Houston and Trinidad to present the CBTH GIS-Website course. If you would like Lisa to visit your company to present this course, please let us know.

Alejandro Escalona visited a company in the UK to discuss potential sponsorship of CBTH.

DATA DISTRIBUTION

Meeting Presentations

GSTT Presentations. All of the CBTH 2007 GSTT presentations are available for download at:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/Other/other.htm>

GSA Presentations. All of the CBTH 2007 GSA presentations are available for download at:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/c>

[bth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/Other/other.htm](http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/Other/other.htm)

Movies

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/movies.htm>

Falcon movie from Escalona and Mann (2007) GSTT presentation in mpg format

Basement movie from Escalona and Mann (2007) GSTT presentation in mpg format

GOM-Cuba movie from Escalona et al. (2007) CBTH Year 2 Meeting presentation in mpg format

Falcon basin virtual field trip from Escalona et al. (2007) CBTH Year 2 Meeting presentation in Fledermaus format

CBTH Atlas 2007 Surfaces in Fledermaus format

Theses, Dissertations and Other Documents

http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/thes_diss.htm

Justin Funk MS thesis - Cenozoic Tectonics of the Nicaraguan Depression, Nicaragua, and Median Trough, El Salvador based on seismic reflection profiling and remote sensing data

David Soto MS thesis - Structure and sedimentation of eastern offshore Trinidad integrating 3D MCS seismic data, high resolution seismic data and bottom cores

Margaret Kroehler MS thesis – Tectonics and Sequence Stratigraphy of the Venezuelan Basin, Caribbean Sea

Mann et al., 2007 - Tectonics, Circulation and Climate in the Caribbean Gateway: JOI Workshop Report

Soto et al., 2007 - Late Holocene strike-slip offset of a subsurface channel interpreted from three-dimensional seismic data, eastern offshore Trinidad from the September 2007 edition of *Geology*

CBTH Atlas Volume 2007

CBTH Year 2 meeting presentations

Condensed short course: Northern South America and the Caribbean

Gulfrex SEGY for the 2007 Release area

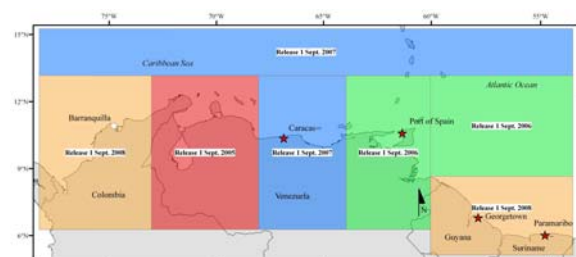


Figure 2. CBTH release areas. Blue blocks released September 2007. Orange blocks will be released October 2008. Red and green blocks have been released in 2005 and 2006, respectively.

GIS Data

2007 GIS Release data and Atlas GIS covering Central Venezuela and Offshore
<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/VenmarHtml/GIS/index.htm>

Fledermaus SRTM color scale for GIS

PROGRESS AND UPCOMING INFORMATION

Xiangyang Xie, Paul Mann and Alejandro Escalona have been working closely with several of our sponsors to collect rock and core samples to be used in a regional sandstone provenance study of northern South America. In late November, Paul Mann and Alejandro Escalona traveled to Venezuela to conduct field work in the central and north-western parts of the country to collect samples for the provenance study.

Eleine Vence is completing her second year of working with CBTH on the offshore Guajira area of Colombia. Based on her high grade point average in UT graduate courses, Eleine won a ConocoPhillips fellowship for the 2007 academic year and the Endowed Presidential scholarship through the UT Jackson School of Geosciences. She also completed an internship with Occidental Petroleum from May-August 2007 where she worked on both her study area in Colombia and on the Hugoton embayment of Kansas.

Margaret Kroehler just completed a semester-long internship at Noble Energy in Houston, Texas. She also completed her master's thesis on the Venezuelan basin and graduated in December.

David Contreras is finishing his thesis and is on schedule for May 2008 graduation. After the completion of his graduation, he will return to Venezuela to work in the Maracaibo basin with PDVSA. He plans to present his results at the March 2008 AAPG meeting in San Antonio.

Wavefield-Inseis, in cooperation with CBTH, announced acquisition plans for a regional Long Offset 2D Seismic Survey

covering the major parts of the southeast Caribbean. The data set will be available for licensing to the oil industry. The data will focus on two different areas of the southeastern Caribbean:

Suriname, Guyana, and southern Columbus basin: Focus of new data is the northern South America passive margin geology and its extension into the foreland basin of the eastern Venezuela and Columbus basins.

Tobago-Grenada basin: Focus of new data is the link between the Tobago region with the Barbados accretionary prism and better understanding of Tobago and Grenada basin petroleum system.

For more information on these data please contact Ivar Gimse at ivar.gimse@wavefield-inseis.com

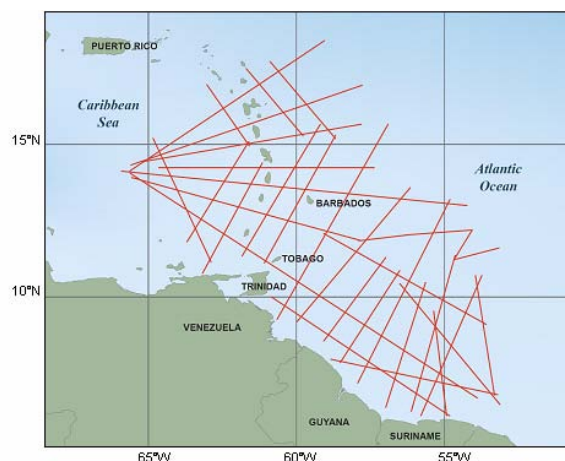


Figure 3. Proposed track lines to be collected by Wavefield-Inseis.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Keep an eye on our website for updates and more information for these upcoming events. www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/links.htm

Oil and Gas Investment Conference

When: February 4-8, 2008

Where: Cartagena, Colombia

While CBTH will not be presenting during this meeting, Lisa Bingham will be attending. If you'd like to set up a time to meet with her to discuss business or just catch up on the consortium, please email. cbth@ig.utexas.edu

18th Caribbean Geological Conference

When: March 23-29, 2008

Where: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Paul Mann will co-lead a pre-meeting field trip ("Tectonics and petroleum geology of the Dominican Republic", March 23-24, 2008) to the Enriquillo and Azua basins of the southern Dominican Republic as part of the 18th Caribbean Geological Conference in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We will visit outcrops and review seismic and well data from the small producing areas of the Azua basin and from the larger and deeper Enriquillo basin. Deformation along the basin edges exposes most of the main basinal units including halite and gypsum deposits. We would encourage those sponsors interested in exploration of area 2 shown in Figure 1 to attend this trip. Costs and registration information are provided at the following web site:

http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/caribbean/news/caribbean_conference.htm

Paul Mann and Jim Pindell will co-chair a session for the meeting called "Caribbean Hydrocarbon Exploration in the New

Millennium." Abstracts are being solicited for a January 15, 2008, deadline.

American Association of Petroleum Geologists Annual Meeting

When: April 20-23, 2008

Where: San Antonio, Texas

CBTH will be presenting results from area 1 studies at AAPG in San Antonio. You can read the abstracts online at:

<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/research/projects/cbth/SponsorsOnly/POSTERS/AAPG/aapg.htm>

Xie et al. - Paleogene Deep-water Sandstone Provenance and Reservoir Quality of Offshore Areas of Northern South America

Xie et al. - Early Mesozoic Paleogeographic Reconstruction and Hydrocarbon Implications for the Southern Ordos Basin, China, based on U-Pb Detrital Zircon Geochronology

Jiang et al. - Structure and stratigraphy of the Tobago-Barbados Ridge and its implications for hydrocarbons in the Barbados offshore area

Contreras et al. - Structural and stratigraphic correlations across the Burro Negro fault zone, northeastern margin of the Maracaibo supergiant basin

Escalona et al. - Hydrocarbon exploration plays in the great Caribbean region and neighboring provinces

Mann et al. - Reconstructing the paleopositions of 27 giant oil and gas clusters through geologic time

We also plan to host a CBTH Sponsor event. Sponsor representatives have been notified regarding this event.

International Geological Congress

When: August 6-14, 2008

Where: Oslo, Norway

February 1, 2008, is the abstract deadline for this meeting. Alejandro Escalona will be attending this meeting and co-chairing a session "Stress/strain partitioning in active orogens, with emphasis on geomorphic/geologic signature of bounding blind thrust faults."

CBTH Year 3 Yearend Meeting

When: October 3, 2008

Where: Austin, Texas

Join us for the last meeting of Phase I in Austin. We will be summarizing our results for year 3 and Phase I and share our plans for Phase II.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Paul Mann

paulm@ig.utexas.edu

Alejandro Escalona

alejandro.escalona@uis.no

Lisa Bingham

(GIS, database, billing questions or other questions or information)

cbth@ig.utexas.edu