

# A Practical Workshop (Two to five days)

## Oil & Gas Field Unitisation & Equity Redetermination

*Presenters: Ian Linnett BSc, John Martin MA PhD*

Many E&P technical professionals find themselves faced with a field unitisation or redetermination project.

Because these are challenging and differ significantly from other field studies it can be difficult to know how to approach the work. This workshop, offered to in-house audiences by internationally recognised specialists, will solve such dilemmas.

It has been developed from in-house seminars incorporating more than 50 years' collective experience and builds on experience gained from our Expert and advisory proprietary projects. We believe that this is the first time that such extensive material has been provided within a single source.

Exercises and discussions are included, along with suitably modified examples, which will be steered towards topics of interest to the participants.

Time will be set aside to address specific problems which participants may wish to bring along. This can involve interactive team work on a specific field case, making this workshop ideal as an interdisciplinary project kick-off activity.



### What you'll learn

This workshop gives valuable insight into unitisation and equity redetermination principles, international practices and field examples. Topics include:

- **Terminology, definitions and concepts:** Achieving a common understanding. Sources of information.
- **Unitisation and redetermination examples:** North Sea and international.
- **Approaches and alternatives to unitisation:** Fixed, deemed and temporary tract participations; asset swaps and licence harmonisation.
- **Choosing an appropriate technical Basis of Determination:** Static models, weighting factors, recovery-based approaches: pros and cons.
- **Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of redetermination practices:**
  - Timing in relation to field development; pros and cons of traditional vs. key step procedures.
  - Operator's and partners' obligations and opportunities. Dispute resolution mechanisms; role of Expert: pros and cons of pendulum approaches; legal issues.
- **Drafting required agreements:** U(U)OA; redetermination procedures. The AIPN Model Form Agreement.
- **Undertaking equity 'defence' projects:** Sensitivity studies; techniques. Meeting strategies. Presenting to an Expert.
- **Outcomes of redetermination:** Production and cost rebalancing.

Topics for discussion will be selected from the comprehensive modular manual based on participants' background and interests.

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### Who should attend?

Staff of all technical disciplines faced with a field unitisation or redetermination. The workshop will be of value to commercial and legal specialists, project managers and database administrators as well as geophysicists, geoscientists, petrophysicists and reservoir engineers. You will benefit if you expect to work on any of the following topics:

- Pre-unitisation work programmes and agreements. Drafting Unitisation or Unit Operating Agreements; (U)UOAs.
- Negotiation of initial tract participations; Equity redetermination by negotiation, technical committee work or dispute resolution by an expert.

The workshop will assume little or no direct experience in unitisation or redetermination. We will, however, quickly progress to an advanced treatment. As it is only available 'on demand' for in-house audiences, it can be further customised.

### Feedback

Previous workshop participants have expressed their appreciation, particularly at the successful conclusion of projects:

*'We were full of questions and you guys had answers. I knew we were in good hands that day.'*

*'The collective experience you have brought to our team has been invaluable time and again'*

*'I honestly believe the work we did together ... was the cornerstone of reaching agreement'*

*'Listening to you both brainstorming with us in that first meeting turned the corner for me - it made me realize that we were on solid ground. You both clearly had a lot of experience and you were immediately 100% focused ...'*

For further information please contact:

E [energy@rpsgroup.com](mailto:energy@rpsgroup.com)



### Presenters

**Ian Linnett** leads the RPS redetermination and unitisation services team. Over a career spanning 38 years, he has provided technical and strategic advice to clients in this specialised area with particular focus in reservoir modelling, volumetric analysis and project management. He is equally comfortable managing the Independent Expert role or providing strategic advisory and technical support services to companies involved in unitisation and redetermination processes. During this work, Ian has been involved with drafting numerous technical procedures for inclusion in Unit Operating Agreements and has represented clients on both unitisation and equity redetermination technical committees.

Ian has delivered over 50 unitisation and equity redetermination projects for companies involved in hydrocarbon ownership disputes – in the North Sea including UK, Norway, Netherlands, and internationally in North Africa, SE Asia, North and South America and Australia. Much of this work has been technically focused but he has also been exposed to the commercial and legal issues in a number of projects, including his appointment as part of a dedicated team as a court-appointed Expert in the Dutch North Sea Logger Field of 2003.

**John H Martin** graduated with a first class honours degree in Geology from Oxford University in 1977 and obtained a PhD in Sedimentology and Economic Geology at the University of Edinburgh (1981). Since 1989 he has been active as an independent reservoir development consultant and has been the Director of John H Martin Associates Ltd since 1996. He has been involved in North Sea (UK, Norway, Netherlands) and international (North Africa, SE Asia, S America) unitisations and equity determinations, in around 25 Expert and technical/strategic management and advisory roles, mainly focusing on technical aspects but involved in commercial and legal issues in a number of projects. This has included appointment in a court-appointed Expert role and experience in drafting UOAs and redetermination procedures.