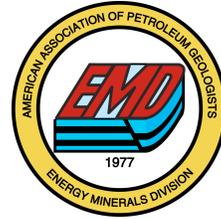


To: EMD Councilors
EMD Committee Chairs
EMD Executive Committee
From: Frank Walles, EMD President Elect, 2009-2010



Re: Website Report for EMD Annual Meeting, June 6, 2008

SUMMARY

The EMD members-Only website is a key members-added value part of EMD membership. The website portal is critical to make available information that is specifically useful to each of the members, including Energy Minerals Commodity reports, Region Councilor reports, and important EMD member activities – such as conferences, workshops, field trips, and upcoming publications.

The EMD Members-Only website is fully operational with active use by its membership. The site continues to be updated with the placement of the most current EMD Division reports and information.

The President Elects role, as directed by the current EMD President, Cretis Jenkins is to:

- 1) Enhance the communication within each of the committees and Region councilors with the application of new communication software – specifically the SharePoint Technology application now just becoming available from AAPG Headquarters.
- 2) Improve the Members Only Website through communications support and report delivery with the AAPG Headquarters website team.

ANNUAL RESULTS

In a personal visit to the AAPG Headquarters staff in Tulsa in 2008, meetings were held with the management team of the AAPG as well as the internet and web site experts of the AAPG - Janet Brister and Jamie Edford. These meetings included proposed advances to the EMD website, material updates as well as for a planned Microsoft Sharepoint software platform, originally set for release in mid to late November, 2008.

As an experienced content developer and user of Sharepoint technology for my employer, Devon Energy, I was especially enthused about the potential application of this technology to increase the collaborative nature of our EMD Technical Committees and the Regional Councilors. We had proposed to Janet that the Shale Gas Committee under the leadership of Brian Cardott, could be the first test case of the effective use of this technology – due in part to his very large committee.

However, upon further investigation by AAPG headquarters technical staff, it was found that the AAPG Intranet system was not capable of handling this technology. Throughout

late 2008 and early 2009 the Headquarters staff has been unable to incorporate this needed technology to its staff nor to our committee membership. The AAPG has hired a new director of technology and hopes to soon be (June 2009) Word Press compliant (a first step for Sharepoint technology implementation).

The AAPG Web Site director (Janet Brister), had suggested that the EMD investigate the use of free internet collaborative software such as DotNetNuke, but on final review by AAPG management it was recommended not to do so due to the potential loss of the material (lack of software ownership and control).

Current suggestions from the AAPG website director include that the committees use FACEBOOK, Linked, and other discussion board sites for the development of private committee forums. The basis for this would be that potentially a greater community could be developed for specific knowledge associated with our ten (10) EMD Energy commodity areas. The web director stated that forums within the internet are quickly becoming the standard for information gathering and synthesis in the real digital world.

This proposal needs review by our committee leadership and EMD Executive leadership. How we perceive and use our Members Only Website needs further investigation. Needs and alternatives needs exploration and how the specific technical committee and councilors could utilize more effective communication and information elements need further input from the parties involved..

For the second member value added benefit that of improving the Members Only Website through support and communication with the AAPG Headquarters website support team. The EMD website has to the best of my knowledge, the most current available material from each of the technical EMD committees. However, content still needs further update. As Mike Wiley has strongly indicated, the EMD members' only website is vital for the continued success of the EMD and updated content of this site is critical.

A review had been completed at the AAPG Tulsa Headquarters office of a new look and organization for the EMD Members only website. However – final AAPG approvals – expected have not been made.

Further integration of new young EMD members into the Division has been strongly supported by the EMD Executive committee. The proposal includes the encouragement of adding EMD students or under age 35 EMD members to each of the EMD committees in order to facilitate software applications and use such as Sharepoint Technology and improved website development. Andrea Reynolds, EMD Vice President has been working with Bill Houston of the AAPG Student committee to place potential under age 35 candidates to each of our committees

We have been able to find a superb under age 35 candidate for the EMD Coalbed Methane committee and we expect his contributions soon – especially in relation to the digital component of our EMD services. . His name is Edgardo Covarrubias and he is a

Senior Development Geologist with J.M. Huber Corporation within the Coal Bed Methane and Gas Shales technical fields.