



# PETEX

**TRAINING NEWSLETTER**  
NEWS FOR THE ENERGY INDUSTRY FROM PETROLEUM EXTENSION SERVICE

NO. 483

SPRING 2006

*Sixty-plus years. Half a million trained. Now it's time to look ahead.*

## Support the PETEX Capital Campaign and Help Power the Next Generation

The Petroleum Extension Service (PETEX) has been privileged to serve as a preeminent training resource for the oil and gas industry since our inception within the Division of Continuing Education at The University of Texas in 1944. Now, in order to maintain the highest level of training for the next generation of petroleum industry workers and other personnel who must stay abreast of the oil and gas field, we call on our valued partners in the industry to help us achieve the goals of the 2006-2008 PETEX Capital Campaign.

Why the need for a Capital Campaign? As a self-supporting organization within The University of Texas at Austin, PETEX generates 100% of its operating revenue and receives no funding from the University or any other entity. Our long-standing tradition of partnering with leaders in the industry to help achieve mutually beneficial goals is evident throughout the history of PETEX, but no better example exists than the PETEX Training Center in Houston. The facility, which was built in 1978, was constructed entirely with industry funds – including a \$100,000 gift from Drilco co-founder Stanley Moore and \$250,000 from a variety of industry leaders.

The Houston Training Center has never been upgraded and is in urgent need of repair and renovations. The total amount needed to refurbish the Center is \$335,000.

Additionally, \$300,000 is required to upgrade the PETEX library of training materials and other publications; to develop new, leading-edge courses; and to create on-line training options – an essential service for current and future Web-centric students.

### *PETEX is working to avert the industry's projected personnel crisis.*

Several trends and economic factors are converging to create an acknowledged personnel crisis in the oil and gas industry. For example, in the next five to seven years, North American upstream oil and gas companies will

likely lose more than 60 percent of their employees due to a huge number of baby boomers opting for retirement. Companies in refining and petrochemicals are also facing a growing shortage of personnel in the field and in the employee pipeline. What's more, although crude oil has hit \$60+ per barrel, the industry finds that employee layoffs and hiring gaps that occurred in the past are slowing current efforts to ramp up output. Finally, a general lack of expertise and experience in new employee training exists in all areas of the energy industry. Only through proper employee training can companies in the oil and gas industry remain competitive and profitable.

With your support, PETEX will respond to the industry's looming shortage of trained personnel by accommodating ever-growing numbers of students in the Houston Training Center. We have already begun to see increased enrollments in the last few years, from 1,900 total days of training in 2003 to 3,310 days of training in 2005. Enrollment is expected to grow by at least 50% in 2006 and to show double-digit increases for the next ten years thereafter.

Our partners in the industry will directly benefit from our ability to train not only petroleum industry workers, but also contractors, attorneys, landmen, insurance underwriters, appraisers, and accountants who work for companies that support the industry.

- More than 1,000 companies have called upon PETEX for oil industry training.
- More than 150,000 people have received instruction at the Houston Training Center.
- More than 500,000 students worldwide have benefited from PETEX training.
- From 2001-2006, PETEX bestsellers included
  - Primer of Oilwell Drilling—28,126 copies
  - Fundamentals of Petroleum—10,219 copies
  - Practical Well Control—6,467 copies
  - Dictionary—4,636 copies





## HONORING CHARTER MEMBERS

*List of charter members who contributed to the construction of the Houston Training Center building.*



Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company  
 Ashland Exploration Company  
 Atlantic Pacific Marine Corp.  
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*Donors who contributed to the measurement training facilities.*

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 Mobil Producing Texas and New Mexico, Inc.  
 Modco Industries, Inc.  
 M & J Valve Division-Daniel Industries  
 Shell Oil Company  
 Shell Pipeline Corp.  
 Vickers Industrial Coatings  
 W K M Division-ACF Industries, Inc.



## WRITING AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

By Julia Ruggeri

A book on gas measurement, offshore rigs, or petroleum geology may not fascinate the average person. Writing one of these books won't get you on The Oprah Show. But, at PETEX, we know oil and gas people are passionate about their work and we believe that everyone has at least one good book in them. Turning experience and industry knowledge into a book can result in an international bestseller—at least it does here at PETEX.

Many authors volunteer their time to write and do research. What's in it for people in the industry who work with PETEX in updating or writing new books? Why do they do it?

For many of our writers, it's an opportunity to pass down a lifetime of knowledge to the next generation of people in the petroleum industry. Doing a book with PETEX is also a chance to partner with education and give back to the industry. Worldwide purchasers of PETEX publications know that our books come from authentic experience in the field.

PETEX always has ongoing book projects. In the coming year, we plan

to publish several new and updated books written in cooperation with real world experts. The topics range from oil and gas measurement to coal mining and many more.



Doug Elliot

Doug Elliot, PETEX Board member from IPSI, recruited Stanley Huang and Chen-Hwa Chiu, both from Chevron, to help us work on a new liquefied natural gas book.

Perviaz Nasir, from Enterprise Products, is working with Doug Elliot on revising and updating on both the liquid natural gas book and PETEX's *Plant Processing of Natural Gas* book. He believes that, "At this time,



Perviaz Nasir

no comprehensive book on LNG is available in the public domain." As someone who works in the industry, he knows that many changes, especially technological advances, have taken place in natural gas processing. According to Perviaz, "The people involved in writing and updating these books are at the forefront of gas processing and can, therefore, provide the latest information."

Is there a book you wish you could have for reference? Or a book you'd like to hand out to your new trainees or employees? Maybe you have a best-seller in you. If you'd like to share your expertise, please contact Julia Ruggeri at [ruggeri@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:ruggeri@mail.utexas.edu).

### ALUMNI CORNER

Rick Sward thought so highly of the course in Elementary Drilling that he signed up for Petroleum Fundamentals the very next week.

Werner Collenberg, who traveled all the way from Zurich to attend Elementary Drilling, said "This is one of the best courses that I have ever taken." Rick and Werner's statements are the kind of affirmation that proves PETEX delivers value to you. We intend the value that you receive to be career enhancing, and we welcome your feedback about our courses. To that end, we are developing a portion of the Web site devoted specifically to you, the alumni. Here you can say what you would like to see on the PETEX Web site. Soon you will blog with each other and PETEX, be able to access your class pictures, and

receive information about new courses, new publications, and new initiatives at PETEX.



Edmara Cavalcanti Reid

The PETEX staffer who is helping us develop this new portion of the Web site is our newest member of the PETEX team, Edmara Cavalcanti Reid. Edmara is an instructional designer who specializes in online course development. She comes from Brazil and looks forward to talking to all of our alumni in South America.

All of the PETEX team looks forward to seeing you again.



Rick Sward

Greg McCormack

**TRAINING NEWSLETTER**  
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**Editors:** Greg McCormack  
 Julia Ruggeri  
 Debbie Caples

**Contributor:** Susan Toalson

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# Training Schedule

School	CEUs	Length	2006*	Tuition*
Advanced Petroleum Measurement	3.3	4½ days	April 24–28	\$1,250
Basic Petroleum Measurement	3.3	4½ days	April 17–21	\$1,250
Completion and Workover	7.1	9½ days	June 19–30	\$2,500
First Week	3.6	5 days	June 19–23	\$1,250
Second Week	3.5	4½ days	June 26–30	\$1,250
<b>New Course!</b>				
Gauging, Testing, and Running of Lease Tanks	1.3	1½ days	June 8–9	\$400
Hydraulics for Pipeline Operators	2	2½ days	April 18–20	\$900
Introduction to Offshore Operations	3.3 (32 CPEs)	4½ days	April 3–7	\$1,350
Mass Measurement of Hydrocarbons Fluids	3.3	4½ days	April 3–7	\$1,250
<b>New Courses!</b>				
Natural Gas Measurement—				
Fundamentals	2.3	3 days	June 12–14	\$850
Design/Application/Inspection	1.2	1½ days	June 15–16	\$650
Electronic Flow Measurement	2.3	3 days	June 19–21	\$850
Quality	1.2	1½ days	June 22–23	\$650
Petroleum Fundamentals	3.3 (32 CPEs)	4½ days	June 5–9	\$1,250
Valves and Actuators—Op. & Maint.	3.3	4½ days	May 22–26	\$1,150

For more information about course schedules and availability, please call the Houston Training Center at 1-800-687-7052 or 281-443-7144

\*All prices and dates are subject to change without notice.

*When notifying PETEX of a change in address, please enclose current mailing label.*

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*News For The Energy Industry From The University of Texas*

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