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I hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday! We have an exciting schedule lined up for December. Our [General Meeting](#) speaker this month is Brian Smith from Advisian, who will be presenting a case study on reducing horizontal drilling costs. We are also hosting a [holiday event](#) with SPE Distinguished Lecturer Daniel Tormey tonight - if you missed the registration deadline and still want to attend, you can purchase tickets at the door for \$50. We will be accepting canned goods and toy donations in exchange for raffle tickets.

We are holding two study groups this month: [HSSE](#), where Joe Lima from Schlumberger will talk about reducing the footprint of unconventional development, and [Completions and Production](#), where Mike Vincent from FracWell will discuss frac and refrac design. Mike Vincent will also teach a 3 day [Continuing Education](#) course on hydraulic fractures in January.

Finally, the [SPE Young Professionals](#) are hosting a Lunch & Learn with SPE Distinguished Lecturer John Turley. Mr. Turley will be speaking on his independently researched study of the 2010 Macondo blowout entitled "The Simple Truth."

Read on for more details. I hope to see you at some of this month's events!

Cheers,

Marija Mircevska

Newsletter Editor

## SPE Awards - Nominate a Colleague Today!

**Applaud excellence in the E&P industry by nominating a colleague for an annual award given by the Society of Petroleum Engineers**

SPE Awards recognize expertise and contributions to the upstream oil and gas industry. The 2016 SPE Awards will be presented at the regional and international levels for:

- Technical contributions
- Professional excellence
- Career achievement
- Service to colleagues
- Industry Leadership
- Public service

On-line regional award nomination process only takes 15-20 minutes! So, PLEASE think of someone who deserves recognition for their outstanding work in the E&P industry and visit [www.spe.org/awards/](http://www.spe.org/awards/) today!.

**Nominations will be accepted through February 15, 2016.**

**December 3, 2015**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**SPE Denver Section  
Holiday Party**

*featuring*

**Distinguished Lecturer  
Daniel Tormey, Environ**

# Changing the Game — Case Study on Reducing Horizontal Drilling Costs and Cycle Times via Behavioral Change

Brian Smith, Advisian

December 16, 2015, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Denver Athletic Club

### Tickets:

Members	\$25
Non-Members	\$35
Walk-Ins	\$40



**Abstract:** It is common for ‘spud to production’ cycle time to decline with time, as operators gain experience both in local geology and the physical best practices required to operate in a specific locale. One E&P company challenged their West Texas asset team with slashing this learning cycle and reducing drilling cycle time and cost via specific focus on the issue. A nine month long, behaviorally based

program resulted. Personnel from rig hands to VPs were engaged via a very specific challenge: remove 8 days of D&C time from every single well. The challenge was addressed via attacks on a number of fronts, and the program resulted in a major shift in both drilling cycle times and associated AFE costs. The project goal was exceeded by 100%, gaining the attention of both the C suite and the board of directors.

This SPE presentation will outline the proposed challenge, how it was achieved, and the barriers to behavioral change and how they were overcome.

**Biography:** Brian Smith leverages 20 years of consulting experience to assist clients in the design and delivery of large-scale, results-oriented change programs. He is a subject matter expert (SME) in the fields of Execution Control Systems (ECSSMs) and behaviorally based process change.

Brian began his career in the manufacturing arena and now brings Lean and process techniques to the Oil and Gas, Specialty Chemicals and Petrochemicals industries. In recent years, Brian has focused on process cycle time and cost reduction for large independents in unconventional plays, delivering drastic reductions in cost while simultaneously increasing throughput. Brian has also worked in the Refining and Midstream sectors.

He holds a B.S., Manufacturing Systems Engineering from the University of Hertfordshire UK, as well as an Executive “Mini MBA” from INSEAD Business School of Fontainebleau, France.

[Register Now](#)

## Corporation presenting First-Ever Comprehensive Environmental Characterization of Hydraulic Fracturing for Shale Oil and Gas Production

Denver Athletic Club -  
Ballroom  
1325 Glenarm Place  
Denver, CO 80204

Thursday, December 3,  
2015

5:30 PM - Registration and  
Cocktail Hour  
6:30 PM - Plated Dinner and  
Presentation

\$50/person at the door  
*\*Price includes the event, meal,  
and 1 drink ticket.*

*Bring canned goods or  
toys for a chance to win a  
prize!*

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## HSSE STUDY GROUP

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### Reducing the Footprint of Unconventional Development

*Joe Lima, Schlumberger*

 December 10, 2015, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

 Halliburton, 1125 17th Street, 19th Floor Training Room

RSVP: [Clory Martin](#)

**Abstract:** Development of unconventional resources has been ongoing for several decades in North America. Recent successes, specifically in shale reservoirs, has brought a tremendous interest throughout the industry as to opportunities to export that experience globally. But with the North American success, concern has been voiced by various stakeholders as to the lasting effect of large scale development as well as a call for broad regulation to manage the growth of any unconventional development.

Time and time again, industry has demonstrated proactive approaches to development of the unconventional that have continuously brought innovation and technological advances as a means to reduce the environmental footprint. Many examples can be found where novel techniques have addressed concerns in advance of regulation.

This presentation discusses some of the challenges associated with unconventional resource development and some of the resulting industry-wide solutions brought forth to so answer these challenges.

**Biography:** Joe Lima is the Director of Global Environmental Sustainability for Schlumberger. Before this role, Joe served as Global Environmental Solutions Manager for Schlumberger Well Services where he was responsible for developing technologies that reduce the overall completion footprint as well as the development of the Schlumberger chemical disclosure process. From 2008 through 2010, Joe served as the Unconventional Resources Theme Manager for North America where he was responsible for directing technology development and application throughout the region specifically for shale and tight gas environments. He also served in various management roles for Well Services facilities through the hydraulic fracturing markets, including the San Juan, Anadarko and Arkoma Basins. Joe spent four years as an in-house completions engineer for various Schlumberger clients.


Joe has served on the Boards of Colorado Oil and Gas Association, Interstate Petroleum Association of Mountain States and California Independent Petroleum Association. He holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Petroleum Engineering from Marietta College, Marietta, OH.

## COMPLETIONS AND PRODUCTION STUDY GROUP

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### Eccentric, Eclectic, or Formulaic? - Frac & Refrac Design in Various Basins

*Mike Vincent, FracWell*

 December 17, 2015, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

 Halliburton, 1125 17th Street, 19th Floor Training Room

RSVP: [Wendell Salas](#)

**Topic:** Always ready to be provocative, Mike has agreed to again challenge the status quo and question why frac design appears to be more correlated with company culture than with geological or engineering criteria.

Mike has compiled a fun talk including the following topics:

- Frac Trends
  - Stages
  - Slickwater/Crosslinked Gel/Hybrids
  - 15 million pounds of 100 mesh?
- Why are frac designs more tied to company culture than to geology?
- Frac Factory mentality
  - Rationale. Pros and Cons
- Demonstration that our fracs degrade
- Refracs
  - A few entirely unsatisfying comments will be squeezed in as time allows


Mike will try to challenge our completion strategies in a good-hearted but challenging presentation. Come with an open mind and be prepared to reconsider whether we are missing some opportunities!

**Biography:** Mike Vincent is a consulting engineer with more than 25 years of experience, specializing in fracture optimization and training. After completing his degree at the Colorado School of Mines, he worked with Amoco, ARCO and CARBO prior to becoming an independent consultant in 1996. An active member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, Vincent has authored more than 30 technical papers and serves as a technical editor for three SPE journals. Mike frequently lectures at universities and presents fracturing schools to numerous companies and organizations, and has served as an SPE Distinguished Lecturer and Distinguished Author.


## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### Understanding and Optimizing Hydraulic Fractures

*Mike Vincent, FracWell*

 January 26-28, 2016, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

*Registration Deadline is Friday, January 8, 2016*

 Brown Palace Hotel and Spa, 321 17th St, Denver

[Register Now](#)

#### Registration Fee

\$2,000 for members

\$2,400 for non-members

*Registration fee is fully refundable until January 8, 2016*

*2.4 CEUs (Continuing Education Units) will be awarded by SPE-Americas Office for this 3-day course*

**For more details, contact [Darren O'Brien, P.E.](#)**

**Course Description:** This course is designed for people who are curious and don't mind being challenged to think differently about hydraulic fractures. Actual field results provide compelling evidence that our theory, models, and intuition have not led us to optimal designs. We can do better!

**Course Contents:** Although hydraulic fractures are the key to development of most low permeability reservoirs, fractures are frequently mischaracterized and poorly optimized. This course will focus on practical techniques to investigate and optimize fracture treatments. Instead of relying solely on theory and model forecasts, this course challenges conventional wisdom by focusing on irrefutable field evidence demonstrating fracture deficiencies. Participants in this course will have access to more than 200 published field studies in which the productivity and profitability of fields have been improved by altering the treatment design. Key concepts will be demonstrated in a wide variety of reservoir types, including tight gas wells, CBM, shale gas, high perm and low productivity oil wells. However, this course will also cover key learnings in horizontal wells including the Eagle Ford, Bakken, Niobrara, and Marcellus.

**About the Instructor:** Mike Vincent is a consulting engineer with more than 20 years of experience in economic optimization of hydraulic fractures. After completing his degree at the Colorado School of Mines, he worked with Amoco in Denver, and with ARCO in Anchorage, Kuparuk, and Denver. Mike started Insight Consulting in 1996, specializing in fracture design and reservoir analyses. Mike's work is focused upon helping clients improve fracture designs by accurately predicting production under realistic conditions. Mike has authored more than 30 technical papers and has instructed more than 300 seminars on fluid flow, fracture design, and practical production optimization. He is very active in SPE, serving as a technical editor and on steering committees for several SPE meetings and workshops. Mike frequently lectures at universities and presents fracturing schools to numerous companies and organizations, and has served as an SPE Distinguished Lecturer and Distinguished Author.

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## Upcoming SPE Denver Section Training Courses:

### [Monte Carlo Simulation for the Oil and Gas Industry](#)

**Dr. Susan Peterson, Consultant**

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 5, 2016

Course Dates: Tuesday-Wednesday, February 23-24, 2016

### [Modern Production Data Analysis for Unconventional Reservoirs](#)

**David Anderson, P. Eng., Anderson Thompson Reservoir Strategies**

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 26, 2016

Course Dates: Tuesday-Wednesday, March 15-16, 2016

### [Discovery and Recovery Thinking in Shales](#)

**Creties Jenkins, P.E., P.G., Rose and Associates**

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 1, 2016


Course Dates: Tuesday-Wednesday, April 19-20, 2016


## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

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### December Lunch & Learn

Assessing and Applying Petroleum Engineering Data from the 2010 Macondo Blowout  
*SPE Distinguished Lecturer John Turley*

 December 9, 2015, 12:00 PM (Noon) - 1:30 PM

 Anadarko Petroleum, 1099 18th St, 7th Floor

We are thrilled to welcome our first Society of Petroleum Engineers Distinguished Lecturer to our Lunch & Learn Series. John Turley will be speaking on his independently researched study of the 2010 Macondo blowout entitled “The Simple Truth.” It is difficult to summarize such an accomplished career comprised of many publications, education, teaching accolades, and service to SPE. We look forward to his in-depth analysis, tough questions, and suggestions for real-time improvements – both in the office and on the rig – that will not only further production but protect our employees and environment.

John has been on a whirlwind speaking tour this fall, and is kind enough to stop in Denver before the holidays. Don't miss this event!

As always, pizza and drinks will be provided for lunch, free of charge. However, as we are approaching the holiday season, we request that you bring either a canned good / non-perishable food item or a couple dollars to donate – the collection will be sent to the Food Bank of the Rockies. Feel free to pass along this invitation to interested colleagues and contacts. Please RSVP to [Anne Becker](#) no later than Monday, December 7, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

### Happy Hour and Avalanche Game Night


Join old friends and new at Rock Bottom Brewery on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall (16<sup>th</sup> St and Curtis) at 5:00 PM. The first drink or two, and some tasty appetizers, are on us. See you there!


Later that evening, RockPile Energy Services is generously donating their suite to the YP group. We will have tickets available, and will send out a separate email the first week of December to sign up for tickets. The Colorado Avalanche will try to show the (Pittsburgh) Penguins who really masters the ice. Puck drops at 8:00 PM.

### SPE Evening Event: 25-Year SPE Members

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An evening honoring the 25 year SPE members – a time to reminisce, reconnect with old friends and meet a few new ones. This event is exclusive to SPE members with 25 years or more of membership.

 January 28, 2016, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

 Denver Athletic Club - Billiards Room and Bar

#### Tickets:

\$25 per person (SPE members & Guests)  
*Complimentary hors d'oeuvres & drinks included.*

**Schedule:**

5:00-6:00 PM	Meet, greet, drink and eat
6:00-6:30 PM	Hand out 25-year pins and awards
6:30-7:30 PM	What happens after 25 years - Mentorship and giving back opportunities, Presentations

**Society of Petroleum Engineers - Denver Section**

<b>Americas</b> 222 Palisades Creek Dr. Richardson, TX 75080-2040 USA	<b>Asia Pacific</b> Level 35, Gardens South Tower Mid Valley City, Lingkaran Syed Putra 59200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	<b>Europe</b> 1st Floor, Threeways House 40/44 Clipstone Street London W1W 5DW UK	<b>Middle East</b> Fortune Towers, 31st Floor Offices 3101/2, JLT Area P.O. Box 215959, Dubai, UAE
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