

SPE

Netherlands Section



Society of Petroleum Engineers | June 2015

SPE Student Chapter Amsterdam excursion

COMPANY VISIT TO GEOLOG INTERNATIONAL

On the 1st of May SPE Student Chapter Amsterdam organized a company visit to the office of Geolog International in IJmuiden. This event was intended to offer geology students from VU University Amsterdam and Utrecht University an opportunity to learn more about a potential career in the oil and gas industry. We learned about the services Geolog offers clients and what the working life as an employee of Geolog might look like. Upon passing the first 'test', as it was called later on by Geolog, namely finding their office in the harbour of IJmuiden, we were warmly welcomed by our host Marco Menis.

After we were fueled by hot Italian coffee and chocolates, Marco introduced us to Geolog International by giving a number of lectures about the expertise of the company, the equipment Geolog International is using and the place of Geolog International in the industry. We learned that Geolog is providing mud logging services to E&P companies and that Geolog International is an expert at gas chromatography. They mainly focus on the oil and gas sector, but the company also provides services to geothermal wells in France. We were stunned by the rapid growth of Geolog in the recent years and their optimistic spirit.

Following the introduction lecture about the company, Marco gave us a lecture on the technical aspects of mud logging and its importance during drilling operations. During the interactive lecture we enjoyed learning many things that were new to us. In addition to the technical story, we gained a lot of insight in the life of a mudlogger or data engineer working for Geolog, working 2-5 weeks on/off, quite often at exotic locations.



Working environment: The interior of a unit Geolog is using on drill rigs, including a lab for analyzing samples and a gas chromatograph device (photo from Marco Menis, Geolog International).

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Having enjoyed a superb lunch we got a tour through different facilities such as the trainee facility, also used to train new Geolog employees, and the Geolog sedimentology rig unit. During the tour Marco challenged us to name the equipment and determine the function of all the measurement devices without telling in advance. Next we were led to a real unit of Geolog, that is placed on a rig during operations, thus providing an insight of the working environment of a geologist at Geolog. Many of us were pleasantly surprised that the lab operations resembled so much to the sedimentological lab procedures that we are quite familiar with. However, the gas chromatograph lab was quite new to us. Marco told us gas chromatography is one of the key selling points of Geolog to her clients.

Our day at Geolog was concluded with a quiz about all the facts we were introduced to during the day. Later, Personnel Manager Paul McPhillimy joined us and gave us more insight in what a career at Geolog might look like, and we were encouraged to apply upon our graduation.

On behalf of the students of Amsterdam and Utrecht we would like to express our thanks to Geolog International for their hospitality. We are pleased Geolog gave us the opportunity to get a good taste of what a future career in the oil and gas industry might look like.

Siem Peters and Thomas Djuly, Board members SPE Student Chapter Amsterdam ■



Geolog units as seen from the outside (photo from Marco Menis, Geolog International).