



#### Calgary Office

Mindy Selby, Sr. VP  
W. P. (Bill) Gwozd, VP  
Kelly Clapham, Director  
Simon Mauger, Director  
Gareth Slater, Director  
Dennell Griffith, Controller  
Cameron Gingrich, Manager  
Edward Kallio, Manager

Melody Veinot, Manager  
Min Yang, Manager  
Richard G. DeWolf, Exec. Assoc.  
G. Christopher Phillips, Exec. Assoc.  
G. Gordon Clarke, Sr. Assoc.  
Dave Vetsch, Sr. Assoc.  
Al Kleinschmidt, Assoc.  
Masoud Shahanaghi, Assoc.

#### Paul Ziff, CEO

#### Houston Office

Juan C. Alba, VP  
Richard M. Tucker, VP  
Geovaldo Hernandez, Manager

Paul Ching, Exec. Assoc.  
Richard Parker, Exec. Assoc.  
Harald Winter, Exec. Assoc.  
Thomas Gray, Sr. Assoc.  
James Harvick, Sr. Assoc.  
Sylvia Portnoy, Sr. Assoc.  
Damir Vrcek, Sr. Assoc.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Houston, April 9, 2009

## Ziff Energy to Launch New World Study Focused on 'Mature Hub Operations'

Last fall, Ziff Energy met with North Sea Operators in various centers about benchmarking North Sea operations. These meetings revealed interest in progressing a focused study on **Mature Hub Assets** immediately. A Hub is a mature (typically 10 to 30 years old) fixed platform in Shelf water depths (i.e. <600 ft./200m.) that has produced a significant portion of its original field reserves, and is also used as collection and processing infrastructure for other nearby fields.

A critical core set of North Sea operators committed to proceed with a multi-client study to compare their Mature Hubs. Ziff Energy has developed a approach to also include 'out of region' peer Hub fields operated by Majors, Independents and National Oil Companies in the Gulf of Mexico and Brazil, and potentially including Operations in Asia, West Africa, and the Mediterranean.

*Mature Hubs face issues* such as:

- obsolescence & reliability of older systems
- high throughput rates of oil, water, or gas
- Integrity Management challenges
- maintenance cost & strategies
- 'turnarounds', which are a key success factor.

This study will deliver a comprehensive set of insights to enable operators to add real value on a number of dimensions including costs, operating efficiency and process, and will bring together best practices. *Performance Metrics* will include:

- water handling cost
- transportation costs (boats, helicopters)
- Uptime/Production Reliability
- Environmental Performance -- an area of growing government scrutiny.

A *Client Advisory Meeting*, followed by private data collection Kick-off meetings with each participant, will occur in late April in Copenhagen. There is still time to participate, but only by acting quickly. Following delivery of the customized Client reports, a *'Best Practices' Workshop* will likely be held in **fall 2009**. To participate, or for more information, pls. contact Richard M. Tucker, VP Marketing & Client Relations at 1-713-985-5183 or [richard.tucker@ziffenergy.com](mailto:richard.tucker@ziffenergy.com).

###

**Ziff Energy Group**, founded in 1982, is a leading North American gas consulting firm, celebrating its 27<sup>th</sup> year of service to Clients in the private and public spheres. On an international basis, Ziff Energy provides sophisticated industry and operational business analysis and custom consulting to the world wide energy industry. We have offices in Calgary and Houston, the primary oil and gas centers in North America. Our growing staff of 50<sup>+</sup> includes many **industry specialists**, with **15 to 30 years of domestic and international experience**. Ziff Energy has completed over 160 upstream benchmarking studies in 20 countries, more than any other energy consulting firm worldwide.

1117 Macleod Trail SE  
Calgary, Alberta T2G 2M8  
(403) 265-0600  
Fax: (403) 261-4631  
[info@ziffenergy.com](mailto:info@ziffenergy.com)  
1-800-853-6252

[www.ziffenergy.com](http://www.ziffenergy.com)

4295 San Felipe, Suite 350  
Houston, Texas 77027  
(713) 627-8282  
Fax: (713) 627-9034  
[info@ziffenergy.com](mailto:info@ziffenergy.com)  
1-888-736-5780