#### Johan Sverdrup – Offshore Norway: The Story behind the Giant Sverdrup Discovery\*

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Search and Discovery Article #20177 (2012)\*\*
Posted November 12, 2012

#### **Key Statements**

Fewer wells have been drilled on the Norwegian Continental Shelf compared to the United Kingdom Continental Shelf, even though there is the same geological risk. Taxes are lower in the UK; there is an independent sector in the UK. The overall result is lower exploration in Norway.

#### John Sverdrup Discovery – Fourth Generation Exploration

- In the heart of the Central North Sea
- Located on the southern Utsira High (Haugaland High or Greater Luno Area)
- 40 km south of Grane
- Water depth of 115 m
- Reservoir depth of approximately 1900 m
- Avaldsnes Discovery
  - o 100-400 million barrels of recoverable resources
  - o Exceptional DST result gained confidence in the discovery
- Upside Potential
  - o 200 km<sup>2</sup> of closure
  - o Uncertainty of reservoir continuity and quality

#### **Exploration and delineation drilling**

The discovery well 16/2-6 was drilled in 2010; 6 delineation wells were drilled in 2011 unfolded the resource range. Delineation wells in 2012 will narrow the range; yet additional delineation wells will be needed in 2013.

#### **Results to Date:**

• Extremely good Volgian (Upper Jurassic) sandstone reservoir - 28% porosity; 10-40 darcy permeability

<sup>\*</sup>Adapted from oral presentation at Forum: Discovery Thinking, at AAPG International Conference and Exhibition, Singapore, September 16-19, 2012

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- Good underlying Upper to Middle Jurassic sandstone reservoir and weathered basement
- OWC varying between 1922 and 1935 m MSL

#### Main reservoir uncertainties

- Top reservoir depth reflecting velocity variations in overburden
- Thickness variation of extremely good reservoir versus good reservoir sand
- Reservoir wettability
- Variations in oil-water contacts
- Varying aquifer support

#### Subsurface Learning on the Southern Utsira High

Play concept in 2004 of thin Jurassic sands, with 40-50 m leg, over inlier basins and basement was proved in 2007 by Edvard Grieg; it also lowered the risk of Johan Sverdrup to P45%; Apollo proved the concept in 2010.

The main learning includes: (1) light under-saturated oil flanking saturated oil and gas discovery, (2) late migration of oil into Edvard Grieg and Johan Sverdrup, (3) extreme to very good reservoir quality of the Upper Jurassic sands, and (4) producible oil in weathered basement in Tellus and Luno South.

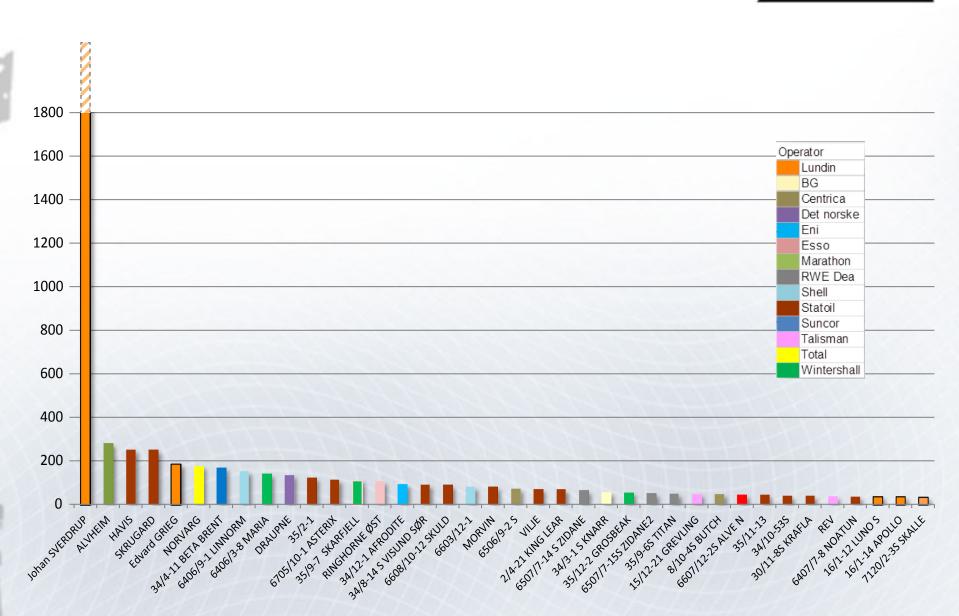
#### **Seeing is Believing**

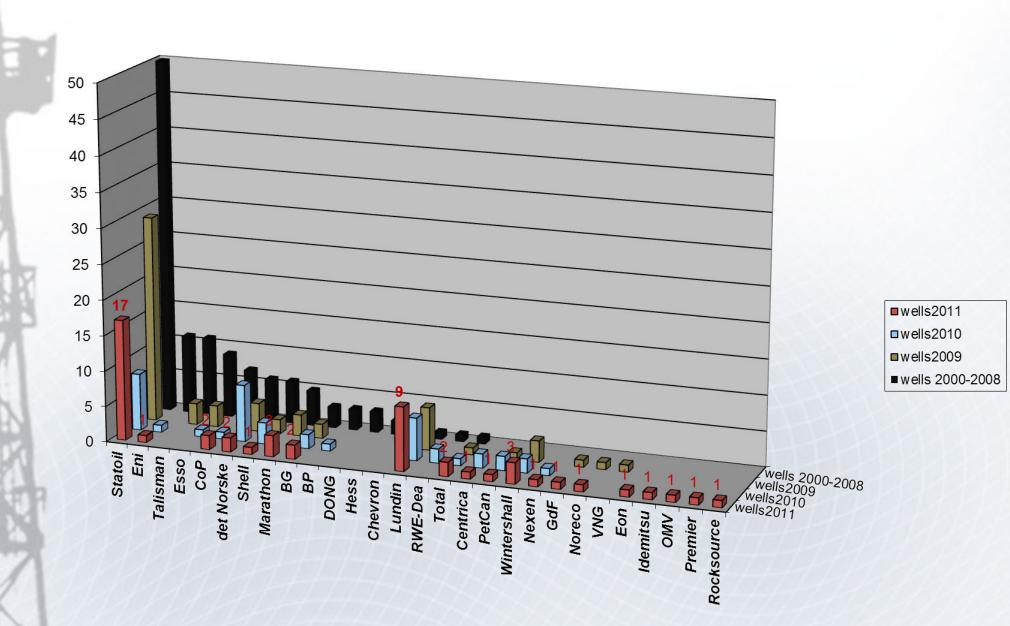
The last years' exploration effort by a diversity of subsurface focused companies demonstrates that the decline in discoveries was not subsurface-based.

To release the exploration potential, companies with a fact-based knowledge creation culture are needed:

Recycling is a Key Word in terms of licences, play models, wells and seismic, and people.

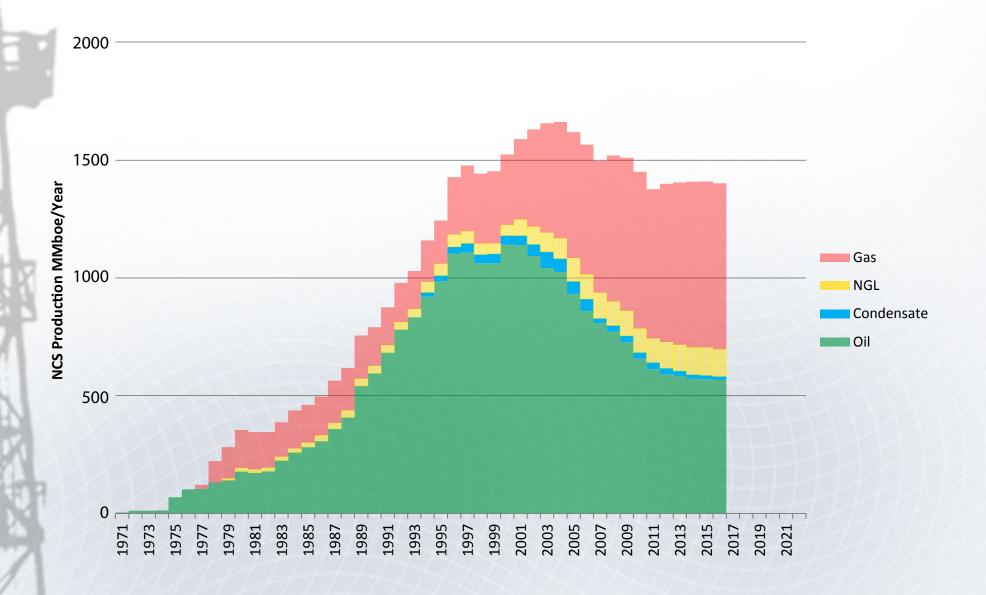
### Discovered Resources in Norway 2001–2012





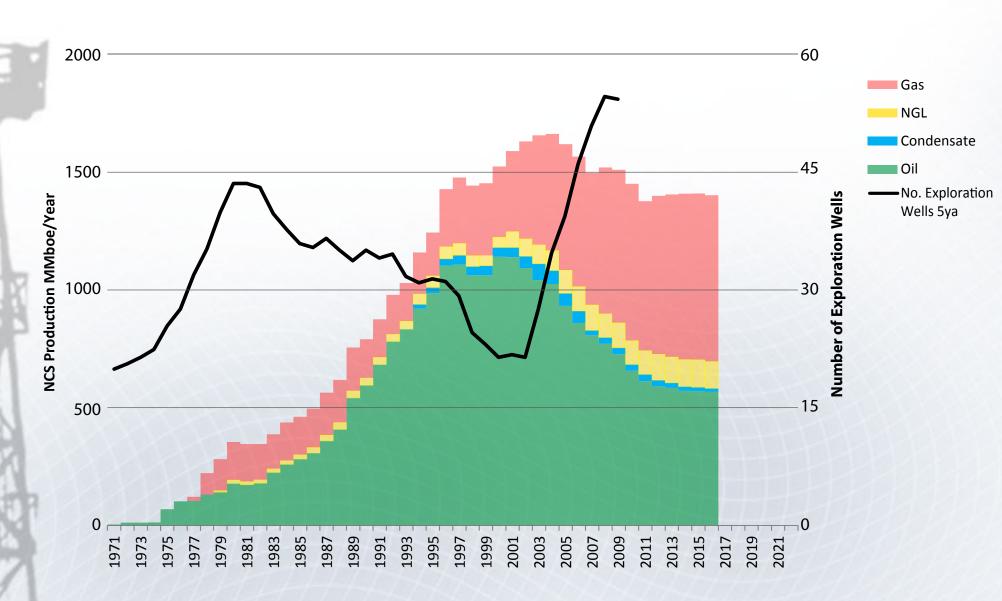
#### Production NCS 1971–2016





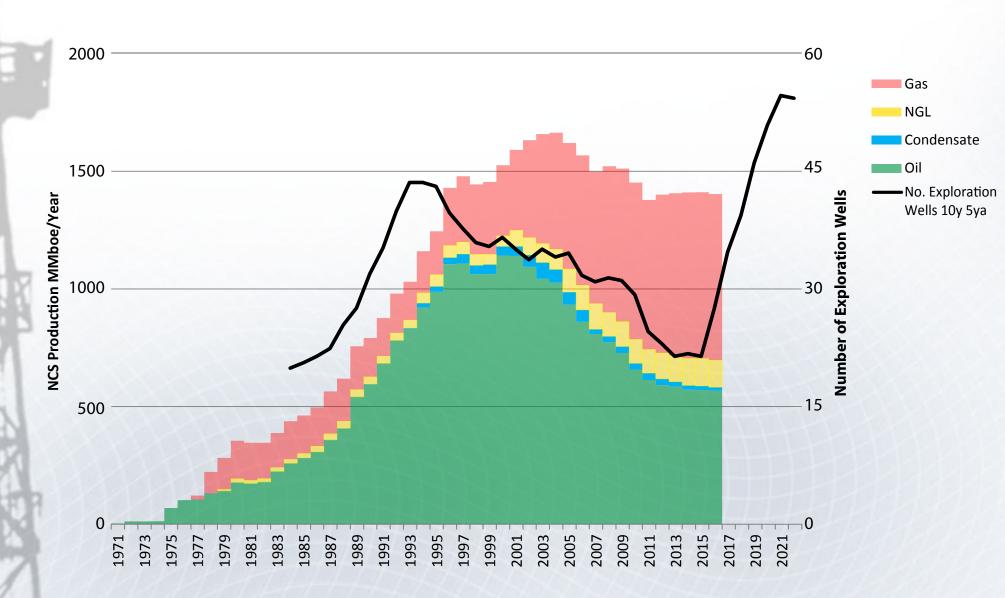
## NCS Production / Exploration Wells





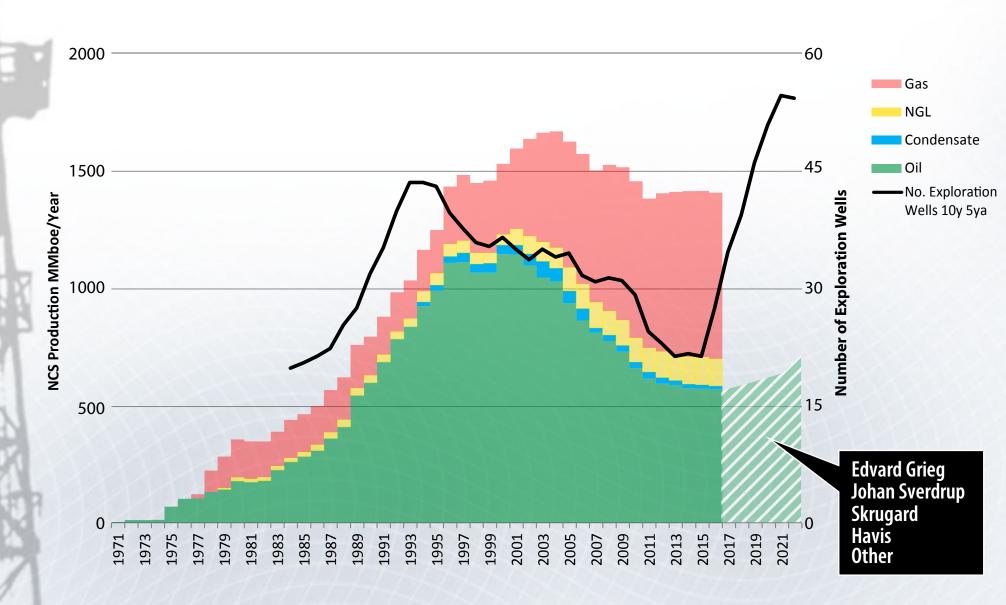
## NCS Production / Exploration Wells + 10y





## NCS Production? / Exploration Wells + 10y



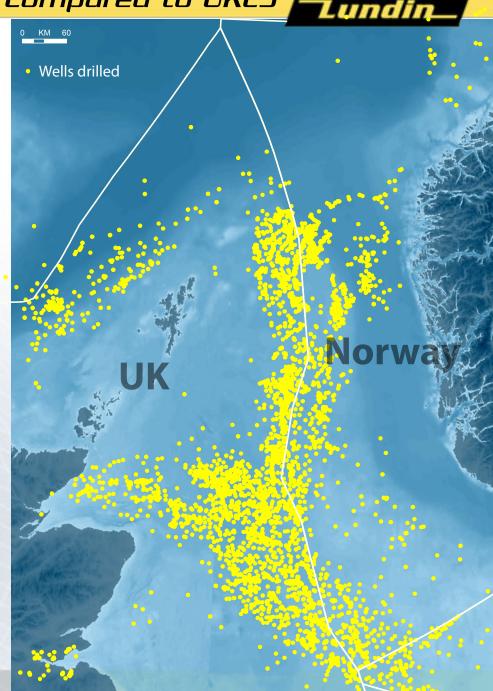


# Fewer Wells Drilled on the NCS Compared to UKCS Lunding

- Same geological risk
- Lower taxes in United Kingdom
- **■** Independent sector in United Kingdom



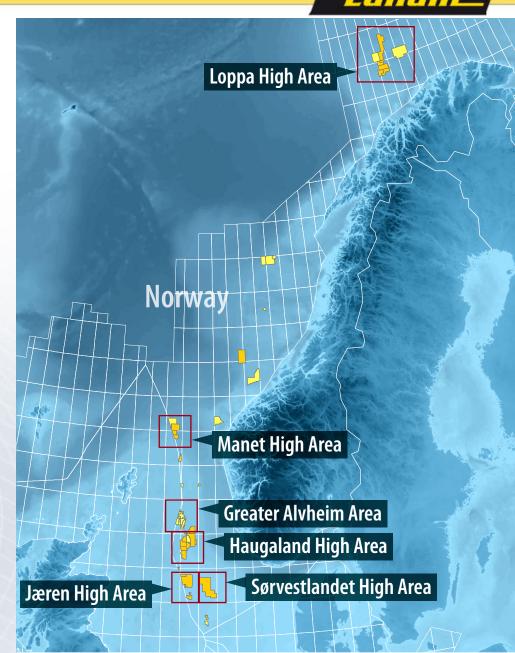
**Lower exploration activity in Norway** 



# Organic Growth Strategy

**Lundin** 

- Find oil with the drill bit organic growth
- Leverage on organisational knowledge
- Portfolio synergy in relation to improved exploration and development
- Design yearly balanced exploration drilling portfolios in relation to
  - > Frontier breakthrough
  - → Growth
  - Mature tie-in
- Maintain production from existing and emerging developments
- Applying and developing data and factdriven subsurface models, based on appreciation of the limitations of data, tools, methods and theories available at any time
- Applying new emerging technology and methods



Johan Sverdrup Discovery - Fourth Generation Exploration

Norway

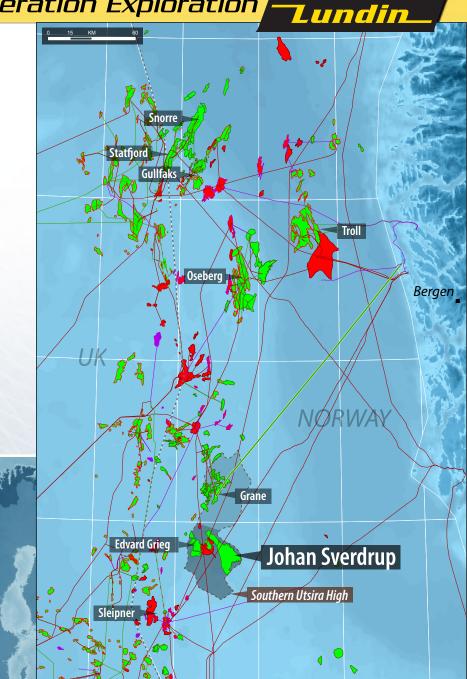
■ In the heart of the Central North Sea

Located on the southern Utsira High (Also referred to as Haugaland High or Greater Luno Area)

40 km south of Grane

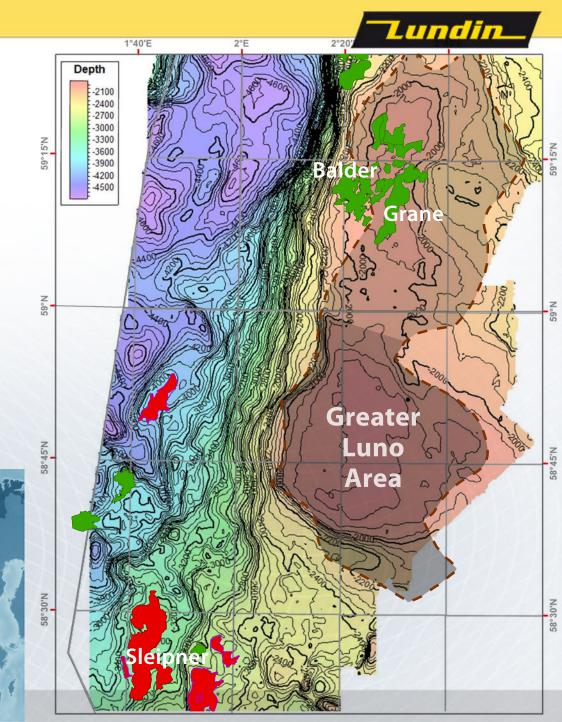
**■** Water depth: 115m

■ Reservoir depth: ~1900m



Greater Luno Area or Haugaland High or South Utsira High

Norway

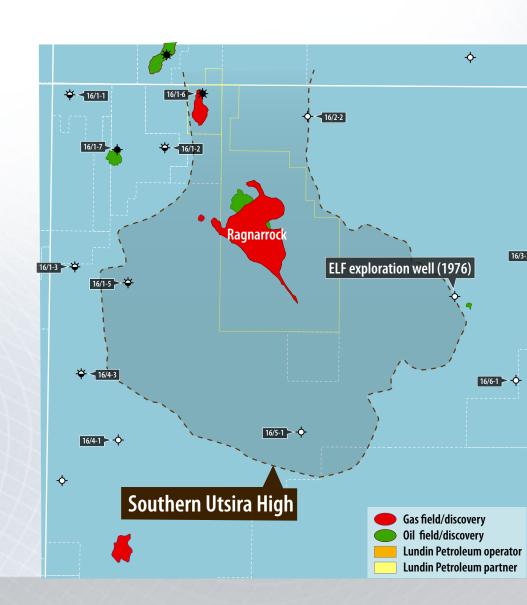




**▶** Four operators since 1965

**►** Limited exploration success

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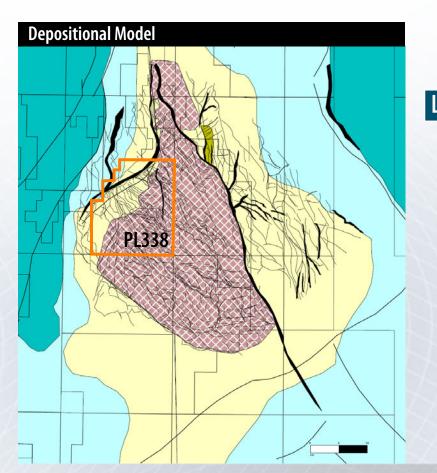


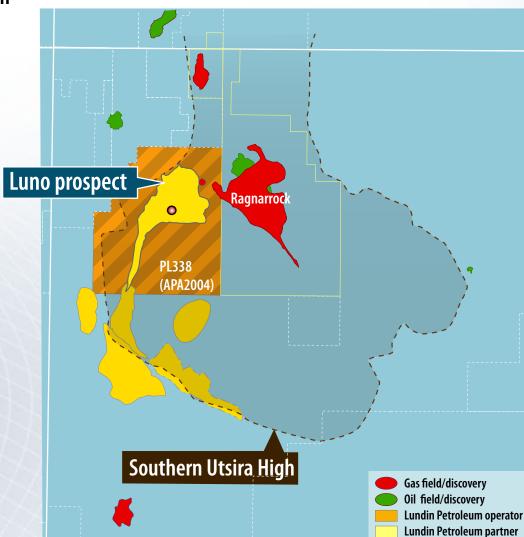
#### **Greater Luno Area Technical Concept**

**■** Jurassic sands deposited around the basement high

**Saturated hydrocarbon system Saturated hydrocarbon system** 

**► Common oil water contact** 





**Lundin** 

#### The Greater Luno Area

3D Sesimic over Luno Prospect > at time of application

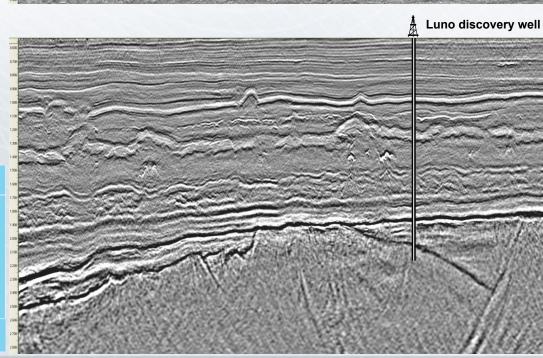
Luno discovery well

Luno discovery well

Luno discovery well

3D Sesimic over Luno Prospect today

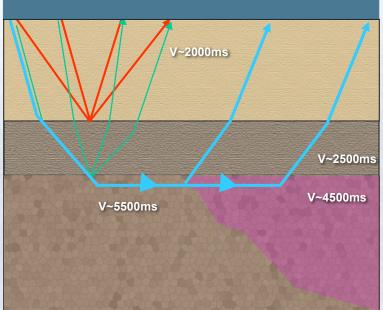


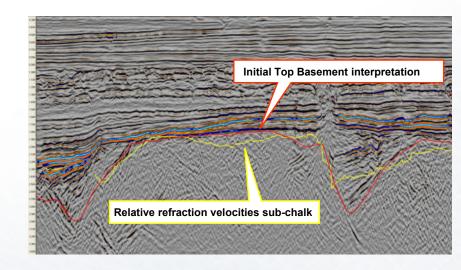


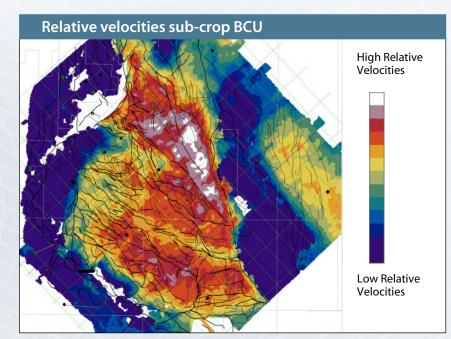
# Seismic Velocities Sub-BCU by use of Refraction Events Lundin





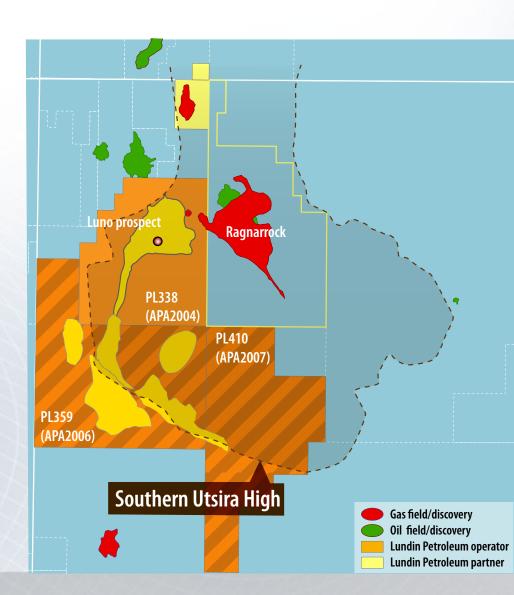






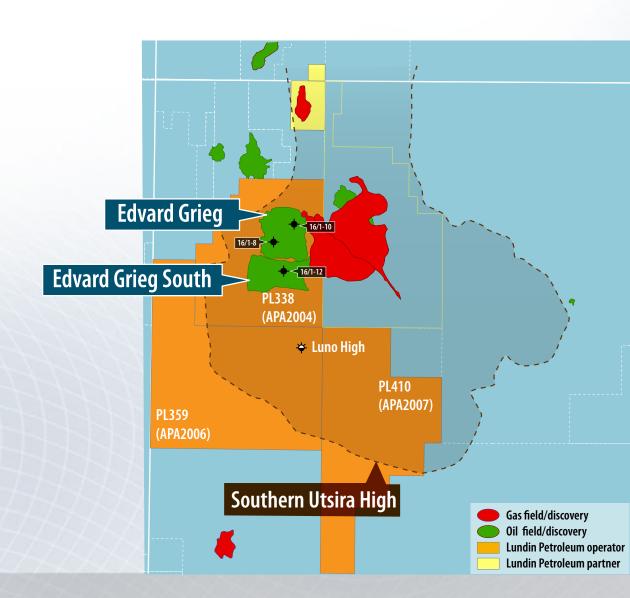


Securing more acreage prior to drilling Luno exploration well





- **► Two exploration wells fail to find Jurassic reservoir**
- **Edvard Grieg South porous** basement discovery

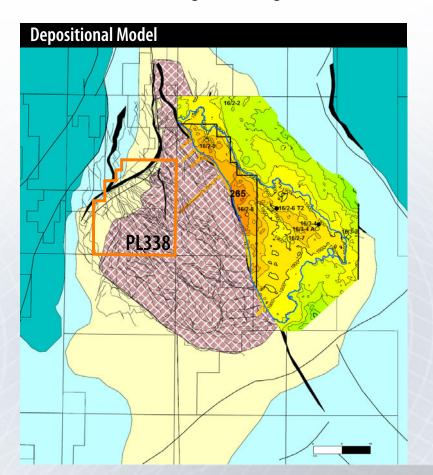


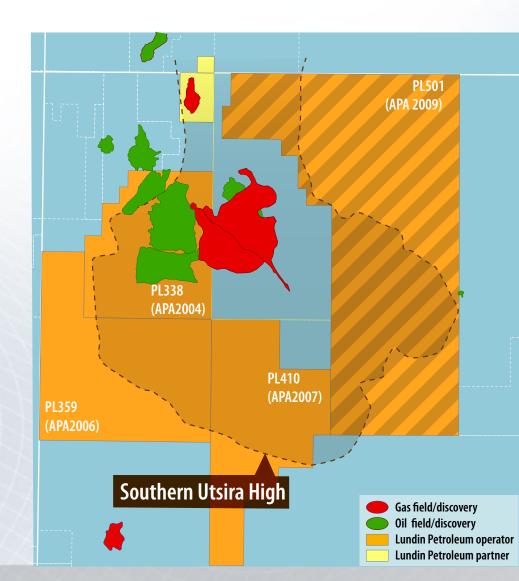


# **Edvard Grieg discovery**



Catalyst to focus on eastern side of Haugaland High

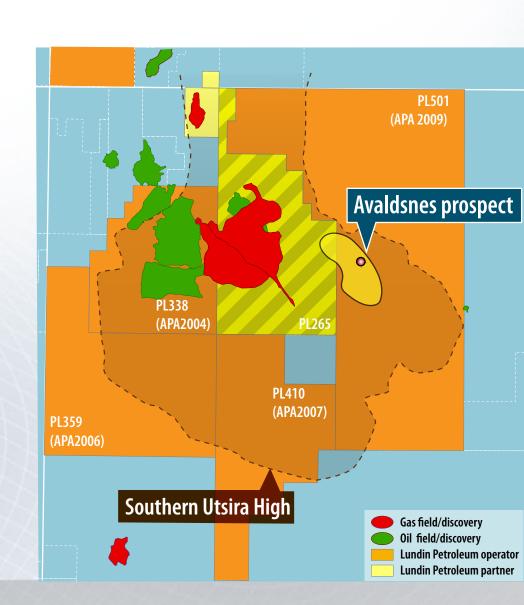






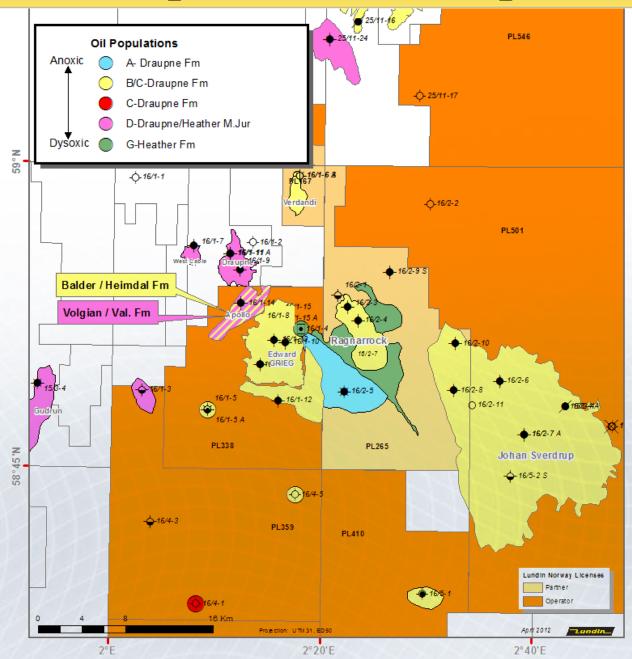
■ Identified Avaldsnes prospect extends into PL265

■ Acquired a 10 percent interest in PL265



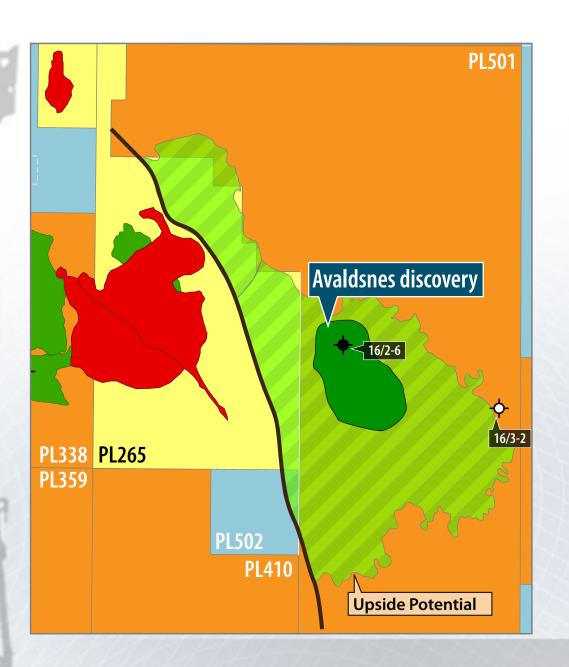
# Oil Population Analysis Essential for Charge History





#### Avaldsnes Discovery





### **►** Avaldsnes Discovery



→ Exceptional DST result gained confidence in the discovery

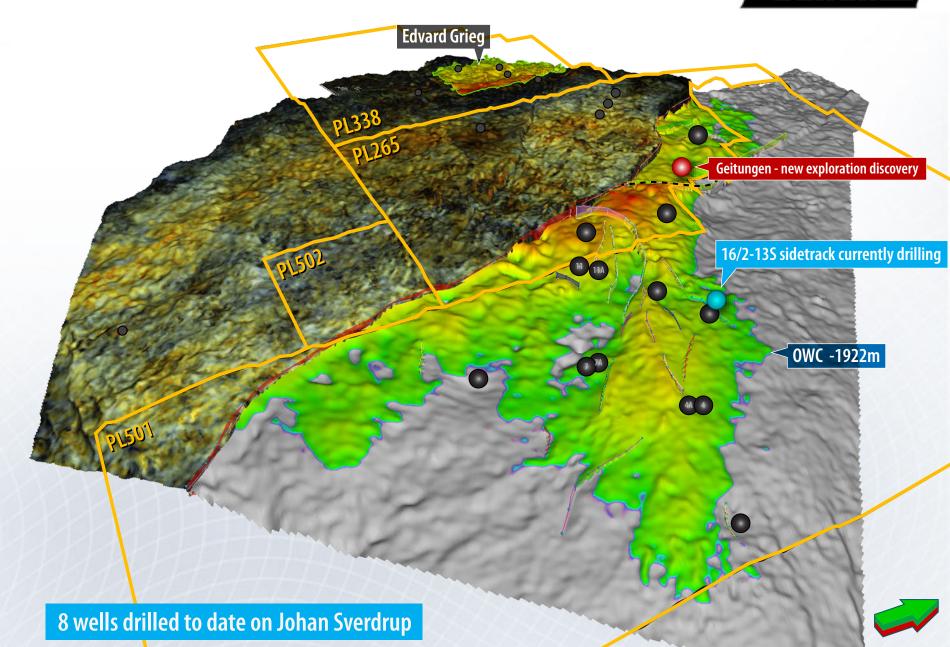
## Upside Potential



- → 200 km<sup>2</sup> of closure
- Uncertainty of reservoir continuity and quality

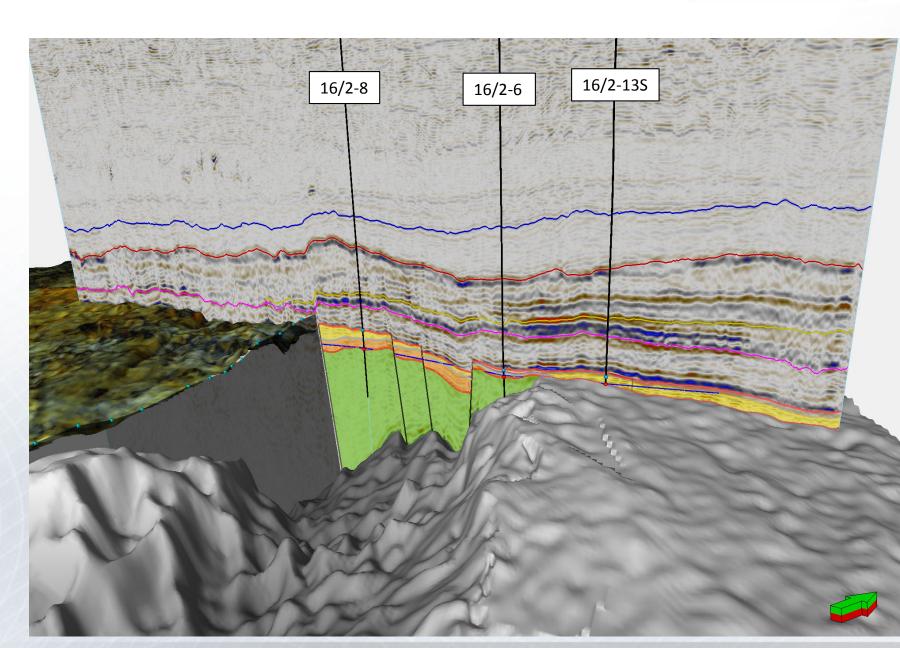
## Johan Sverdrup - A New Giant in Norway





# Johan Sverdrup Geological Model





PL501

JOHAN SVERDRUP

RAGNARROCK

PL502 PL410

APOLLO A

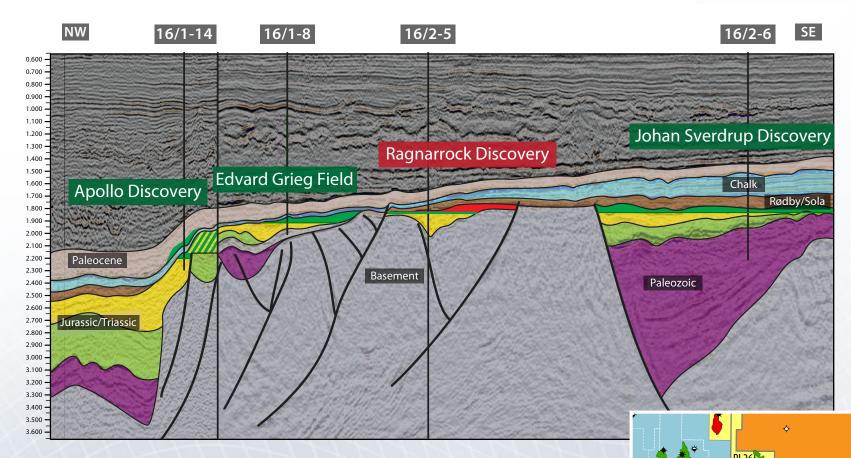
**EDVARD GRIEG** 

PL338

PL359

### Discoveries on the Southern Utsira High

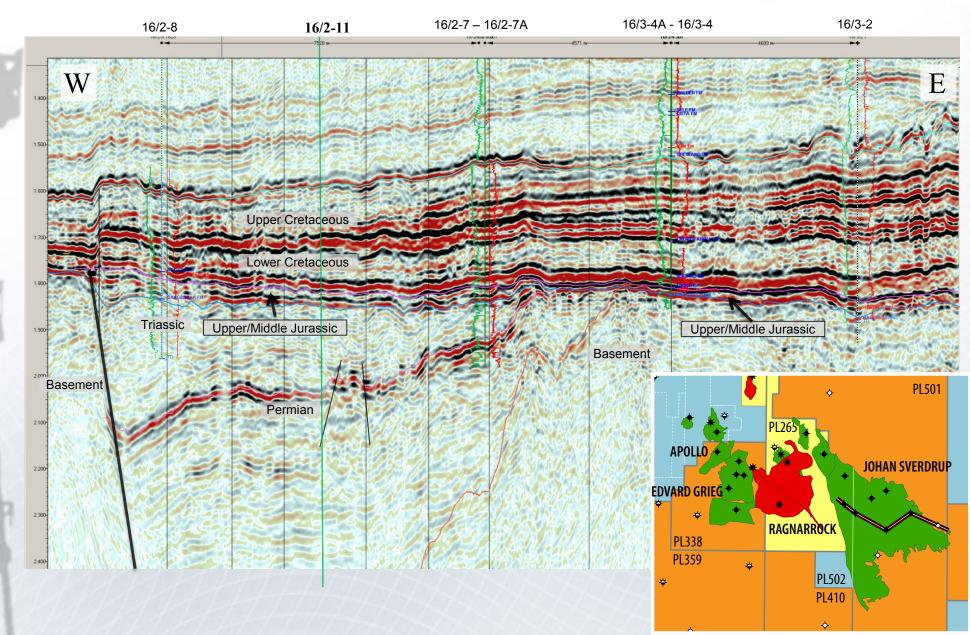


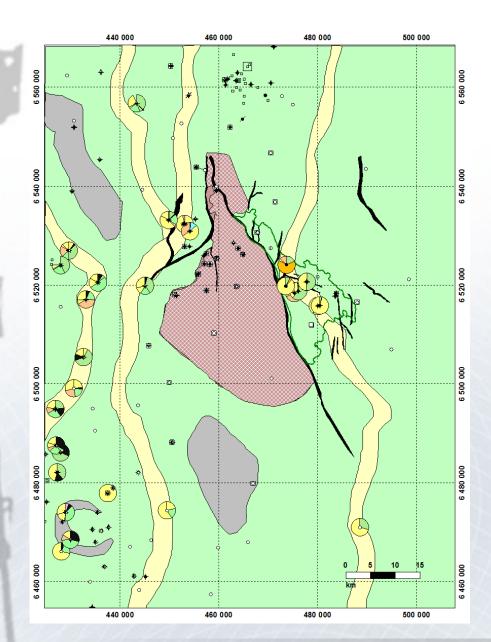


- → Edvard Grieg , Johan Sverdrup and Apollo (Cretaceous) contain under-saturated non-biodegraded oil
- → Main migration from 1.5 Ma to present day
- → Several glacial-induced tilting has redistributed the oil across the high

# Seismic Cross Section through Johan Sverdrup





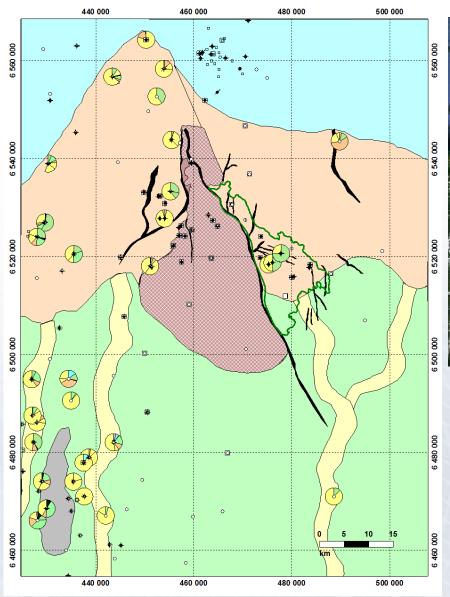






# Middle Jurassic Hugin Formation Palaeogeography





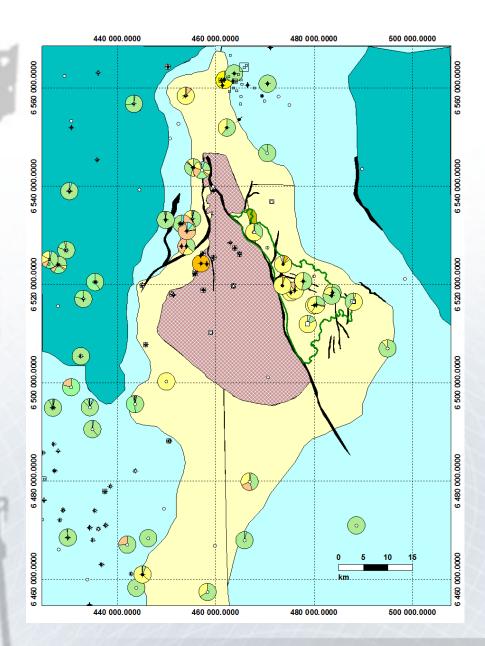


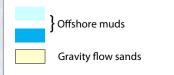
Pulau Tarakan delta, eastern Borneo



# Upper Jurassic Draupne Formation Palaeogeography Lundin







# WF11551 p9 09.

# Johan Sverdrup Exploration and Delineation Drilling



#### Exploration and delineation drilling:

→ Discovered by well 16/2-6 in 2010

→ 6 delineation wells in 2011 unfolded the resource range

→ Delineation wells in 2012 will narrow the range

→ Additional delineation wells will be needed in 2013

#### Results so far:

→ Extremely good reservoir 28% porosity and 10-40 darcy permeability, Volgian reservoir sandstone overlying older Upper to Middle Jurassic good reservoir sandstone and weathered basement

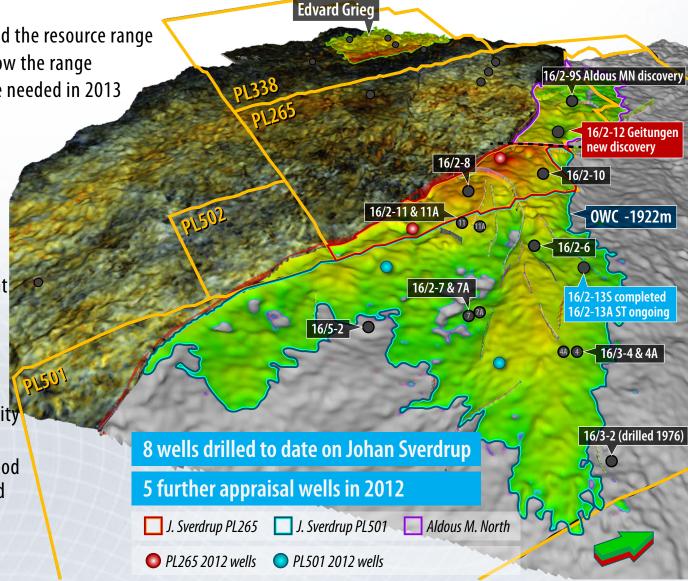
→ OWC varying between 1922 to 1935 m MSL

#### Main reservoir uncertainties:

→ Top reservoir depth reflecting velocity variations in overburden

→ Thickness variation of extremely good reservoir versus good reservoir sand

- → Reservoir wettability
- → Variations in oil-water contacts
- > Varying aquifer support



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# Subsurface Learning on the Southern Utsira High



#### Play concept in 2004:

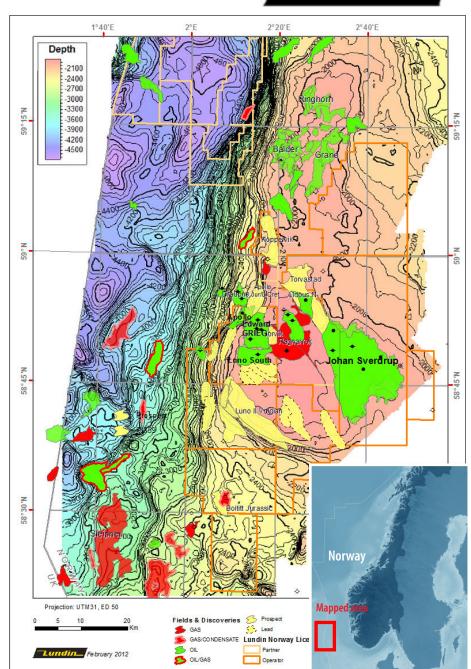
- → Thin Jurassic sands over inlier basins and basement with a saturated system with a 40-50 m oil leg and a common OWC over the whole high
- → Potential stratigraphic traps fringing the high in the west and southwest

#### Results in 2012:

- → Edvard Grieg proved the concept in 2007 and converted Johan Sverdrup to a low risk prospect (P45%)
- → Apollo proved the concept in 2010

#### ■ Main learning:

- → Light under-saturated oil flanking saturated oil and gas discovery
- → Late migration of oil into Edvard Grieg and Johan Sverdrup
- → Extreme to very good reservoir quality of the Upper Jurassic sands
- → Producible oil in weathered basement in Tellus and Luno South



# Summary - Seeing is Believing



- The last years exploration effort by a diversity of subsurface-focused companies demonstrates that the decline in discoveries was not subsurface-based
- To release the exploration potential, companies with a fact-based knowledge creation culture are needed:
  - → Several integrated multicultural upstream companies
  - → Cash flow to test the new concepts
  - → Continuous balanced exploration is a must
  - → Play models must include, but not be limited by facts
  - → Investments in new technology
  - → Hard core data sampling is a must (DST has proved very valuable)
  - → Indirect data necessary, but never sufficient (core is core!)
  - → Understand the ambiguity of DTMT
  - → Integrate at highest possible entropy level

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# Recycling is a Key Word



#### ■ Recycling licences

→ Utsira area licences are 4th generation exploration. Majors have been in the area from 1965

#### Recycle play models

→ Similar licence clusters have been established on NCS prior to drilling at inverted Jurassic high settings

#### Recycle wells and seismic

- → All relevant exploration wells are internally reinvestigated for biostratigraphic rezonation and hydrocarbon system analysis using newest technology available
- → Seismic is routinely reprocessed internally or externally for improved image. New data acquired where necessary.

## Recycling people

- → Industry mergers and acquisitions like Saga/Hydro/Statoil provide recruitment base for opportunistic organisations getting the right people
- → Success is attractive



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Contingent Resources are those quantities of petroleum estimated, as of a given date, to be potentially recoverable from known accumulations using established technology or technology under development, but are not currently considered to be commercially recoverable due to one or more contingencies. Contingencies may include factors such as economic, legal, environmental, political and regulatory matters or a lack of markets. There is no certainty that it will be commercially viable for the Company to produce any portion of the Contingent Resources.

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\_\_Lundin\_\_

# Thank You!

Piet Hein, Danish mathematician

"To know what thou knowest not is in essence omniscience"