

**AAPG Annual Convention  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
May 11-14, 2003**

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### **The West African Atlantic Margin—A New Focus for Exploration Portfolios**

West Africa's Atlantic Margin Coast offers a series of challenging and exciting opportunities and is emerging as a new focus area in an increasing number of exploration portfolios. A number of countries, such as Senegal, are poised to become hydrocarbon producers, whilst others, including Sierra Leone and Liberia are extending their efforts to attract investment.

Multiple play types and petroleum systems exist, many of them poorly explored, from the proven pre-rift Silurian source rocks to the predominantly marine Post-Rift depositional sequences of the West African margin. Additionally, the recent success in deep and ultradeep waters has been stimulated by the deep-sea channel and fan complexes seen in Nigeria and Angola.

In this presentation, IHS Energy Group will review the potential of the West African Atlantic Margin, using wells, seismic and remote sensing, together with published literature. New play concepts will be analysed and placed in an economic context, by comparing and contrasting the petroleum economics and sensitivities of various oil field sizes in both deep and shallow water environments. New plays in established countries such as Angola will be compared with potential new emerging hotspots to build an evaluation of the entire West African Margin.