

**AAPG Annual Convention
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Canada's East Coast Exploration Offshore Newfoundland: Paying Your Tuition

Significant amounts have been paid in tuition fees by industry in the exploration of the Grand Banks; more than 100 exploration wells have been drilled to date to discover reserves of 2.5 billion barrels. Drilling began on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland some 25 years ago and continued at a relatively steady pace through the 1980's. In the past decade the focus has been on development of the discoveries made in 1979 to 1986—all in the Jeanne d'Arc basin.

The investment may be about to pay off. Significant commercial oil production commenced at the end of the 1990s from the Jeanne d'Arc discoveries. New exploration ideas and technologies have evolved and matured with new concepts in basin reevaluation. New technologies are refining predictions of both hydrocarbon sources and reservoirs, and allowing for the drilling of wells in deep water.