

## Hydrocarbon Potential of the Cretaceous Slope, Offshore Veracruz, Mexico

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Offshore Veracruz drilling activity during last three decades has been focused mainly, to found or delineate fields in the Cretaceous platform plays with 2d seismic data and the x90s 3D survey in the northern part of the Golden Lane. Carbonate reservoirs have produced around 1 BBOE., in shelf wackestone and reefal and beach grainstone and packstone. Geological framework of the Cretaceous platform and its tertiary cover was identified originally with the 2D data on 70xs, drilling down dip an unsuccessful well in the cretaceous slope. Detailed mapping with 3D seismic data demonstrate regional extension of the Cretaceous talus that runs parallel to the platform rim, mainly characterized by stratigraphic traps and some 4way closure traps undrilled yet. Offshore slope play elements knowledge is as follow: 1) Source rock and generation are similar to the Cretaceous oil fields in the platform plays 2) Reservoir rock were tested in onshore fields, recognizing that distribution and quality is the main risk for the offshore prospects 3) Seal are formed by the tertiary column 4) Stratigraphic and structural traps are present although some bypassed sedimentation can affected trap preservation 5) Migration pathways are laterally distributed up-dip generation-focus and by the extensional fault system 6) Modeling indicates that timing is well documented. A Very important signification, for the economic hydrocarbon offshore potential of the cretaceous slope play are expected, due the exploration and oil yielding of the analogous onshore Tamabra slope play.

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