

Exploration Overview of the Mexican Sector of the Gulf of Mexico

Mario Limon-Gonzalez, *Subdireccion de la Coordinacion Tecnica de Exploracion Gerencia de Modelado Geologico Regional, Pemex Exploracion y Produccion, Av. Adolfo Ruiz Cortinez # 1202 Fracc. Oropeza Edif. Piramide 6to Piso, Villahermosa, Tabasco 86030 Mexico, phone: 01993 310-18-62, mlimong@pep.pemex.com*

Mexico considers of critical importance its gas and oil potential assessment. Taking into account the decline of the reserves and the predicted declination of production of the Cantarell field, Mexico needs to increase the discovery of important volumes of new oil and gas reserves, which will allow to accomplish the future internal demands and to keep its participation in the international market. For these reasons, PEMEX is broadening its exploration strategy to cover and to assess the Mexican sector of one of the three most important hydrocarbon provinces of the world, developing regional and national programs which integrate the entire petroleum systems and its relationship with the main plays discovered in formerly explored areas, correlating them with possible deep water equivalents in the Mexican Gulf area.

This type of work needs to handle and use in an efficient way, the new technologies available in the market, to standardize procedures and methodologies, and to optimize our acquisition and operational techniques, which constitutes and enormous challenge of technology transfer to the PEMEX' exploration and production specialists.

To conclude, we will describe the prolific Campeche Sound and its possible continuity into deeper water, where the folded and faulted Campeche System opens a new exploration target in the southern Gulf of Mexico Basin.
