RWE Dea AG Relies on Consistent, Global Platform for Concept Screening/Optimization and Cost Control

RWE Dea AG’s core business is the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas. As a subsidiary of RWE AG, it owns production facilities in Germany, the United Kingdom, Norway, Denmark and Egypt as well as assets in North Africa, Eastern Europe, South America and elsewhere. Throughout its operations, the company drives success with efficient processes and innovative technologies -- leveraging geo-scientific know-how, state-of-the-art drilling and production techniques, and experience gained during its 114-year history. As a result, when RWE Dea needed a better way to analyse oil and gas projects from exploration to concept selection and field plans, company managers implemented a leading-edge solution from IHS.

Driving Success with Innovation and Efficiency

“I started using IHS QUE$TOR in 2004 as a senior project engineer for the New Venture Departments,” reported Volker Hagmaier. “Since 2012, I have worked as a senior technical advisor and IHS QUE$TOR is one of my main tools for my job. I consider it extremely useful for quick design of field development concepts ‘from reservoir to grid or market,’ including CAPEX and OPEX with a sufficient accuracy within a few days.”

“It’s also very helpful for comparing different development scenarios with respect to costs and creating a reasonable development schedule -- in particular regarding drilling progress and production profile options,” he continued.

Over the years, Hagmaier noted that QUESTOR has been continuously improved by IHS. He believes that the system has become more user friendly – particularly in terms of the balance of flow streams and the different options for surface facilities, which have been optimized. Previously, input and output streams between the units had to be checked often but, today, the flow balance is “almost perfect” according to Hagmaier.

“A significant improvement was the switchover from Excel some years ago,” reported Hagmaier. “Also the pipeline dimensions are very close to the design with other engineering tools. Highly appreciated is the permanent cost update and the increase of development options, e.g. ‘number of concurrent drilling operations’ provided in recent updates to the solution.”

Leveraging and Gaining Expertise

For occasional tricky issues, Hagmaier turns to IHS customer service if he cannot find the answers in the QUESTOR Help Topics. The customer support team provides excellent, quick and helpful advice. Furthermore, IHS tracks and incorporates user proposals for additional improvements to the system.

“RWE Dea regularly uses the solution to provide development costs for various onshore and offshore oil/gas prospects under evaluations,” said Hagmaier. “Naturally, we overwrite default values when we have real costs from similar projects.

The IHS solution is very user friendly for ‘non experts’ and not too complicated when it is used by individual disciplines, Hagmaier concluded. Once a reasonable base case has been performed, other team members may vary and utilize this case quite easily.

Challenge

- Rapid and accurate analysis of global oil and gas projects from exploration to concept selection and field plan development
- Project cost modeling, evaluation and decision support for global application

Solution

- IHS Energy Technology Solutions with IHS QUESTOR™

Results

- Saved time creating quick design of a field development concept ‘from reservoir to grid or market’ including CAPEX and OPEX
- Compared cost scenarios for different exploration and production development plans
- Created reasonable development schedule, in particular regarding drilling progress and production profile options
- Provided ‘non-experts’ with a tool they can use to adapt one base case for other studies

Read more about IHS QUESTOR at www.IHS.com/questordemo

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