Techlog Software Installed at BG Group

Diverse, dispersed user base and hardware constraints overcome in successful integration project

**CHALLENGE**
Deploy the Techlog® wellbore software platform across BG Group's global team of petrophysicists and overcome a lack of disk space and server capability. Solve data management issues, particularly project migration and disk space.

**SOLUTION**
Schlumberger offered a customized approach to integration and training, upgraded BG's Citrix server and disk space to meet project requirements and simplify upgrades, and provided remote access for the widely distributed team of petrophysicists. All software customizations were tested and deployed within the new company folder and the installation file, and an ongoing support provision was maintained.

**RESULTS**
- Successful Techlog software implementation has driven process and interpretation efficiencies
- Tailored training allowed power users to train wider community
- Local installation and remote access, depending on user need
- Ongoing support ensures optimal user experience

“Working with the Schlumberger software team to integrate Techlog has been a positive collaboration. We benefitted from a considered and tailored approach to the project—from planning through to installation, training, and support. Using Techlog software for our petrophysical interpretation saves time on important processes, and improves workflow efficiency.”

Tim Pritchard
Head of Petrophysics
BG Group

**Tailored training**
BG Group is the world leader in natural gas and had used an alternative supplier for its petrophysical analyses and database workflows for over 20 years. After re-evaluating its software commitments and issuing a formal tender, BG Group decided to move its petrophysics to Techlog software, while retaining its existing database functionality.

BG Group has over 40 petrophysicists worldwide, organized into different teams with varied needs. The project team identified the top 10 “power users” who would need the deepest levels of Techlog expertise. They were given a week-long foundation training course, followed by a month of familiarization. After this they underwent advanced training and undertook thorough benchmarking, results testing, and workflow validation. They were assisted by an onsite Schlumberger Techlog expert, who produced a customized training manual.

Regular users were trained on the Techlog software basics by Schlumberger engineers, assisted by the power users who acted as in-house experts. For support continuity, two further onsite support engineers were provided. Web conference refresher sessions were also held.

**Installation**
The Citrix server machine at BG Group needed to handle up to 25 petrophysicists running Techlog software simultaneously. Initially it had the power to run Techlog software for only six users, especially when complex workflows or significant amounts of data were involved. To overcome this, Techlog software was installed temporarily on power users’ machines while a more powerful Citrix farm was set up. These users then migrated to the remote Citrix setup to enable thorough module testing.

Running the platform remotely allowed the support team to provide more frequent and efficient upgrades, since only one was required on the server, rather than upgrades for each user.

BG Group also requested that each field petrophysicist had Techlog software locally installed on their laptop to support work when remote access isn’t possible.
Data management
BG Group’s dedicated petrophysics data manager aided the migration of active project data. Disk space became an issue, because of data duplication caused by the data transfer. To overcome this, a dedicated petrophysics folder was created for petrophysical data and Techlog projects. It was designed to give sufficient space to all the petrophysicists, and allow the data manager and head of petrophysics to manage the number of projects being created. In addition, 200 GB of storage space was allocated for the 40 petrophysicists.

Legacy data was kept in the existing database, to support viewing of historic projects.

Customizations
BG Group required a number of customizations to the Techlog software to support their business requirements. Charts, plots, workflows, python scripts, families, and aliases were customized for global use in the company folder. Petrophysicists were given read-only access to a master script containing all company algorithms for proprietary capabilities. Users apply the routines from this master script when creating new scripts to ensure standardization.

Post-installation
BG Group used an onsite Techlog expert during the first eight months of deployment, ensuring users had easy access to support, taking part in deployment meetings, advising on best practice, and facilitating communication between Schlumberger and BG Group. Post-deployment, BG Group has a team of Schlumberger software engineers supporting its applications, infrastructure, and data management. In addition, the Schlumberger software engineer present during the project remained on site as part of this support team.

Using Techlog software has saved users at BG Group significant time and improved workflow efficiency. One user reported that using Techlog software for saturation height modeling—for instance—took him half a day, as opposed to two weeks in Microsoft Excel. Another remarked that they can now write complex routines for unconventional shale gas reservoirs that calculate the best parameters to use, rather than having to manually pick them—which used to take weeks.

E-mail sisinfo@slb.com or contact your local Schlumberger representative to learn more.