***Field Guide for AAPG Hedberg Field Research Conference April 15 20, 1999, Deep-Water Sandstones, Brushy Canyon Formation, West Texas***

*by* R.T. Beauboef, C. Rossen, F.B. Zelt, M.D. Sullivan, D.C. Mohrig, and D.C. Jennette, 2000; AAPG Continuing Education Notes 40, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, P.O. Box 979, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74101 U.S.A.; 48 pages, 11 x 17 inch, wirebound; $52, $48 for AAPG members; ISBN 0-89181-189-3.

The Brushy Canyon Formation outcrop belt in the Guadalupe and Delaware Mountains has received much attention in the last decade. Many authors have studied the outcrops that are accessible along the highway. It was not until the mid-1990's that the less accessible outcrops on private ranch land became available for study. Many oil companies have taken field trips to the outcrops and participated in consortium studies of the sequence. Exxon Production Research Co. (EPR) began some of the earliest comprehensive work on the interval and published descriptions of several of the outcrops (for example, Zelt and Rossen 1995). Since that publication EPR has continued studying the interval and used the work extensively in their company's deep-water training program. The authors hosted an AAPG Hedberg Conference in April of 1999 and produced the field guide reviewed here.

The guide is a relatively thin book, but is packed with high quality photos and figures. The format of the guidebook consists of figures with explanatory text. The field guide consists of the following sections: 1) Introduction and Overview; 2) Outcrop Localities; 3) Slope Systems; 4) Basin Floor Systems; and 5) Extended Bibliography. The overview provides a concise structural and stratigraphic summary of the Delaware basin. The principles of sequence stratigraphy and depositional systems are reviewed and applied to the Brushy Canyon Formation. The depositional model developed from the interval is well presented and sets up the series of outcrops described. The introduction clearly places each outcrop into the depositional model. The sections on Slope and Basin Floor Systems consist of outcrop photos, drawings, outcrop gamma ray logs and various interpretation figures from 7 key outcrops. The text is generally short and concise, but clearly describes the outcrop or principle shown in a given figure. The progressive change in deep-water channel and sheet architectures along the oblique, depositional dip section of the outcrops is well documented in the photos and figures.

This guidebook is clearly aimed at the petroleum geologist working deepwater systems. The guidebook is a compilation of the Exxon training materials coming out of an ongoing research program that has lasted for several years. This book provides some of the best publicly available documentation of one of the key outcrop belts for deepwater depositional systems and for use as analog data for reservoir modeling of deepwater developments.

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