

SPE OVERVIEW

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) is the largest individual membership organization serving practically every type of professional working in the E&P segments of the worldwide oil and gas industry. SPE provides a global forum for the exchange of technology to meet the world's energy needs both today and in the future.

MISSION

The mission of SPE is to collect, disseminate, and exchange technical knowledge concerning the exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources and related technologies for the public benefit; and to provide opportunities for professionals to enhance their technical and professional competence.

HISTORY

The history of SPE begins within the American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME). AIME was founded in 1871 in Pennsylvania, USA, to advance the production of metals, minerals, and energy resources through the application of engineering. In 1913, a standing committee on oil and gas was created within AIME and proved to be the genesis of SPE. The Oil and Gas Committee of AIME soon evolved into the Petroleum Division of AIME as membership grew and as interest among the members was more clearly delineated among the mining, metallurgical, and petroleum specializations. In 1957, the organization was officially founded as SPE, a constituent society of AIME. SPE became a separately incorporated organization in 1985.

STRUCTURE

SPE is governed by a 27-member board of directors composed of member representatives from around the world. Each of SPE's regions and board-endorsed technical specialties are represented by a director. These directors, together with two at-large directors, the president, president-elect, immediate past president, and vice president of finance, constitute the SPE Board of Directors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The SPE Board of Directors is the policy-making and governing body of SPE. SPE board committees—Audit, Education and Professional Activities, Finance and Administration, Membership, Print and Electronic Media, and Technical Programs and Meetings—oversee many of SPE's administrative and operating responsibilities. The board retains final approval/disapproval authority on all SPE matters, including any actions the board committees may take.

Nomination/Election Process

The SPE Nominating Committee annually considers candidates for president-elect and the regional, at-large, and technical directors and officers whose terms expire the following year. Nominating committee recommendations are approved by the SPE Board of Directors. Any SPE member may submit nominations for president, vice president of finance, and at-large director positions. A regional nominating committee submits to the SPE Nominating Committee at least two candidates as nominees for director of its region. The SPE Board of Directors reports the nominations made by the nominating committee annually in the April issue of the *Journal of Petroleum Technology*.

Standing Committees

SPE standing committees provide direction for SPE activities, programs, and events. The SPE president-elect makes appointments to these committees annually. Each committee reports to one of the SPE board committees or the SPE Board of Directors. For detailed information on the structure and charge of any of these committees, contact bd_liaison@spe.org.

- ATCE
- Awards
- Books Development
- Carbon Capture and Sequestration
- Continuing Education
- Distinguished Lecturer
- Editorial Review
- Education & Accreditation
- Energy Information
- Engineering Professionalism
- Forum Series Coordinating
- Forum Series Implementation—Eastern Hemisphere
- Forum Series Implementation—Western Hemisphere
- *JPT* Special Series
- Membership
- Oil & Gas Reserves
- R&D Advisory
- Student Development
- Talent Council
- TIG Coordinating
- Young Professionals Coordinating

NATIONAL COUNCILS

National councils provide a framework for sections within a country to pursue common interests. National councils may be established with SPE board approval in any country in which SPE has more than one section.

Conditions established by the SPE board for national councils are as follows:

1. A national council may be formed in a country where SPE has multiple sections at the request of a majority of the sections within that country and after approval of its operating plan by the SPE Board of Directors.
2. National councils are advisory bodies, and any actions of councils must be consistent with policies approved by the SPE Board of Directors.
3. Councils provide the framework for SPE members and sections in a given country to pursue common interests in technical and professional matters related to SPE's purpose and scope of technology as approved by the SPE board.
4. Participation in a national council is to be determined by each individual section, and such participation is voluntary on the part of each section.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Regional councils provide a framework for SPE sections within a multicountry area to exchange information, coordinate SPE activities, and pursue common interests. Such regions may not necessarily follow SPE region boundaries, so they are defined here as an appropriate geographic area as determined by the council.

Conditions established by the SPE board for regional councils are as follows:

1. A regional council may be formed in a region where SPE has multiple sections at the request of a majority of the sections within that area and after approval of its operating plan by the SPE Board of Directors.
2. Regional councils are advisory bodies, and any actions of councils must be consistent with policies approved by the SPE Board of Directors. Regional councils have no governing or policy-making authority.
3. Regional councils provide the framework for SPE members and sections in a given area to pursue common technical and professional interests related to SPE's purpose and scope of technology as approved by the SPE board.
4. Participation in a regional council is to be determined by each individual section, and such participation is voluntary on the part of each section.
5. A council's operating plan shall define its purpose, membership/officer responsibilities, and procedures to be used in its establishment and operation. Councils should provide updated officer lists to SPE annually.

SPE FOUNDATION

The SPE Foundation, made up of former SPE presidents, is dedicated to generating funds to support and augment key SPE programs, including Distinguished Lecturer, scholarships, continuing education, technical publications, textbook development, and electronic publishing. The SPE Foundation welcomes the support of all individuals, corporations, and organizations that have a continuing interest in the advancement of technologies to meet energy resource requirements today and in the future.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

SPE members are encouraged to take an active role in SPE programs. Member participation and leadership enable SPE to achieve its mission of collecting and disseminating technical information relevant to the oil and gas industry. The skills and knowledge obtained through participation in the wide range of SPE programs and activities can have direct application to a member's professional career. Opportunities to serve include the following:

- Administrative, technical, or awards committee member
- eMentor
- Meeting conduct or program committee member
- Membership recruiter
- Scholarship supporter
- Section officer
- Study group participant
- Technical paper author or reviewer

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Exhibition Opportunities—sales@spe.org or www.spe.org/exhibitor

Submitting Paper Proposals—tech-prog@spe.org or www.spe.org/paperproposals

SPE LEADERSHIP

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Executive Office—execdir@spe.org

SPE Foundation—www.spe.org/giving

SPE President—president@spe.org

MEMBERSHIP

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PETROLEUM PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

www.spe.org/certification

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