Iceland - exploring a new frontier in the Arctic

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Dreki Area – Jan Mayen Microcontinent

- North Dreki area is part of the Jan Mayen Microcontinent with indications of continental strata and suitable structures for hydrocarbon systems.
- Expected similarities to licensing areas on and off East-Greenland and off Mid-Norway
 - Møre and Vøring basins are proven hydrocarbon provinces.







First exploration and production licenses

- Three licenses granted
 - Faroe Petroleum (67.5%)
 Iceland Petroleum (7,5%)
 Petoro Iceland (25%)
 - Ithaca Petroleum (56.25%)
 Kolvetni (18,75%)
 Petoro Iceland (25%)
 - CNOOC International (60%)
 Eykon Energy (15%)
 Petoro Iceland (25%)







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Licence timelines



Exploration data

- Major sources for 2D seismic reflection data:
 - Norwegian/Icelandic governmental surveys in 1985 and 1988, available from Orkustofnun or NPD in Norway.
 - Spectrum reprocessing of the data, available from Spectrum.
 - InSeis survey in 2001, available from Orkustofnun.
 - Wavefield-Inseis survey in 2008 and reprocessed 2001 data, available from Spectrum.
 - TGS-NOPEC survey in 2002, available from Orkustofnun.
 - Norwegian governmental surveys in 2011 and 2012 available from NPD.







Exploration data

- Shallow boreholes from the DSDP and ODP, reaching down to Mid-Eocene.
- Surface seafloor samples.
 - Report on sampling by TGS and VBPR in 2011 available for sale from VBPR.
 - The report contains key information on the potential of the area.
 - Suggest seepage of Jurassic oil and the existence of a petroleum system.
 - Rock samples collected in Icelandic EEZ by NPD in 2011 and 2012, accessible at NPD upon request to Orkustofnun.
 - Confirm a presence of pre-opening sediments.







Tectonic History of the JMMC





Blischke et al. (2011) used geo-chronological data by Gaina et al. (2009)



Geological cross sections - regional correlations important

- Liverpool Land Basin
 - Mainly Upper Permian to Jurassic sediments.
 - Thin layers of mapped Cretaceous sediments.



3 Jameson Land Basin, Liverpool High and Basin. (Modified from Hamann et al. 2005)



Møre Basin

 Thick section of Cretaceous sediments which thins out towards the marginal high area at the western margin.



Møre Basin. (Modified from Brekke 2000)



Møre-Trøndelag Fault Complex

Structural Elements - JMMC

- JMMC located between volcanic complex of Jan Mayen Island and the northeastern coastal shelf area of Iceland.
- The eastern margin is characterized by an eastward thickening Tertiary strata and basaltic lava flows.
- The western margin are characterized by tilted extensional fault blocks and an extensive complex of sills or lava flows which covers the deep basins west of the ridge.
- Northern part
 - Well defined, continuous and flat-topped single ridge.
- Southern part
 - several smaller ridges which become indistinct towards south.



Blischke et al. 2013 modified after : Blischke et al. (2011), Peron-Pinvidic et al. (2012), Vogt et al. (2009), Gaina et al. (2009) & Gernigon et al. (2012)



Southern Jan Mayen Ridges - cross sections

- Southern Ridge Complex
 - Jan Mayen Basin, Jan Mayen Trough, Southern Ridges and Norway Basin.
- Strongly affected by normal and listric faulting.
- Evidences of post-breakup uplift and tilting.











Bathymetry (m

80° N

75° N

70° N

65° N

60° N



30° E

Northeast Atlantic Geoscience Tectonostratigraphic Atlas

- Multinational research project of nine Geological Surveys.
- Developing a new tectonostratigraphic atlas of the Northeast Atlantic region, with emphasis on conjugate margin comparison.
- Increase knowledge on the geological development of the Northeast Atlantic.
- Project will be launched in late 2014.
 - Confidential for 2 years.
- **14 Sponsors**

NAG-TEC:





Conclusions

- Three licenses granted in the Dreki area.
- Recent independent sampling by VBPR/TGS and NPD confirms the presence of pre-opening sediments.
- Pre-rift stratigraphy probably analogous to the Møre and Liverpool Land Basins.
- NAG-TEC project will form the essential knowledge base for setting regional exploration priorities for the next decade and beyond.
- Booth No. : 9





Thank you very much for your attention !



Jan Mayen Island with view towards the Beerenberg (2277 m) stratovolcano.



