

## **Beicip-Franlab technical experience in Canada**

### **Interview with Laurent Cuilhé, Director of Operations, Beicip-Franlab.**

Beicip-Franlab: Beicip-Franlab has been awarded a new study to conduct a resource assessment in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. Can you provide us with more details on this study?

Laurent Cuilhé: The project is known as NL PFA 1, also called "Newfoundland Play Fairway Analysis 1"; it is an exploration study of the Flemish Pass Basin off the coast of Newfoundland. Beicip-Franlab is collaborating with Nalcor Energy, Newfoundland and Labrador's provincial energy company responsible for developing the provinces energy resources.

Does the resource assessment cover the entire offshore area of Newfoundland and Labrador?

Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador covers over 1.5 million square kilometers – it is a vast offshore area and for this reason, Nalcor Energy has decided to take a phased and systematic approach to ensure a full evaluation of all of Newfoundland and Labrador's basins over time. This process is an integral part of Nalcor's exploration strategy. Future license rounds scheduled for 2016, 2017 and beyond will follow the same process with detailed resource assessments being conducted over those areas with results released prior to bid closing.

When will the results of the study be available to the global oil and gas industry?

The results of the study will be released to the global oil and gas industry in September 2015 before the closing of the license round in November 2015. .

This is not the first project Beicip-Franlab has been assigned in the same zone. Can you confirm?

This study actually constitutes a continuation of several other Play Fairway Analysis (PFA) projects off the Nova Scotia coast that have already been awarded a few years ago and successfully completed. These PFA project used Beicip-Franlab's latest technologies in stratigraphic modelling with [DionisosFlow®](#) software solution and in basin modelling with [TemisFlow®](#) solution.

Can you explain how these projects got started?

In 2009, Beicip-Franlab started a hydrocarbon exploration study at the request of the Nova Scotia provincial government. The client was the governmental OETR entity supervising offshore energy research. This project, labeled NS PFA 1, took place between 2009 and 2011. The study focused on the entire sedimentary series of the Scotian Shelf, along with an in depth analysis of the potential of a carbonated interval, referred to as the Late Jurassic Abenaki Formation.

What happen after the report of Beicip-Franlab was provided to the client?

When the blocks went up for sale in 2011 and 2012, our study was indeed followed by large investments by international major operators. This is one of the reasons why Beicip-Franlab was tasked with overseeing two other projects.

Which projects are you referring to?

From the end of 2013 until mid-2014, our teams worked on the NS PFA 2 exploration study of the Laurentian Basin. This study was intended, like the previous one, to prepare the Call for Bids held in 2014. We collaborated with OERA, formerly OETR, which stands for Offshore Energy Resources Agency. On 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Beicip-Franlab was awarded the NS PFA3 study, and joined again its forces with OERA. This study helped promote the 2015 Call for Bids covering the Georges Bank zone.

It's worth highlighting that our knowledge of Canada and especially the provinces of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador has been considerably expanded within the past few years.

No question. This expertise has allowed us to win new projects and solidify our position as a key player in the E&P market in this sector.

Thank you Laurent. We wish the team lots of success with these new projects.

*Interview by Jennifer Lancirica*

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### **Appendices:**

WILSON H., LUHESHI M.; COLLETTA B., 2011, Detailed play fairway analysis sheds new light on Nova Scotia offshore, Oil & gas journal,109,14.

WILSON, H., M. LUHESHI, D. ROBERT, B. COLLETTA, 2012, A Re-Evaluation of Play Risks and Volumes, Offshore Nova Scotia. AAPG Search and Discovery Article # 50530

WILSON H, M. LUHESHI, D. ROBERTS, B. COLLETTA, 2012, Play Risks and Volumes - Offshore Nova Scotia, Third Central & North Atlantic Conjugate Margins Conference, Trinity College, Dublin, 22-24 August 2012, Abstracts volume 108-113

LUHESHI, M., D. G. ROBERTS, K. NUNN, J. MAKRIS, B. COLLETTA, H WILSON, F. MONNIER, G. RABARY, M. DUBILLE, 2012, The impact of conjugate margins analysis on play fairway evaluation – an analysis of the hydrocarbon potential of Nova Scotia, first break, volume 30, January 2012, p.61-72  
Success study NS PFA 1: [http://www.beicip.com/sites/default/files/nova\\_scotia.pdf](http://www.beicip.com/sites/default/files/nova_scotia.pdf)

DionisosFlow<sup>®</sup>: <http://www.beicip.com/stratigraphic-modeling-0>

TemisFlow<sup>®</sup>: <http://www.beicip.com/petroleum-system-assessment>