



# Society of Petroleum Engineers

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## ATCE 2020 Delivers a One-of-A-Kind Virtual Experience

*Society of Petroleum Engineers annual event focuses on leading the energy transition*

**Houston, Texas (3 November 2020)** — Thousands of oil and gas professionals virtually joined the 2020 Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition (ATCE) on 27-29 October. Modifying the traditional in-person event, SPE's new virtual platform for ATCE allowed industry professionals to safely join from anywhere in the world for the first time in its storied history. Members from 48 different countries attended SPE's flagship event to connect virtually with industry leaders, learn new technical skills, visit the exhibitor zone, and explore the role oil and gas professionals will play in the future of the energy transition.

As the world transitions to a low-carbon economy, we must meet the needs of those who currently have adequate access to energy and the nearly 1 billion people who do not. To address this issue, the ATCE technical program included a virtual Opening General Session titled "Leading the Energy Transition." Oil and gas experts discussed how our industry would be the guiding force to meet growing global energy demands while also working towards producing cleaner hydrocarbons. The session featured a panel moderated by Eithne Treanor of E.Treanor Media and included four distinguished panelists: Brad Middleton of Chevron and ATCE General Chairperson, Ahmad Al Khowaiter of Saudi Aramco, Allyson Anderson Book of Baker Hughes, and Mark Brownstein of the Environmental Defense Fund.

"The Opening General Session touched on so many ideas that will shape the future of our industry. It truly shows that oil and gas professionals have an enormous role to play in how our world will continue safely deliver energy," said 2020 SPE President Shauna Noonan. "I am proud we are having these necessary discussions and thankful we were able to deliver our Opening General Session to a diverse audience, despite the global pandemic." On-demand content is available for 90 days post-conference, allowing anyone to register during this time if you weren't able to before.

"The level of innovation and creativity on display at this year's ATCE was eye-opening," said 2021 SPE President Tom Blasingame. "I am confident that we have the best people with the right experience to meet the growing demands for sustainable energy. There is no greater group of problem solvers in the world than petroleum engineers. I have seen our industry adapt to great challenges before, and I look forward to watching us do it again."

ATCE's technical program, which included 386 paper presentations and 13 special sessions, also hosted its first-ever virtual exhibitor zone. The exhibitor zone featured 55 participating companies and 20 exhibitor presentations. More than 4,700 leads were generated through a virtual business card drop that included over 7,400 total exhibitor interactions.

ATCE also continued its tradition of celebrating the accomplishments of distinguished professionals within the industry. Sixty-four individuals were honored at the Annual Awards Ceremony for their significant contributions to the oil and gas industry and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Some members were able to attend the ceremony in person while others accepted their awards virtually.

Every year, ATCE is the best place to showcase the latest oil and gas technologies and collaborate with industry peers, either in person or online. We want to thank all the conference speakers, exhibitors, organizers, and, most of all, our members for making 2020 ATCE a unique, safe, and memorable experience. The 2021 conference will take place on 21-23 September 2021 in Dubai, UAE. For more information, visit [www.atce.org](http://www.atce.org).

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## About the Society of Petroleum Engineers

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) is a not-for-profit professional association whose members are engaged in energy resources development and production. SPE serves more than 153,000 members in 145 countries worldwide. SPE is a key resource for technical knowledge related to the oil and gas exploration and production industry and provides services through its publications, events, training courses, and online resources at [www.spe.org](http://www.spe.org).

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