

## **Energize the CEE Region Focusing Reliable Energy Security**

Workshop

16-17 November 2023, Visegrád

**Society of Petroleum Engineers** 

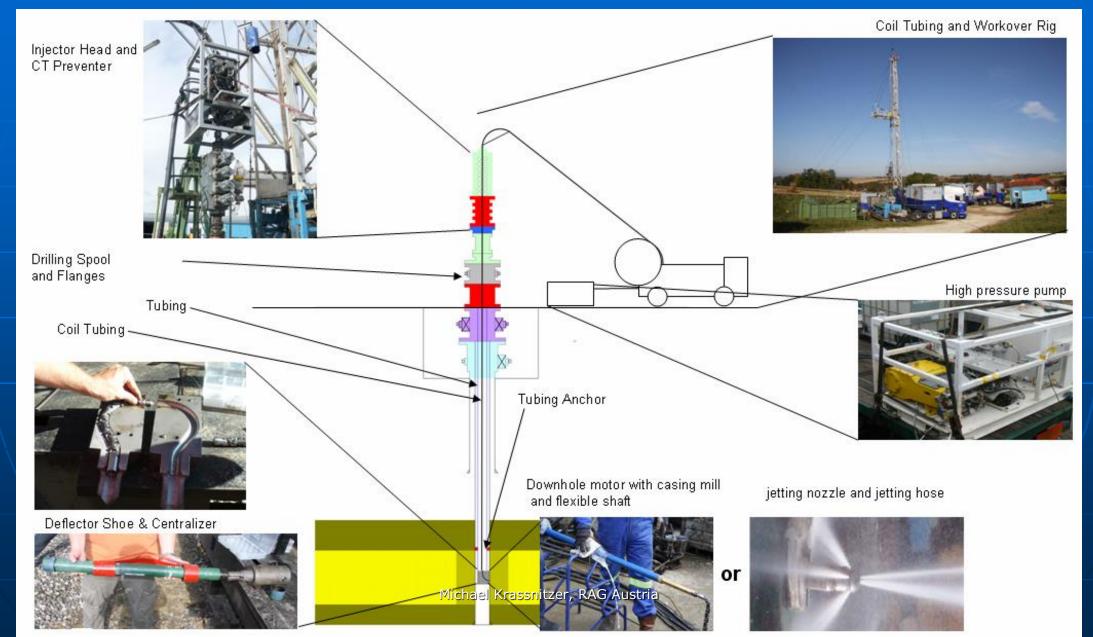
### Radial Drilling in RAG Austria: operator perspective

- Agenda
  - RAG Austria Company profile
  - Radial Drilling technology overview
  - Radial Drilling technology in RAG Austria
  - Screening studies for low perm reservoirs
  - Results
  - Conclusions

## RAG Austria Company profile

- RAG Austria AG is Austria's largest energy storage company, and one of Europe's leading gas storage facility operators
- gas storage capacity of about 6.3bn m3 of natural gas (~6% of total capacity in the EU) in 11 storage sites
- Developer of leading edge energy technologies related to "green gas" that partner renewables
  - Underground Sun Storage and Underground Sun Conversion
  - Methane Electrolysis
- Operator of ~27 oil fields (86wells) and 33 gas fields (93wells)

## Radial Drilling Technology (1)

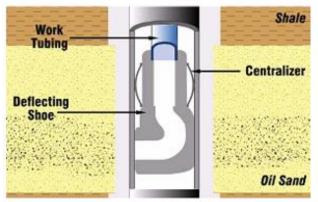


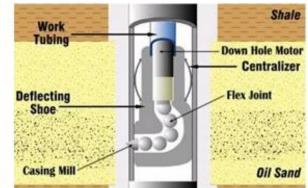
## Radial Drilling Technology (2)

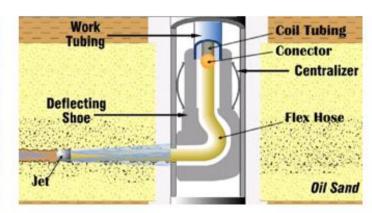
1.Landing



3.Jetting-In/Out













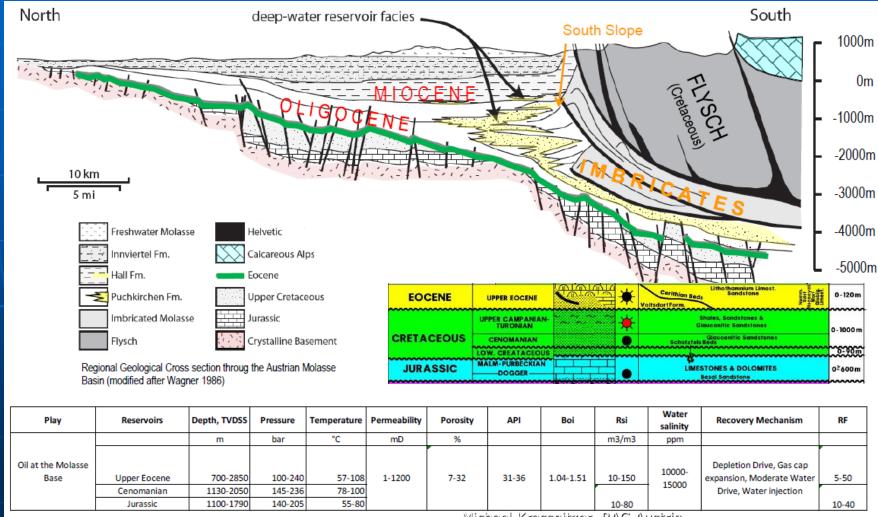




## Radial Drilling Technology in RAG Austria

- Incentives of technology application:
  - "connect" compartmentalized Reservoirs
  - Improve well deliverability of low perm reservoirs

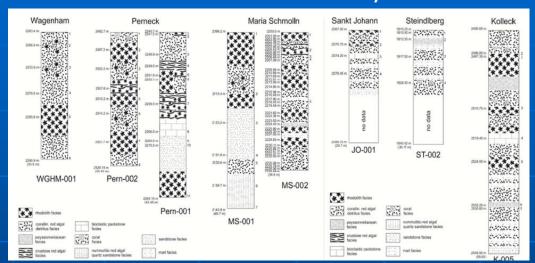
# Radial drilling in RAG Austria: Improve well deliverability of low perm reservoirs



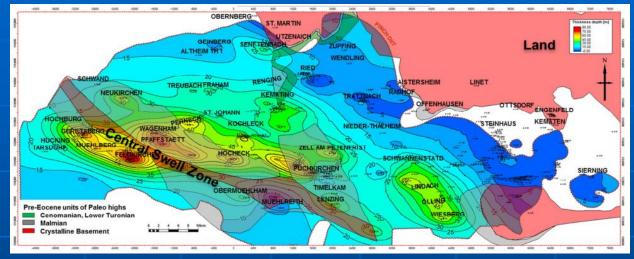
Low hanging
 "oil" almost
 depleted →
 focus on
 "more
 difficult"
 oil/reservoirs

## Screening of Lithothamnium limestone potential

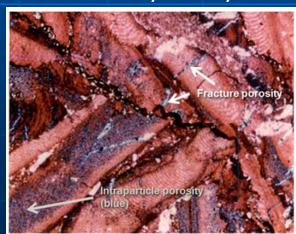
Facies Distribution study



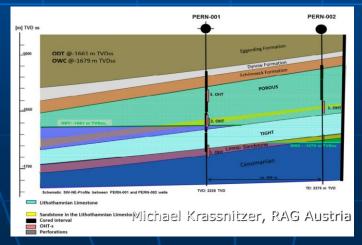
Mapping of Lithothamnium Limestone



#### Porosity study



#### Review of well test data



#### Radial Drilling Core tests

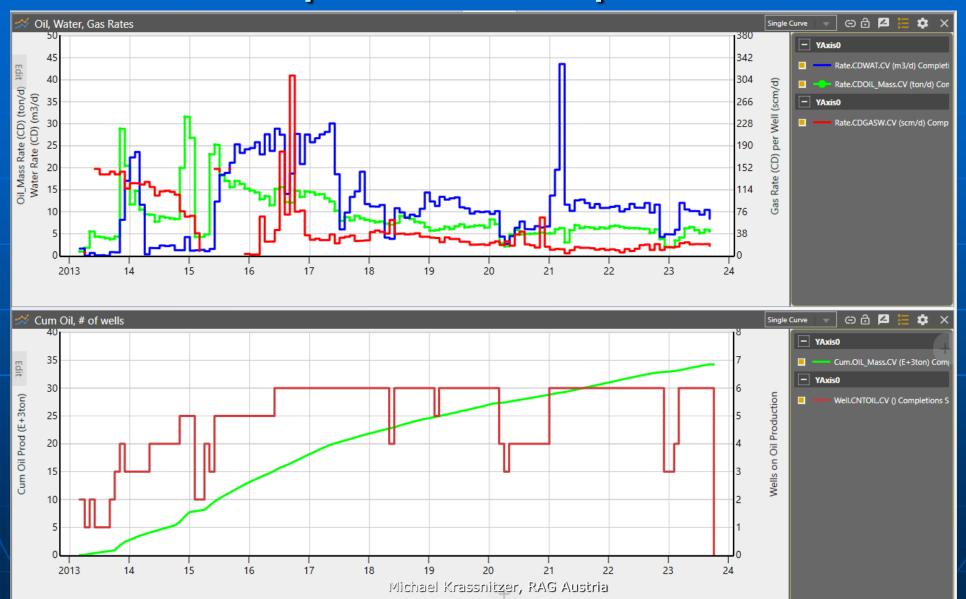


## Results summary

| well      | date         | Formation | Depth    | Casing diameter | # & length of laterals | starting rate | current rate | Cum. Prod. | UR  | Comments   |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-----|--|
|           |              |           | mMD      |                 | m                      | t/d; bbl/d    | t/d; bbl/d   | kt         | kt  |  |
| BH-N-002  | October 2008 | Sandstone | ca. 1860 | 7"              | 1x42/1x94/1x97/1x100   |               |              |            |     | 6 attemps four successful, 2 times milling not successful, no recognizable production increase |
| TRAT-010  | March 2009   | Sandstone | ca. 1600 | 7"              | 1x94/1x98/1x100/1x99   | 0.5/3.5       |              | 0.3        | 0.3 | marginal increase of production rate, after a few months back to previous decline              |
| STRAS-002 | March 2009   | Sandstone | ca. 1170 | 7"              | 1x93/1x97/1x96/1x88    |               |              |            |     | no reservoirs were encountered with the laterals   |
| MS-002    | March 2013   | Limestone | ca. 2200 | 7"              | 1x50/1x58/1x60         | 4.4/31        | 1/7          | 7.9        | 9   | 4 laterals planned, CT failure/burst @ 4th<br>lateral  |
| KTG-002   | Sep.13       | Limestone | ca. 1810 | 7"              | 4x60                   | 2.6/18        | 1/7          | 5.4        | 8.7 |  |
| KTG-004   | Sep.13       | Limestone | ca. 1850 | 7"              | 4x60/1x12              | 3/21          | 1/7          | 4.2        | 7   |  |
| PERN-002  | March 2014   | Limestone | ca. 2500 | 7"              | 2x100/1x38/1x17/1x40   | 20/140        | 1.3/9        | 12.5       | 18  |  |
| R-005     | March 2014   | Limestone | ca. 1410 | 6 5/8"          | 1x72/2x70/1/74         |               |              |            |     | connected to the high Perm watered out underlying reservoir                                    |
| SIER-006  | March 2014   | Sandstone | ca. 660m | 7"              | 3x91/3x100/1x90/1x3    |               |              |            |     | no production benefit  |
| KTG-W-002 | Nov.15       | Limestone | ca. 1830 | 7"              | 2x70                   | 4/28          | 2/14         | 5          | 11  | 4 laterals planned, downhole motor failure   |
| P-033     | Nov.15       | Sandstone | ca. 2580 | 4 1/2"          | not succesful          |               |              |            |     | 3 attempts to mill Casing, not successful  |

technical success & production improvement technical success, no producion improvement technical failure

## Results: production performance



## Radial Drilling in RAG Austria: conclusions (1)

#### **Technical aspects**

- Equipment limitation: 7" Casing
- Development of smaller diameter equipment: last campaign 4 ½": not successfully applied
- Overall jetting success rate 74%
- Limited possibilities to monitor contribution of laterals
- Lack of steering control resulted in one well connecting to underlying watered out reservoir

#### **Production Performance**

- Uneconomical wells/zones →
  economical wells after RD application
- Production performance of LTK wells improved by a factor of 2-3.
- All sandstone applications unsuccessful → immediate collapse of lateral?
- All gas applications unsuccessful (gas candidates also in sandstone reservoirs); i.e. finding & connecting different compartments failed

## Radial Drilling in RAG Austria: conclusions (2)

- General remarks:
  - It works/worked: collaboration/supervision of service companies important
  - Affordable appraisal tool/technology
  - Certain limitations, i.e. minimum casing diameter, steerability (operating in the "blind"), monitoring of progress/results (contribution of laterals)