



Edmee Files, ERG Academic Liaison

In the fall of 2013, the ERG introduced an eBook titled **Oilfield Materials Technology**. This massive, 8,000+ page resource is accessible on the ERG website to all ERG members. The information within the eBook is a compilation of past presentations from ERG technical meetings and educational symposiums since 1990, as well as web links for industry standards, videos, additional technical papers and studies.

Following is an interview with ERG eBook founder, Edmee Files, Academic Liaison for the Energy Rubber Group.

Q. Edmee, can you please explain the basic idea behind the eBook? How did this get started?

A. The genesis of this eBook was actually based on viewing an eBook developed by Professor Jack Christensen, University of Houston and his engineering students. Three years ago, Jack Christensen, was approached by Lukoil to train their engineering and oilfield staff. With the help of Kurt Albaugh, PE and University of Houston engineering students, an eBook was put together successfully for Lukoil. The resulting eBook contained a world map with offshore shelf and deepwater projects. It included all deepwater training lectures, technical dictionaries, projects, classification of various deepwater systems, subsea equipment, field architecture, and other information.

Q. And why did you feel that the ERG could benefit by an eBook?

A. The growing momentum in the energy business has been good to many; however, it has also increased challenges in finding experienced oilfield personnel such as engineers, chemists, material technologists, etc. Oil field workers are retiring in huge numbers, leaving a workforce that's younger and – more importantly – less experienced. While workers currently rising through the ranks will replace many retirees, surveys show that a quarter of those positions will be filled by much younger workers with less experience. The eBook is a tool which can be used for both attracting and training those coming into this industry.

Q. So the eBook is much more than a compilation of past presentations from ERG meetings?

A. It was obvious to me that the book could be used to organize the ERG papers and include multiple references of industry standards, oilfield terminologies, videos, studies, etc. Due to the various file formats, the real challenge was setting this eBook up to be accessible to the website.

Q. When did you get the ball rolling for the project?

A. I submitted a proposal to the ERG Board in 2011 for putting

together an eBook for our membership, using the assistance of Professor Jack Christensen and his engineering students. I explained to the Board that the ERG's goals would be fulfilled on all levels:

- To provide scientific, engineering, and business knowledge required by our membership
- To become a recognized technical body on the subject of engineered elastomers
- To attract and educate members entering the industry

Q. How is the eBook structured?

A. The eBook is divided into 11 categories, including: applications, standards, materials, selection, testing, conference papers by year and topic, videos, dictionaries and the ERG company roster. Additional papers were provided by Lord Corporation, Cabot Specialty and Parker Seal.



Jack Christensen



Deepak Dinesh

Q. Are there plans for any future eBooks for the ERG?

A. The excessively large size of the eBook caused many website challenges which were eventually resolved. However, it became obvious that future eBooks will be more specific. This will allow greater ease in creating as well as allowing members more specific information. Possible future eBooks may include:

- Polymers: Elastomers and Plastics used in the Oilfield Industry
- Processing Polymers
- Materials Testing

Q. Any final thoughts Edmee?

A. I welcome any comments on this eBook or possible future eBooks. To keep a competitive edge in today's global market, I encourage members to implement similar eBooks for their own companies. Finally, I would like to give special thanks and appreciation to the following who contributed countless hours and effort to the development of our eBook:

- Kurt Albaugh, PE, Repsol, who showed us examples of eBooks and their overall versatility and then guided us into the development of our eBook.
- Professor Jack Christensen, Director of Petroleum Technology Initiative, University of Houston who provided the leadership of this project and guided the following post graduate and graduate students: Saravanan Boopathy, Burak Cankaya, Deepak Dinesh, Fabiana Manzo, and Santhosh Ramaswamy.
- Galina Sheridan, Deputy Director, Petroleum Technology Program, College of Engineering, University of Houston