TGS

Presentation of the 4th Quarter and Full Year 2009 Results February 11th 2010

Arne Helland Robert Hobbs
Chief Financial Officer Chief Executive Officer

TGS

Forward-Looking Statements

All statements is this presentation other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking statements, which are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict and are based upon assumptions as to future events that may not prove accurate. These factors include TGS' reliance on a cyclical industry and principle customers, TGS' ability to continue to expand markets for licensing of data, and TGS' ability to acquire and process data products at costs commensurate with profitability. Actual results may differ materially from those expected or projected in the forward-looking statements. TGS undertakes no responsibility or obligation to update or alter forward-looking statements for any reason.



Q4 2009 Financial Highlights

- Gross MC Late Sales 178.6 MUSD, 33% higher than in Q4 2008.
- Net Late Sales of 129.5 MUSD were 24% up from Q4 2008.
- Net Prefunding 18.4 MUSD
 - 49% of operational investments
 - Investments 37.1 MUSD, 34% lower than 56.1 MUSD in Q4 2008.
- Limited seismic proprietary acquisition activity:
 - Proprietary revenues 9.9 MUSD vs 14.1 MUSD in Q4 2008.
- Net revenues 157.8 MUSD, up 1% from operational Net revenues of 155.8 MUSD in Q4 2008 (ex 16.6 MUSD settlement from Wavefield-Inseis in 2008).



Q4 2009 Financial Highlights (Continued)

- Multi-Client Amortization 37% of Net MC Revenue
 - vs 39% in Q4 2008
- Personnel and Other Operating Costs:
 - Down 31% compared to Q4 2008 (Q4-08 included one-off items)
- Operating profit (EBIT), was 77.0 MUSD (49% of Net Revenues)
 - up 14% from operational EBIT of 67.8 MUSD in Q4 2008 (Wavefield settlement effects in Q4 2008 excluded).
- Redeemed 4.2 MUSD from ARS but recorded an 0.5 MUSD unrealized loss on ARS in P&L
- The tax rate reported for the quarter was only 24%
 - A retroactive tax benefit of 4.1 MUSD related to cost of stock options in the USA
- Net Income 58.7 MUSD, 37% of Net Revenues
- Earnings per share (fully diluted) were USD 0.56, up 1% from Q4 2008
 - up 18% operational excl. WAVE settlement effects in Q4 2008



Q4 2009 PROFIT & LOSS (MUSD)

		Q4 2009	Q4 2008	Change	%
Net Operating Revenue	S	157.8	172.4	(14.6)	-8%
Materials		2.5	2.9	(0.4)	-14%
MC Amortization	37%	54.0	55.4	(1.4)	-2%
Gross Margin		101.2	114.1	(12.9)	-11%
Other Operating Expenses	S	21.2	30.6	(9.4)	-31%
Cost of Stock Options		8.0	0.6	0.2	34%
Depreciation		2.2	2.8	(0.7)	-23%
Operating Profit	49%	77.0	80.0	(3.0)	-4%
Net Financial Items		0.2	10.1	(10.0)	-98%
Pre-tax Profit	49%	77.2	90.2	(13.0)	-14%
Taxes		18.4	31.5	(13.1)	-42%
Net Income	37%	58.7	58.6	0.1	0%
EPS, undiluted		0.57	0.57	(0.00)	0%
EPS, fully diluted		0.56	0.56	0.00	1%



Q4 2009 CASH FLOW

	Q4 2009	Q4 2008
Payments from Sales Received	103.8	152.3
Operational Costs Paid	(20.2)	(29.3)
Gain/(Loss) from Currency Exchange	0.1	0.5
Taxes Paid	(6.7)	(13.2)
Operational Cash Flow	77.0	110.3
Investments in Fixed Assets	(7.0)	0.5
Investments in Multi-Client	(58.5)	(73.3)
Net Cash from Mergers and Acquisition	(0.9)	-
Net change in Short-Term Investments & Deposits	4.2	5.5
Financial Income	0.8	(2.4)
Net Change in Long-term loans	_	(0.1)
Financial Expense	(0.1)	(6.4)
Purchase of own Shares	-	(2.2)
Paid in Equity	3.2	-
Change in Cash Balance	18.8	32.0

2009 Financial Highlights

- Consolidated net revenues 477.7 MUSD, 18% below 2008.
- Gross MC Late Sales totaled 460.7 MUSD, up 6% from 2008.
 - Net late sales from the Multi-Client library after revenue sharing totaled 321.0 MUSD, down 5% from 337.5 MUSD in 2008.
- Operating profit (EBIT) was 210.2 MUSD
 - 44% of Net Revenues, down 22% from 269.0 MUSD in 2008.
- Operational investments in the MC Library were 47% pre-funded and totaled 266.0 MUSD, 7% down from 287.0 MUSD in 2008.
- Earnings per share (fully diluted) were USD 1.56 versus USD 1.10 reported in 2008.

2009 PROFIT & LOSS (MUSD)

		12M 2009	12M 2008	Change	%
Net Operating Revenues		477.7	582.4	(104.7)	-18%
Materials		8.4	36.2	(27.8)	-77%
MC Amortization	40%	176.7	169.3	7.4	4%
Gross Margin		292.6	376.9	(84.3)	-22%
Other Operating Expenses		70.7	94.6	(24.0)	-25%
Cost of Stock Options		3.0	2.6	0.4	16%
Depreciation		8.7	10.6	(1.9)	-18%
Operating Profit	44%	210.2	269.0	(58.8)	-22%
Net Financial Items		9.0	(65.8)	74.8	N/A
Pre-tax Profit	46%	219.2	203.2	16.0	8%
Taxes		56.7	89.4	(32.7)	-37%
Net Income	34%	162.5	113.8	48.7	43%
EPS, undiluted		1.58	1.10	0.48	44%
EPS, fully diluted		1.56	1.10	0.46	42%



Balance Sheet – Key Figures

	12/31/2009	%	9/30/2009	%	12/31/2008	%
Assets						
Cash	243.5	21%	224.7	21%	148.3	16%
Investments Available for Sale	27.2	2%	32.3	3%	51.1	5%
Other Current Assets	339.8	30%	260.7	25%	298.1	31%
Total Current Assets	610.5	53%	517.7	49%	497.5	52%
Intangible Assets & LT Receivables	88.3	8%	86.5	8%	99.1	10%
MC Library	424.3	37%	441.0	42%	335.0	35%
Fixed Assets	21.2	2%	16.9	2%	22.7	2%
Total Assets	1,144.3	100%	1,062.1	100%	954.3	100%
Liabilities						
Short-term debt	-	0%	-	0%	42.9	4%
Current Liabilities	231.6	20%	224.2	21%	194.7	20%
Long-term loans	0.0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Deferred Tax Liability	72.8	6%	66.9	6%	55.7	6%
Equity	839.9	73%	771.0	73%	661.1	69%



2009 CASH FLOW

	2009	2008
Payments from Sales Received	443.9	538.4
Operational Costs Paid	(77.9)	(127.4)
Gain/(Loss) from Currency Exchange	4.2	-
Taxes Paid	(44.1)	(60.1)
Operational Cash Flow	326.1	350.8
Investments in Fixed Assets	(9.6)	(3.6)
Investments in Multi-Client	(238.5)	(284.7)
Net Cash from Mergers and Acquisition	(0.9)	(4.5)
Financial Income	3.2	6.2
Net change in Short-Term Investments & Deposits	54.3	32.4
Net Change in Long-term loans	(44.1)	(1.2)
Financial Expense	(0.6)	(16.3)
Purchase of own Shares	-	(15.0)
Paid in Equity	5.2	2.3
Change in Cash Balance	95.2	66.4



Use of Cash: Notice sent to OSE this morning...

"TGS Board to Propose Dividend, Share Buybacks

Asker, Norway (10 February, 2010) – At its quarterly meeting today, the Board of Directors decided to propose to the shareholders at the June 2010 Annual General Meeting a dividend of NOK 4 per share of outstanding common stock from the Company's 2009 earnings, of which NOK 2 per share is a non-recurring distribution.

In addition, the Board of Directors intends to spend up to US\$30 million in repurchasing TGS shares during the remainder of 2010.

The Board of Directors of TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company ASA"



Multi-Client Library



MCS Accounting – Matching Principle

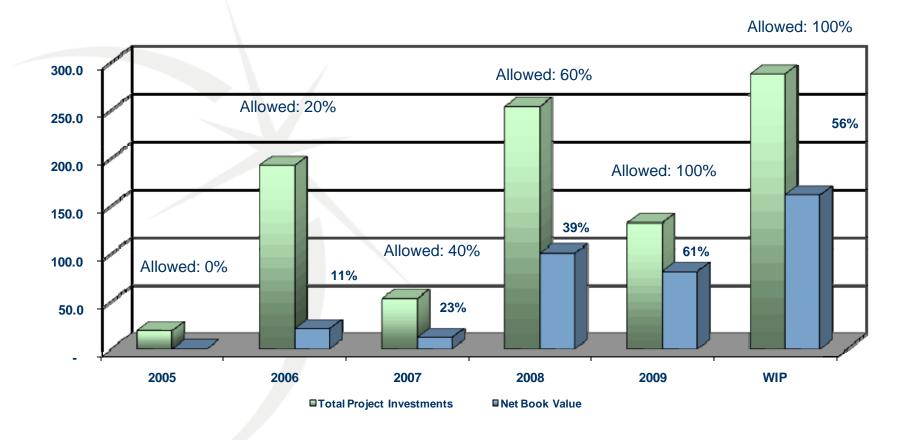
- Accounting Standards recommend to match Revenues and Costs in time
- TGS capitalizes the direct costs of surveys as investments in the Balance Sheet and amortizes them over 5 years (including the first year – WIP) as a function of expected ratio Sales/Investment
- If sales are lower than expectations, a minimum amortization kicks in:
 - Maximum NBV one year after completion is 60%, then 40%, then 20%, then zero
 - At the end of the fourth year after survey completion, each survey is fully amortized



Multi-Client Library NBV in % of Investment

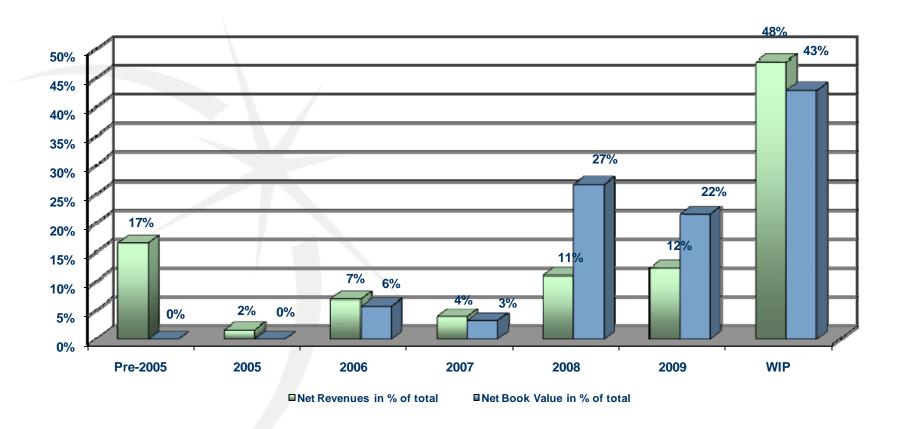
Seismic Surveys as of December 31st 2009

Net Book Value per Vintage vs allowed NBV at end of 2009.



Q4 2009 Multi-Client Net Revenues & Ending NBV

- Seismic Surveys

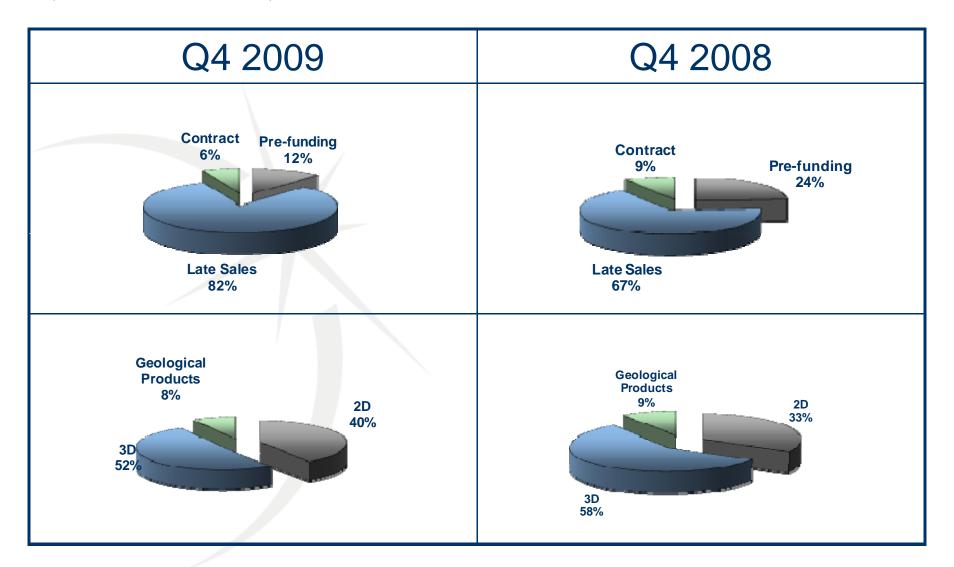


Operations & Outlook

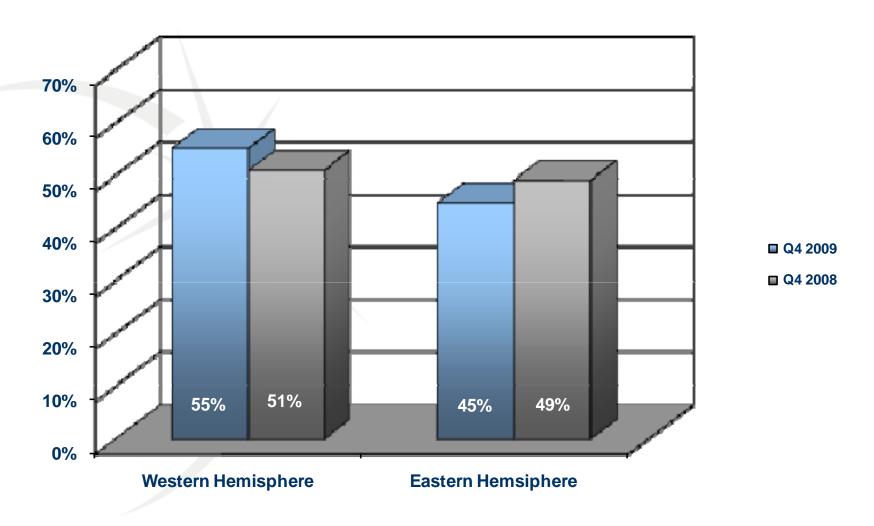
Robert Hobbs
Chief Executive Officer



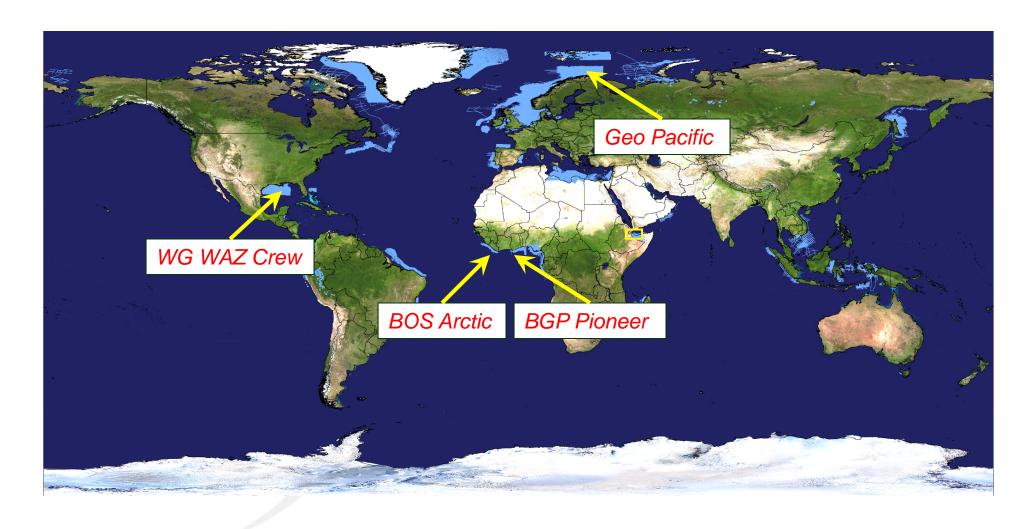
Q4 2009 vs. Q4 2008 Net Revenue Breakdown



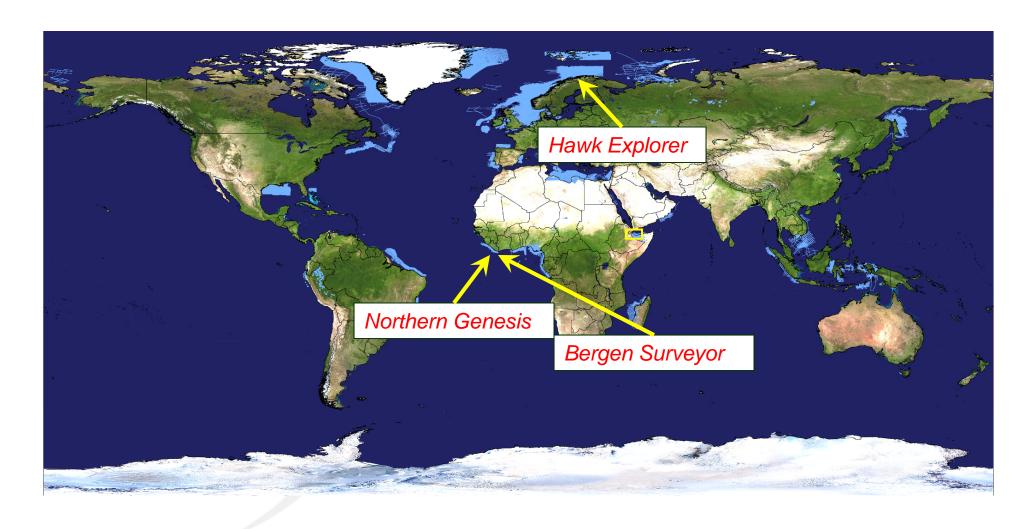
Q4 2009 vs Q4 2008 Geographical Net Revenue Breakdown



Q4 3D Operations

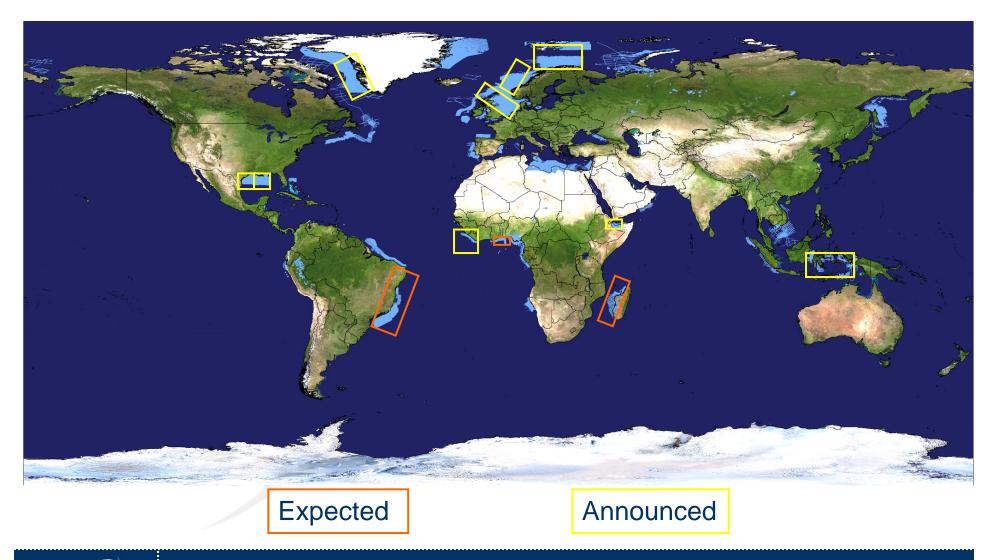


Q4 2D Operations





License Round Activity



West Africa 3D – A Key New Exploration Play

Sierra Leone

2,500 km² available

Liberia

- 9,000 km² available
- 2,000 km² acquisition complete
- 7,000 km² acquisition in progress



TGS

GOM WAZ Programs

Acquisition Complete

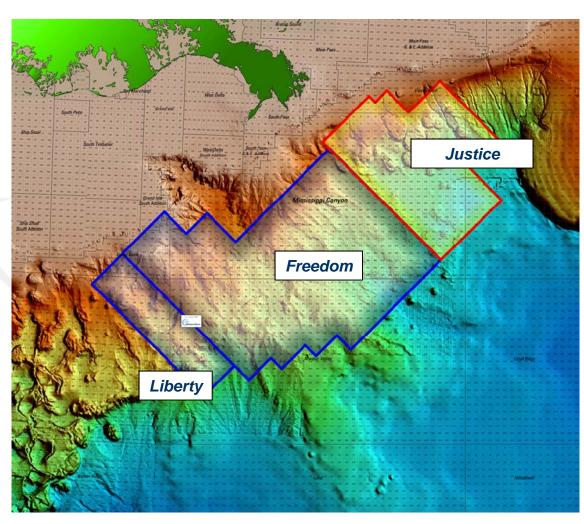
- Freedom 16,600 km²
- Liberty 3,050 km²
- TGS 50% Owned

Acquisition In progress

- Justice 7,800 km²
- TGS 100% Owned

Central GOM Round

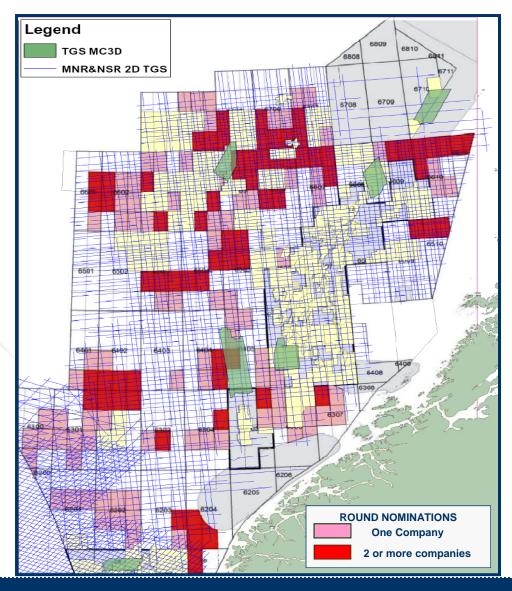
March 2010



Norway Exploration Round

Norwegian Sea

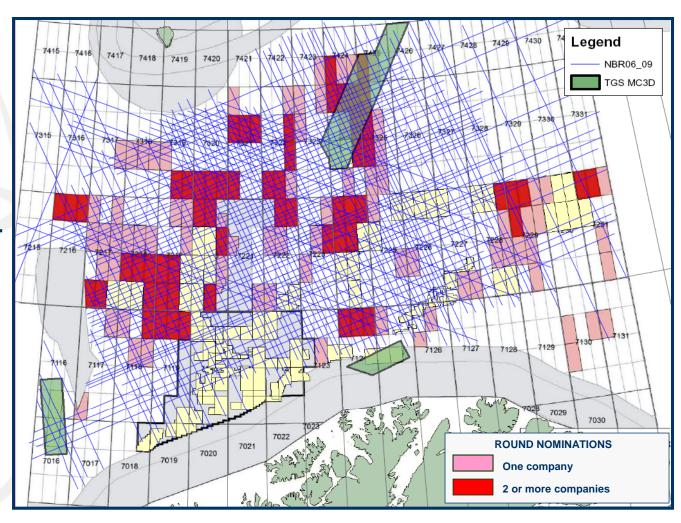
- 65,000 km of modern long-offset 2D seismic
- 5,000 km² of multi-client
 3D data available



Norway Exploration Round

Barents Sea

- 43,000 km of modern longoffset 2D seismic
- 6,200 km² of Multiclient 3D data

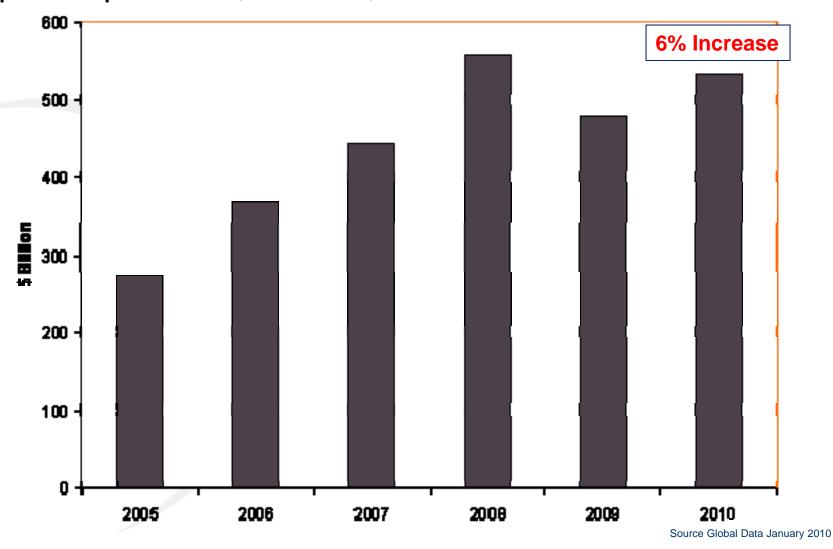


Outlook

• Industry E&P budgets expected to increase 5-8% in 2010



Exploration and Production Sector, Capital Expenditure, \$ Billion, 2005–2010



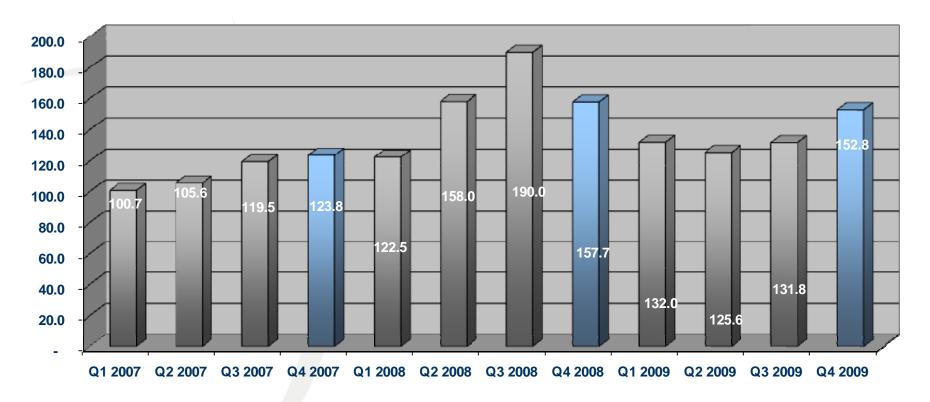


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Backlog

Commitments from clients not yet recognized as revenue



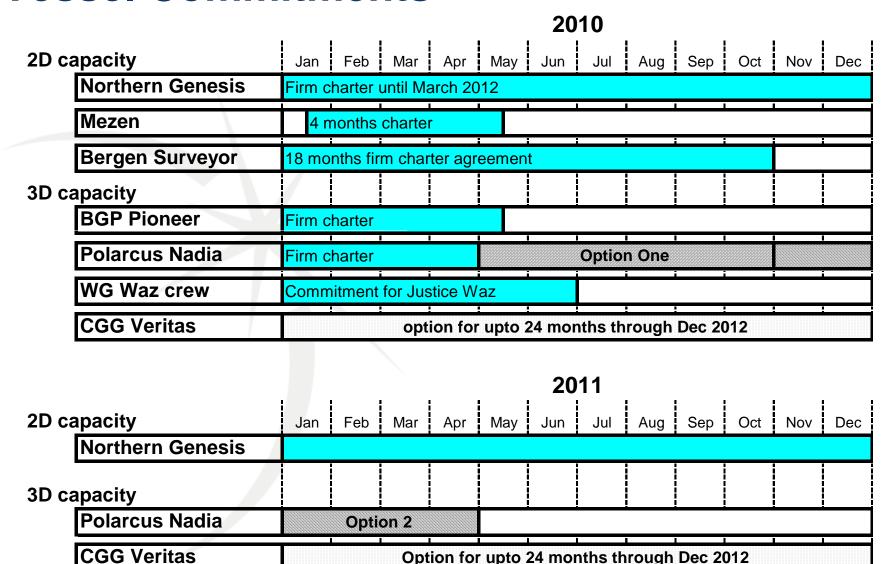


Outlook

- Industry E&P budgets expected to increase 5-8% in 2010
- Streamer capacity to grow 32% in 2010 through new 3D vessels on market
- Current vessel commitments in 2010 locked in near market lows
 - Expected average 3D rate change from 2009 for TGS Down 33%
 - Expected average 3D WAZ rate change from 2009 for TGS Down 9%

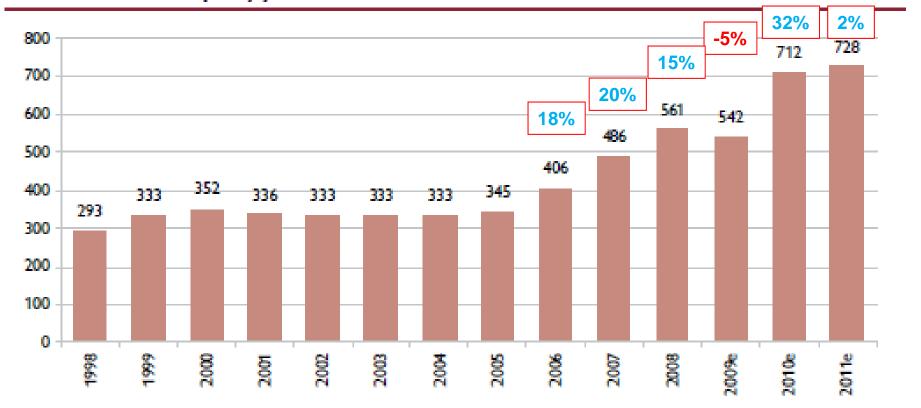


Vessel Commitments



Streamer count (Jan 2010)

Practical streamer capacity year end



Source: Carnegie Research

Outlook

- Industry E&P budgets expected to increase 5-8% in 2010
- Streamer capacity to grow 32% in 2010 through new 3D vessels on market
- Current vessel commitments in 2010 locked in near market lows
 - Expected average 3D rate change from 2009 for TGS Down 33%
 - Expected average 3D WAZ rate change from 2009 for TGS Down 9%
- TGS project activity well-suited to capitalize on market recovery
- License Round Activity increased over 2009 in key TGS regions of strength
 - Greenland
 - UK
 - Norway
 - GOM
- Portfolio of attractive opportunities is growing

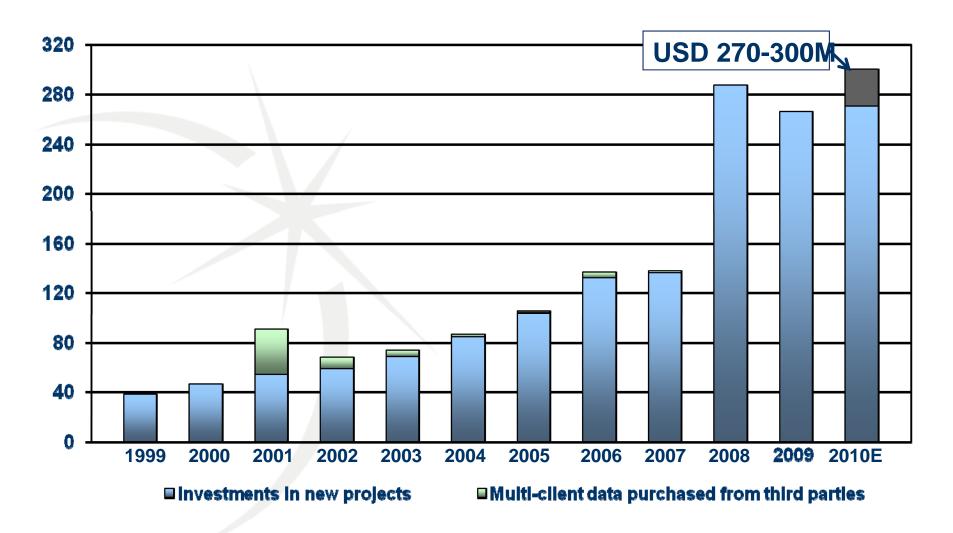


Expectations for 2010

Multi-client investments USD 270 – 300 million



Investments in Multi-Client Library





Expectations for 2010

- Multi-client investments USD 270 300 million
- Average pre-funding 50 60%
- Average multi-client amortization rate 37 43%
- Net revenues USD 560 600 million
- Contract revenues of approximately 5% of total revenues

TGS Performs in all Cycles!

