The Influence of Geology on the Development of Petrobras

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Petrobras Performance

- Company market valuation increased from $15.3 billion (2003) to $107.8 billion (2007)
- Partnerships with dozens of companies for Brazilian E&P, especially offshore
- Record-breaking deepwater exploration

Petrobras Annual Daily Production of Crude Oil, Condensate, and NGL (Mbpd)

- 1970: 164 Mbpd
- 1980: 181 Mbpd
- 1990: 654 Mbpd
- 2000: 1,271 Mbpd
- 2005: 1,684 Mbpd
- 2007: 1,924 Mbpd
Petrobras achieves Brazilian energy self-sufficiency in April 2006 with launching of P-50 platform.
Background on Brazilian Hydrocarbon Resources

- **15,023 Mmboe equivalent in total reserves**†
  - 13,753 Mmboe in Brazil (11,671 Mmbbl of crude oil)
  - 1,270 Mmboe overseas (656 Mmbbl of crude oil)

- **Of 11,671 Mmbbl in Brazilian crude reserves,**
  - 10,792 Mmbbl are located *offshore* (92%)
    - Campos Basin alone contains 10,187 Mmbbl (74% of all domestic crude reserves)
    - Onshore Brazilian crude reserves total only 878 Mmbbl (8% of all domestic crude reserves)

† Petrobras, Investor Relations, Operational Highlights, Exploration and Production, Crude Oil Net Reserves by Region (SPE Criteria).
How Geology Has Influenced Company Development

- Geology influenced corporate culture from Petrobras’ founding in 1953
  - Company was never seen as a “cash cow,” giving Petrobras the autonomy to take large risks
  - Imposed higher degree of fiscal discipline, meritocracy within the company’s career staff, and a heavy emphasis on training and education.

- Lack of resources forced Petrobras to invest in technology, research and development
  - Refining technology developed to facilitate domestic refining of crude imports early on
  - Need to develop offshore reserves led to investment in offshore exploration and production technology
Domestic Refining Expansion (1953 – 1972)

- Petrobras’ original emphasis was on reducing the country’s foreign trade deficit.
- Refining capacity was expanded domestically to reduce expenditure on refined products from overseas.
- Technical and engineering staff engages in reverse engineering of refinery equipment; contracts with foreign suppliers call for training of Petrobras technicians.
Offshore Development

- Military government (1964-1985) shielded Petrobras from political pressure and allowed it to take risks.


- Heavy investment in CENPES, Petrobras’ research and development facility.

- Oil crises of 1970s seriously threaten balance of payments, making offshore E&P “affordable.”
Offshore Development (cont’d)

- Company begins to invest heavily in offshore development in 1970s; drastic gains in production in the 1980s with discoveries offshore and of exploration of up to ~200 m.

- Collaboration with European researchers / North Sea operators in 1980s for further developments (e.g. robotics).

- By mid-1990s company reaches depths of 1000 m; develops plastic cables, other deepwater technologies to prevent oil congealing, etc.

- Late 1990s, embracing capital markets allows for investment in E&P expansion. Today exploration at 3000 m.
Brazil reaches self-sufficiency in April 2006 with launching of P-50 offshore platform

Production of 2.2 Mboe per day; 83% of which is from the Campos Basin

Petrobras takes offshore expertise overseas (e.g. Gulf of Mexico, eastern Africa, Middle East)

Current Business Plan 2006-2010 calls for 60% of US$56.4 billion plan to be invested in E&P (US$34.1 billion) (includes overseas operations)
Lasting Impact of Geology

- Petrobras is seen as a world leader in deepwater exploration, and consistently partners with other companies in operations.

- Investors and lenders have confidence in Petrobras’ ability to find and produce “hard to reach” reserves.

- But the company risks attracting the attention of those who would use it for political ends.