

CASE STUDY

Knovel[®]

Improving productivity and driving innovation



SUMMARY

Knovel reinforces a large O&G company's tradition of thinking creatively about challenges in the Oil & Gas industry and wisely managing its resources.



ELSEVIER

“[Knovel] is a good first place to look for material on a variety of subjects important to the professionals.”

– An Engineer

One of the world’s largest independent O&G companies has held firmly to two principles during the course of its climb from regional oil company to global force in oil and gas exploration and production—effective management and innovative thinking. With a team focused on profitable growth and committed to safe and environmentally responsible operations, this multi-billion dollar company has built significant operations in many of the world’s major oil and gas producing regions.

One of its more recent acquisitions, a subscription to Knovel, demonstrates that the Oil & Gas company has stayed true to its roots. While effective management and innovation have always been used to optimize the company’s resources, with Knovel, the resource is not energy, it is information.

Cutting-edge knowledge when and where needed

As a global energy company, there is a responsibility to supply employees with the most reliable, up-to-date information available—information essential to running facilities around the world and keeping employees abreast of industry developments. Knovel’s 24x7 presence online worldwide gives engineers and staff access to the content they need wherever they have an Internet connection. Knovel also continues the company’s tradition of thinking creatively about the latest changes in the Oil & Gas industry and wisely managing its resources.

A compliance assurance specialist at the company, who has worked in environmental health and safety for close to 20 years describes himself as an enthusiastic Knovel user since well before he started there. Thinking back to the first time he used Knovel, the specialist says, “Maybe 10 years

ago.” Back when the Internet “wasn’t really a great source.” Today, he says, most Web searches still take a lot longer than you have time for and only find you bits and pieces. With Knovel, “you have it all in one place.”

That kind of easily accessible information is essential for him to do his job, much of which he describes as “regulatory based”, requiring “an understanding of regulations, how they apply to operations, and understanding what those operations are from a technical perspective.”

“That’s where my use of Knovel comes in,” he continues. “I’m going through and trying to understand more about how a particular process — chemical or upstream — actually operates so I can get a better handle of how those regulations apply.”

A reference and training support tool

The compliance assurance specialist also uses Knovel to develop training curricula, and because he supports a range of disciplines that may not be his area of expertise, he uses Knovel, he says, “to make sure that I fully understand the subject material”. This way he can put together training courses “that will relate to my audience.” Knovel is not just helping him, it is helping the whole company.

Does he recommend Knovel? “Absolutely.”

“Knovel is great,” he says. “Let’s make sure everybody knows about it.”

A reservoir engineer, who is a five-year veteran at the company and has also worked as a drilling engineer, in corporate reserves in the Gulf of Mexico and as a production/completions engineer in East and West Texas, is another Knovel user.



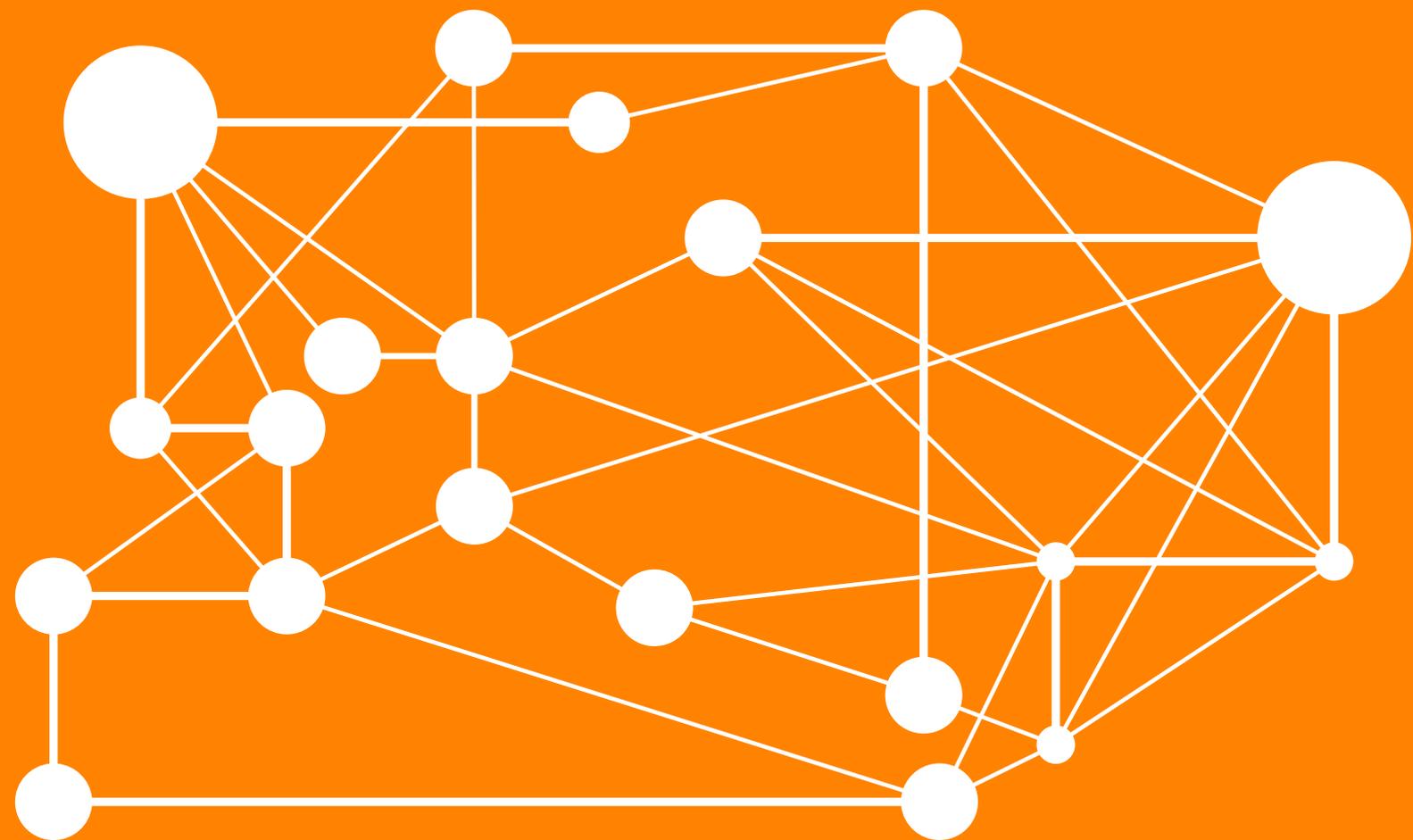
He first learned about Knovel from a company intranet link to it. The engineer sought out the application when looking for particular reference information and now uses it regularly as a reference tool. When asked about the benefits Knovel brings to his work, he says it gives him “quicker access to the reference material he needs,” saving considerable time as he works through his projects.

Helping experts dig deeper and discover more

Another engineer and Knovel user demonstrates the broad background and thirst for knowledge typical of the oil and gas company’s employees. As a senior staff reservoir engineer there for four years, he has been involved in the publication of several Society of Petroleum Engineers textbooks and previously worked as a university professor. The engineer’s technical expertise spans the fields of geology, petrophysics and reservoir engineering, covering petroleum engineering from, in his words, “exploration concept to production through the meter.”

His experience and knowledge demonstrate an appreciation of the path oil and gas engineering in general and at this company in particular have taken over the years. He has seen great changes in all areas of petroleum engineering — from drilling techniques to flow dynamics — and even with decades in the field, he is still excited to learn about advances in the industry. Lifelong learning is one of the reasons this engineer recommends Knovel. “It’s a great tool to find answers,” he says, “and it’s a good first place to look for material on a variety of subjects important to the professionals.”

The information available through Knovel helps company employees complete the tasks of today and prepares them for the work of tomorrow. For the next generation of employees to carry the company’s expansive and innovative traditions into the next century, the Oil & Gas independent will need to harness information resources the same way it has petroleum. To achieve that, there’s no better partner than Knovel.



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