

Press Release

Three Leading E&P Learning Companies Launch Plato Alliance

New Venture Marks a Step-Change in E&P Professional Development

HOUSTON, October 26, 2009 – Three leading E&P learning companies, IHRDC, Nautilus and NExT, today announced the creation of Plato Alliance, a new venture delivering an unprecedented range of integrated learning solutions to the E&P industry.

“Plato Alliance combines the talents of the most experienced learning providers in the business to offer programs worldwide—customized to client needs and managed from start to finish,” said Henry Edmundson, who is founder of Plato Alliance. “We are offering a one-stop shop for the complete planning, implementation and management of a client’s professional development program.”

Plato Alliance brings a unique integrated portfolio of complementary learning products to the industry including:

- Over 500 courses and programs in all geoscience and petroleum engineering domains taught by more than 300 instructors;
- More than 80 geology field seminars in a wide variety of geological environments;
- The industry’s largest e-learning library, including 1000 hours of technical learning in all geoscience and engineering domains, an overview of the entire value chain of oil and gas industry, and key business essentials for energy professionals;
- Management programs covering all aspects of the oil and gas industry including digital business simulations;
- Competency management consultation and systems.

Plato Alliance combines these products in programs specifically tailored to client needs. The programs are designed to accelerate the development of professionals at all levels through blended learning, learning-by-doing and mentoring. Customized programs vary in length from weeks to several years.

With clients, Plato Alliance will help design and build customized programs using 20 years’ experience in competency management—a robust process for assessing competency development needs and identifying learning solutions—and by providing the industry’s leading web-based competency management system, CMS Online.

The three alliance companies also will continue to operate as independent learning providers outside of the alliance.

For additional information, visit www.PLATOALLIANCE.com.

About IHRDC

For over 40 years, International Human Resources Development Corporation has been a worldwide leader in training and competency development for the oil and gas industry. IHRDC offers instructional programs that teach management and petroleum business essentials using challenging business games and digital workshops. Their e-learning products — Petroleum Online, IPIMS and Business Essentials — are unchallenged and offer a wide range of on-demand learning worldwide. They also provide competency management services and the industry’s leading competency management system, CMS Online.

About Nautilus

For over 9 years, Nautilus has provided the industry’s with leading geoscience training through its unique GTA membership concept. In 2009, Nautilus will deliver over 300 courses world-wide, of which more than 80 will be conducted in the field in a large variety of geological environments. Nautilus offers a unique and unmatched combination of choice, quality and reliability in geoscience training. The more than 140 instructors have an active involvement technically in the AAPG and SEG. Classroom courses are currently held in North America, Europe, South East Asia and Libya, while field venues include the USA, Mexico, Belize, Canada, France, England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Turkey, Egypt, Libya, South Africa and Borneo.

About NExT

For over 10 years, NExT has delivered tailored training programs worldwide. Its faculty includes over 250 instructors with a wide variety of technical and regional experience. In over 50 countries, the NExT team has created training and development programs to match the specific requirements of customers. A hallmark of NExT

programs is learning by doing. Customized programs vary from weeks to two or more years. Through its global presence and experience in most oil and gas fields, NExT can fill these programs with relevant examples and case studies that make each course unique, specific and practical. NExT was founded by Schlumberger with strong affiliations to three leading universities: Texas A&M, University of Oklahoma and Heriot-Watt.