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DEAR MUD LOGGING PETROPHYSICS ENTHUSIASTS

Mud logging is a well-known service that has been providing valuable and trustable drilling and subsurface information for decades. However, the seamless integration of advanced technologies and data analytics is transforming this service, contributing to the oil and gas industry with improved efficiency and precision that is more quantitative than ever before.

This journal targets the methodology of real-time, pre- and post-well mud logging gas and cuttings service on exploration and development wells. Mud logging also acts as an interdisciplinary field, integrating surface and downhole measurements to provide new insight into geochemical analysis.

Artificial intelligence and machine-learning algorithms are pivotal in interpreting vast data sets, allowing predictions of, for example, GOR and fluid properties during drilling. This supports rapid decision-making and improves reservoir understanding.

The digitalization of organic and inorganic analysis, from cores to cuttings, improves the real-time identification of geological boundaries and formation tops. Formation evaluation from the elemental, mineralogical, organic carbon, and reservoir fluid data collected by mud logging enhances the insight and understanding of conventional and unconventional reservoirs.

Recent developments contribute to competencies in new energy domains like hydrogen and geothermal, in which studies of volatile components, fluid inclusion, and liquid chromatography are evolving.

Modern mud logging minimizes risks with service automation, remote monitoring, and more accurate control systems. This also enables operation from anywhere worldwide, improving communication and collaboration, increasing accessibility, and reducing the need for on-site personnel. Adding to the total value is the fact that mud logging is typically a very cost-efficient service.

Please join the Mud Logging special issue of the *Petrophysics* journal and share your experience and how this data is transforming the way you work. It's a new landscape for mud logging in which geoscience meets engineering in the oil and gas industry.

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