

Multi-client Airborne Gravity & Magnetic Survey offshore South Africa



CGG has announced that it will commence a multi-client airborne gravity and magnetic survey offshore South Africa. The Petroleum Agency of South Africa (PASA) has authorised the programme which will extend across two blocks totalling approximately 78,000 line kilometres. The survey areas are located offshore Cape Agulhas (West Bredasdorp area) and offshore Durban (Eastern Margin area). Data acquisition will commence in January 2016 and is anticipated to take four months utilising specialised geophysical survey aircraft. The project has received significant prefunding from the oil industry; survey data and interpretation products will be available for licensing in mid-2016.

The survey will provide partial coverage of the largely underexplored Western Bredasdorp, Durban and Zululand basins and the data will assist with mapping crystalline basement

and magnetic and density anomalies within the sedimentary section. The airborne survey will allow data collection through the transition zone from the marine environment to the near-shore.

In-house Data Analysis

A comprehensive interpretation, combining this new data set with available geologic and geophysical data, will also be undertaken by CGG's in-house interpretation team. Deliverables will include a full geophysical interpretation report, including definition of basement lithology and structure, mapping of sediment fairways and depositional-centres and any intrusives or salt which may be present in the sedimentary section. The final results will be presented in ArcGIS® format for assimilation into the clients' own seismic, geological and well control databases. These survey deliverables will provide significant assistance to exploration and de-risking of prospective areas by oil companies when they become available for licensing in mid-2016.

Greg Paleolog, senior vice president, Multi-Physics, CGG, expects that this multi-client South Africa project will be a great addition to the existing multi-client gravity & magnetic database containing over 16 million line kilometres of profile data.