



**Virtual Continuing Education Energy Conference**

# ***Uncertain Times – Working Better to the Bottom Line***

**PDI** Professional  
Development  
Institute  
University of North Texas

January 26-27, 2021  
Earn Up To 8 Hours CPE

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# Virtual Schedule and Speakers

## Speakers January 26, 2021

Tuesday/ 9 a.m. CST /Session 1

### **The Ten Biggest Royalty Owner Complaints About Communicating With Operators**

*Featuring G. Wade Caldwell, Incoming President, National Association of Royalty Owners*



Tuesday/ 10 a.m. CST /Session 2

### **The Gold in Green Energy**

*Featuring Mike Schiller, Managing Director, FireBox Research*



Tuesday/ 11 a.m. CST /Session 3

### **Key Elements of State and Federal Audits**

*Featuring Derek A. Weekly, Audit Manager, State of Wyoming, Department of Audit*



Tuesday/ 12 p.m. CST /Session 4

### **Potential Oil & Gas Tax Changes Under the Biden Administration**

*Featuring Rob Opitz, Partner, BKD, CPAs & Advisors*



## Speakers / January 27, 2021

Wednesday/ 9 a.m. CST /Session 5

### **Moving Forward in Domestic & International Basins**

*Featuring Malone Mitchell, Managing Partner / Longfellow Exploration and / CEO / Transatlantic Petroleum*



Wednesday/ 10 a.m. CST /Session 6

### **Getting Thru Upstream Bankruptcy with Minimal Pain for All - A Panel Discussion**

*Featuring Mark Solomon (top, CAO of UP Energy, LLP) Jonathan Harms (center, Director, Dacarba/Ooportune) Moderator Jonathon Fite (bottom, President, PDI)*



Wednesday/ 11 a.m. CST /Session 7

### **Cash Flow Modeling in Upstream Oil & Gas**

*Featuring Brad Johann, CEO, E&P Cash Flow Modeling, LLC*



Wednesday/ 12 p.m. CST /Session 8

### **Navigating the Cyberthreat Landscape**

*Featuring David Evenden, CEO, StandardUser Cyber Security*



**Join us  
online  
Jan 26-27**

# *Join Us Virtually For A New, Information-Filled 2-Morning Conference For Oil and Gas Industry Professionals*

**Only \$99  
Register Now!  
[energy.pdi.org](http://energy.pdi.org)**

We are excited to announce another new, all-virtual conference coming this January, designed specially for the business side of energy. Two half-day educational sessions featuring a number of industry experts are scheduled in an easy-to-access, modular format where participants can earn up to 8 CPE hours in topics ranging from potential oil and gas tax changes under a new administration to how to move the industry forward, both internationally and domestically. Read on for information about all our speakers and topics. Visit us at [energy.pdi.org](http://energy.pdi.org) for quick registration.

## **Who Should Attend**

- Accounting and financial management employees working in upstream and midstream accounting in oil and gas
- Public accounting and governmental entity employees working in Audit, Tax, Consulting and Royalty Reconciliation
- Those new to the industry seeking overall knowledge of the industry from accounting, financial and technical aspects in upstream and midstream accounting functions

**Advance Prep:** None

**Program Level:** Basic to Intermediate

**Delivery Method:** Group-Live (presented online due to COVID-19)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Recommended CPE Credit:** Up to 8 hours

**Learning Objectives:** To gain improved understanding of the complex issues around the current state of the industry and to learn ways to help navigate them in this time of stress exacerbated by low commodity prices and COVID-19.

**Terms and Conditions:** Please note that the following apply to all registrants, whether pre-paid or invoiced. A participant may receive a full refund by providing to PDI written cancellation 10 or more business days prior to the starting date of the program. No refunds will be granted within 10 business days of the starting date of the program. No refunds will be granted after the start of the program. Substitutions are accepted at any time up to and including the starting date of the program. If the enrollment is not sufficient to warrant holding the program, PDI reserves the right to cancel. If this situation does occur, you would receive a full refund. PDI is not responsible for any expenses incurred by registrant due to cancellation.

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Jonathon Fite – President, Professional Development Institute, 1155 Union Circle #305101. Denton, TX., 76203. Email: [jfite@pdi.org](mailto:jfite@pdi.org)

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**The Professional Development Institute at the University of North Texas** is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit education corporation that provides versatile training services, and is recognized as one of the world's largest providers of oil and gas accounting education and training.

PDI, 1155 Union Circle #305101, Denton, TX 76203

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# Classes / Times / Topic / Speaker Bios

## Tuesday Schedule

**9 a.m. CST**

### **The Ten Biggest Royalty Owner Complaints About Communicating with Operators**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

Improving communication between royalty owners and operators is a key to success for both parties. Eliminating confusion can go straight to the bottom line in many ways. Here we discuss the top 10 from the royalty owner's point of view.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **G. Wade Caldwell / Incoming President / National Association of Royalty Owners**

Wade's practice has included a wide range of oil and gas law and commercial litigation with an emphasis on representation of mineral owners, heavy equipment dealers, real estate, construction, DTPA, collection litigation, and other complex commercial disputes.

**10 a.m. CST**

### **The Gold in Green Energy**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

Renewables are the fastest growing sector of the energy industry, not just in America but globally. This presentation will cover the economics of renewables and examine the sources of value and cost to the Operator, Mineral Owners and Surface Owner and how each can profit from working together.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **Mike Schiller / Managing Director / FireBox Research**

Mike is a 22-year veteran of the power and gas utility industry with extensive experience in developing renewables projects and managing power and energy trading and development. His background includes work as an analyst and executive for electric utilities, gas utilities, energy technology consulting and power development projects.



**11 a.m. CST**

### **Key Elements of State and Federal Audits**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

The topic will consist of going through the audit process and ways for a company to be prepared for an audit. Or simply put, "**How to survive an audit.**" Derek will discuss ways that will make the audit more efficient and effective and will benefit both the auditors and companies by saving time and resources. He will discuss areas throughout the process that are beneficial for the auditor and company to work together to make the audit run more efficiently and effectively. Current audits will be considered and how they are conducted during these trying times.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **Derek A. Weekly / Audit Manager / State of Wyoming, Department of Audit**

Derek has worked for the State of Wyoming for 27 years. He has been in his current position of Audit Manager for 22 years. As an audit manager, he is responsible for directly leading and supervising a team of eight to ten auditors in completing audits of state severance taxes, state royalties, federal royalties, and ad valorem values. He oversees audits of oil, gas, coal, coalbed methane, and trona. For the past several years he has specialized in oil and gas audits. He is responsible for all in-house training courses and has also presented a variety of mineral related topics to various agencies and for state legislative committees. He has previous experience with conducting presentations at the COPAS National Meetings, Colorado COPAS Meetings, and PDI conferences. He has developed various sampling techniques that are currently being administered and that have been challenged and upheld at the Supreme Court.

**12 p.m. CST**

### **Potential Oil & Gas Tax Changes Under the Biden Administration**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

Explore the anticipated impact of the 2020 election on taxation of oil and gas producers and transporters and how that may affect company practices to help mitigate negative consequence to our industry.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **Rob Opitz / Partner / BKD, CPAs & Advisors**

Rob is a Tax Partner with BKD and has 25 years of experience serving clients in various oil and gas verticals, including: upstream, mid-stream, downstream, servicing, industrials, energy funds, general partnerships, S-corporations, and M&A transactions. Before joining BKD, Rob served as managing partner and head of tax for a large local firm in Fort Worth, Texas and started his career at a large international public accounting firm. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Texas Society of CPAs. He also is active in the Fort Worth community and serves on several boards.

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# Classes / Times / Topic / Speaker Bios

## Wednesday Schedule

**9 a.m. CST**

### **Moving Forward in Domestic & International Basins**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

Malone will discuss operational and logistical challenges of operating across three different basins in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. He will also compare and contrast working domestically versus internationally. Jonathon Fite will pose questions regarding such challenges created by the dynamic changes that have occurred in our industry over recent years. Malone will cover his unique perspective on how 2021 will shape up for the small Independent, exploring both opportunities and challenges.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **Malone Mitchell / Managing Partner / Longfellow Exploration and / CEO / Transatlantic Petroleum**

Malone founded Riata Management, LLC in 2005 and Longfellow Energy, LP in 2006; prior to that, he founded Riata Energy (now SandRidge Energy) in 1984. He served as Operations Manager at Riata Energy until 1989 when he assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, which he held until June, 2006. During this period, Riata grew from \$500 to become one of the largest privately held energy companies and the largest privately held land driller in the US and had significant midstream and tertiary oil production operations. Until December 2006, Malone held the position of President and COO, when he decided to resign from daily management in the company. Prior to his involvement with Riata Energy, he worked in the oil field services industry and was employed in his family's ranching and aviation businesses. He is also actively involved in the venture capital and agriculture business.

**10 a.m. CST**

### **Getting Thru Upstream Bankruptcy with Minimal Pain for All - A Panel Discussion**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

This panel discussion addresses the process of going through Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings from the points of view of the client and an advisory firm. Questions will be offered to provide visibility into practices and processes that can make the procedures less intimidating for client employees in Accounting, Finance and Operations as well as to gain advice on how to conduct the procedures.

#### **About the Panelists**

##### **Mark Solomon / CAO / UP Energy, LLC**

Mark has served as Vice President – Chief Accounting Officer and Controller of UP Energy, LLC and its predecessor company, Ultra Petroleum Corp., since 2019. Prior to joining UPE, he served in various accounting, financial reporting and leadership roles at SM Energy Company from 1996 to 2018, most recently as Vice President and Controller. He began his career as an auditor with Ernst & Young LLP in 1991, working first in EY's Nashville office and then in their Denver office. He serves as Board President of Colorado Christian Services, is a member of the board of Dry Bones Denver, and is a past Board Chair of the Colorado Society of CPAs.

##### **Jonathon Fite / President / PDI**

In addition to his role at PDI, Jonathon is also a UNT Operations & Logistics lecturer. He manages a pure pay-for-performance hedge fund. He also serves as a Director for the UNT Foundation and TransAtlantic Petroleum, a NYSE listed oil & gas exploration company

in Dallas. Jonathon has led several large program teams on complex projects including the HP-Compaq merger and the Sprint-Nextel merger. His work includes scoping large transformation programs and developing robust business cases to support change initiatives.

#### **Jonathan Harms / Director / Dacarba**

Jonathan is a Director of Dacarba, an Opportune Company, a professional services firm focused on advising clients through challenging financial situations and solving complex business problems. The Dacarba team of consultants advise company management, boards of directors, and other key stakeholders through core service offerings of complex financial reporting, litigation support & financial advisory, process & technology, restructuring, strategy & organization and tax. Jonathan has extensive oil & gas banking experience at the Madava Group, Morgan Stanley, Barclays and DeutchBank.

**11 a.m. CST**

### **Cash Flow Modeling in Upstream Oil & Gas**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

So, you've been thinking about enhancing your company's cash flow model? What functionality would you like incorporated, and how dynamic should it be? Could it be improved to help with issues beyond the typical liquidity and leverage forecasts, such as going concern assessments or OCC repayment tests? This session will focus on a variety of topics and strategies aimed at building an E&P cash flow model for the current environment and beyond.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **Brad Johann / CEO / E&P Cash Flow Modeling, LLC**

Brad spent 16 years in banking (~10 with Wells Fargo and ~6 with US Bank). In July 2019, he left banking to follow his passion and founded E&P Cash Flow Modeling, LLC. Having built E&P models at both Wells Fargo and US Bank, Brad understands the challenging landscape facing E&P companies today. He has an Advanced Financial Modeling certification, in addition to Series 79 & 66 Investment Banking licenses (currently inactive).

**12 p.m. CST**

### **Navigating the Cyberthreat Landscape**

*(Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge)*

David will discuss the threat to energy companies from cyber attacks, explaining how energy organizations of all sizes and disciplines can combat such threats mitigating risks through increasing awareness, compliance with best practices and managing vulnerability.

#### **About the Instructor**

##### **David Evenden / CEO / StandardUser Cyber Security**

David is the founder of StandardUser Cyber, an operational and educational security firm dedicated to helping organizations meet security compliance and bringing industry standard information security certification training to US business and the university classroom. He is an offensive security operator with experience working in the US Intelligence Community (IC). He learned Persian Farsi, worked at NSA Red Team, and was a member of an elite international team operating in conjunction with coalition forces to aid in the ongoing efforts in the Middle East. He is currently focused on working with DHS & FBI to aid in the efforts to enhance the bidirectional sharing relationship between the US Government and Commercial entities, and to track foreign intelligence activity in US Based Commercial Critical Infrastructure.