



An Introduction to Petroleum Technology, Economics, and Politics

James G. Speight

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The perfect primer for both the layperson and the engineer, for the new hire and the old hand, describing, in easy-to-understand language, one of the biggest and most lucrative industries in the world.

There is only one substance known to mankind that can cause wars, influence global economies, and make entire countries rich: petroleum. One teaspoon of the stuff carries enough energy to power a ton truck up a hill. It's in the news every single day, it influences our lives in ways that we cannot fathom, and it is the most important commodity in the world. But how much does the average person, even the average engineer, know about it?

This book describes the petroleum industry, in easy-to-understand language, for both the layperson and engineer alike. From the economics of searching for oil and gas to the pitfalls of drilling and production, getting it out of the ground, into pipelines, into refineries, and, finally, into your gas tank, this book covers the petroleum industry like no other treatment before. There is coverage of pricing and the economics of this very important resource, as well, which is useful not only to engineers, but to economists and, really, anyone who uses it.

From jet fuel to gasoline to natural gas and plastics, petroleum is one of the integral products of our lives. We are practically bathed in it from birth, our food is protected by it, and it even has healing properties. Learn all about this incredible substance and its fascinating history and highly debated future.

An Introduction to Petroleum Technology, Economics, and Politics:

- Gives a thorough summary of the petroleum and natural gas industry, from prospect to production to pipeline
- New technologies, such as directional and underbalanced drilling, are covered, in easy-to-understand language
- Useful not only for newcomers and laypersons, but for engineers and students, particularly those for whom English is a second language
- Examines the basics of pricing and valuation

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