CiSoft/*i-field* Forum 2008

This year's 5th annual CiSoft/i-field Forum was a tremendous success. The four day event was hosted at the University of Southern California's Davidson Conference Center and Galen Center from Monday, March 24th thru Thursday, March 28th. An overwhelming 185 were in attendance, made up of Chevron's *i-field* members in conjunction with USC's faculty and students involved in the Center for Interactive Smart OilField Technologies (CiSoft). The forum was the perfect opportunity to present all the innovative technology and projects brought by both *i-field* and CiSoft and opened up the gates for more to come.

The major highlights were Monday and Wednesday's interactive poster sessions. *i-field* set the bar high on Monday with posters and demonstrations that showcased the progress and solutions that their business units had achieved. Wednesday was CiSoft's shining hour (actually CiSoft's shining 3 hours) to flaunt what their research had accomplished over the past year. Accompanying their posters, CiSoft's exhibits also included a module, sensors, embedded processors, GPS displays, and an underwater networking demonstration. Yet, the real triumph was the interaction and exchanging of ideas between *i-field* and CiSoft members. New challenges were set, but new contacts and fresh ideas were eagerly ready to accept.

The 2008 i-field/CiSoft forum will surely be remembered for its tribute to Don Paul, who will be resigning his title as Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of the Chevron Corporation this year. Don Paul was a founder of CiSoft and is responsible for much of the support and energy that it takes to drive a brand new organization in the right direction. His leadership has had a direct effect on the growth of CiSoft from roughly 20 USC faculty and student members in 2004 to 80 USC members in 2008. CiSoft and *i-field* will embrace its commencement with Don Paul and continue to progress like a well **Oil**ed machine.