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ENERGY

1998-1999 E&Y Fixed-Rate Overhead Survey

To Oil and Gas Producers

Ernst & Young LLP is pleased to provide you with the results of our 17th survey (Adobe Acrobat - 193K) of combined fixed-rate overhead charge

These results are based on responses to a questionnaire distributed in , thus the information should generally reflect operating agreements in effect at the time. The questionnaire was structured to obtain information for drilling and producing rates at various well depths in 16 U.S. geographic regions. The response rate from current operators was 24%.

Would you like to learn more? See more highlights about the companies that responded, contact E&Y professionals or download related publications from our online library. We also feature the Overhead Adjustment Factor, approved by the Council for Petroleum Accountants Societies (COPAS).

Participants were asked to identify the type and size of their company and the employment services included in overhead rates. More than 93% of the participants provided additional information about their companies:

- 92% are independents with assets of less than \$50 million.
- 93% are privately owned.
- 35% include salaries and expenses in overhead rates for directly employed personnel.
- 15% include consultant and contract expenses in overhead rates for temporarily employed personnel.
- 21% include salaries and expenses in overhead rates for temporarily employed personnel.
- 10% include consultant and contract expenses in overhead rates for temporarily employed personnel.

The following two factors are provided for each region:

1. Average based on number of responses in each category.
2. Median rate (at which there are an equal number greater than and less than)

Although we have solicited and compiled the information included in this we have not verified the responses and, therefore, make no representation as to the accuracy of the submitted data.

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ENERGY

Annual Overhead Adjustment Factor

The Council for Petroleum Accountants Societies ("COPAS")*, at its annual spring meeting, approves the annual adjustment to be applied to the combined fixed-rate overhead charges as provided in certain accounting procedures. With the permission of COPAS, we publish the following table reflecting the annual percentage change in these statistics since 1963:

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1963	1.6%	1981	9.3%
1964	3.9%	1982	13.0%
1965	.8%	1983	9.9%
1966	2.2%	1984	5.9%
1967	3.6%	1985	2.7%
1968	5.4%	1986	4.4%
1969	1.9%	1987	4.5%
1970	7.0%	1988	(1.4)%
1971	5.9%	1989	3.3%
1972	8.9%	1990	8.1%
1973	7.5%	1991	7.2%
1974	5.2%	1992	1.5%
1975	16.7%	1993	(1.1)%
1976	10.3%	1994	4.8%
1977	10.5%	1995	4.4%
1978	10.3%	1996	4.1%
1979	11.0%	1997	2.0%
1980	9.3%	1998	10.3%
		1999	5.8%

* Other than furnishing the annual adjustment factor, COPAS does not provide any other information in this Survey of Combined Fixed-Rate Overhead Charges for Oil and Gas.

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