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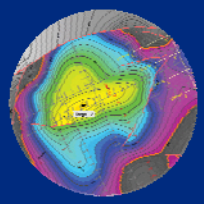
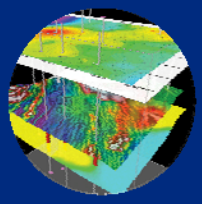
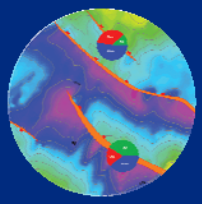
EDITION Number 7 - Q1 2008







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PETROSYS

Unearth A Masterpiece.

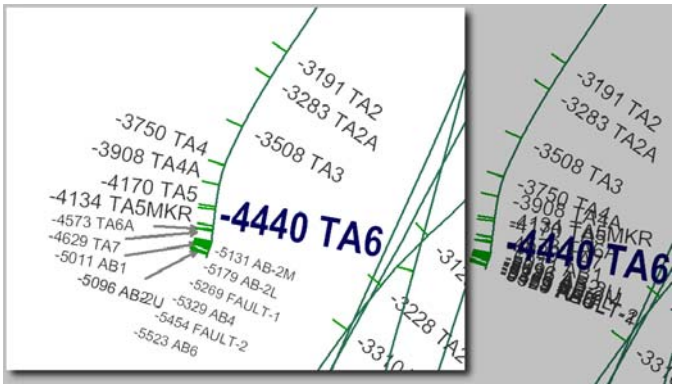
Manual Overpost Correction a Feature of v16.3

The overposting of text annotations for well, seismic, culture and polygon data can now be corrected by on screen editing.

Overposted text drawn on a map (a piece of text that clashes with another piece of text or other feature) may now be manually corrected. Text can be edited individually or in groups. It can be scaled, shifted or hidden; and arrows can optionally be added to link it to the original location.

Corrections on a given map are loosely connected to the original data source so that the same corrections can be applied when the map is recreated with different interpretations or attribute selections at the same location. Corrections are made in an overpost editing mode which, when invoked, takes control from Petrosys' standard picking functionality. The overpost editing mode applies to a single display layer at a time.

Overpost problems may be fixed by dragging text to a new position (including optionally drawing an arrow between the text and its original position), resizing text and hiding text from view. The easiest way to invoke the overpost correction mode is to pick some text to correct and use the new overpost correction icon, or the right mouse button popup menu option "Overpost correct". This will trigger a redraw and the display of the "Overpost Correction" dialog which contains icons to invoke the various correction actions. At this point, all text for the selected layer may be dragged or adjusted in other ways (an efficient way to edit text is to use the keyboard shortcuts - refer to the online help topic).



Above: Manually corrected formation tops along a deviated well path. In white "the corrected text" and in grey the original display.

Prior to correcting text, it is strongly recommended to start with a map that is as close as possible to the final outcome. The reason for this is that corrections are applied based on the position text is drawn at, and this can change based on mapsheet scale and some display layer properties, potentially rendering the overpost corrections invalid.

How to Quality Control Your Input Data When Gridding

Sampled data files are a quick and powerful way for users to quality control and, if necessary, edit the input data to gridding tasks.

Sampled data files consist of all the gridding input data transformed into simple xyz point data. The file is generated by changing the "sampled data file action" selection which may be found on the Input Data tab of the gridding control dialogue box (Figure 1, right). Users may "create and edit before gridding", "create" (without the opportunity to edit) or choose not to create the file.

If the choice to create and edit before gridding is selected then a sampled data file editing dialogue box is presented to the user immediately on initiating the gridding task (Figure 2).

The sampled data file editing dialogue box displays a number of representations of all the input data together with statistics showing the range and distribution of the z values contained in the input data.

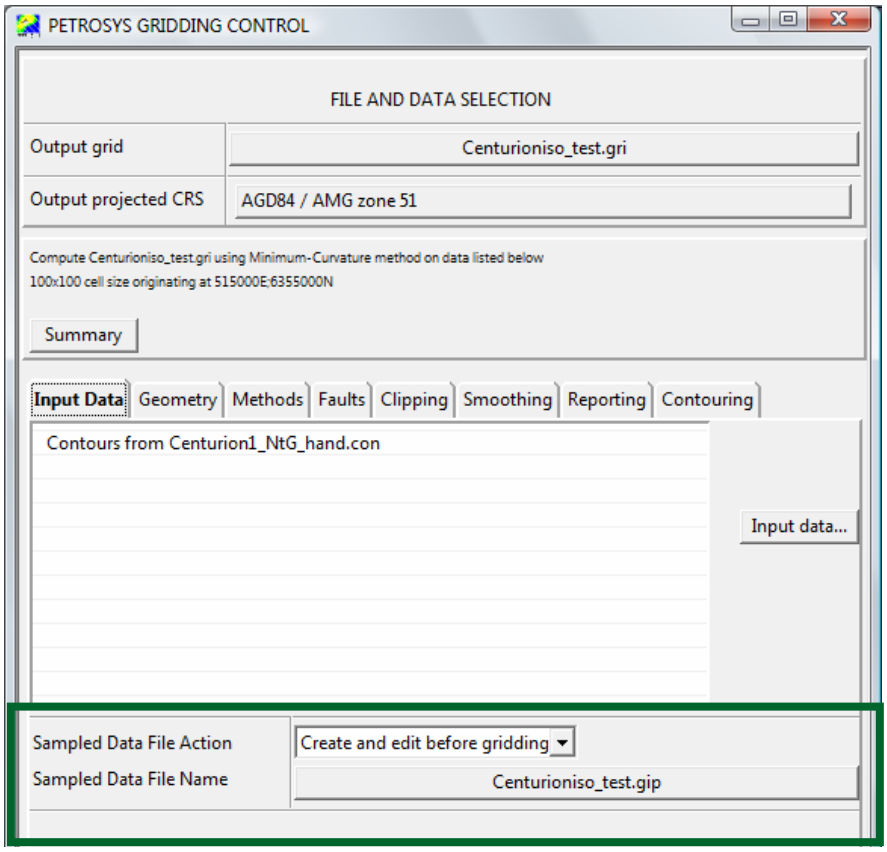
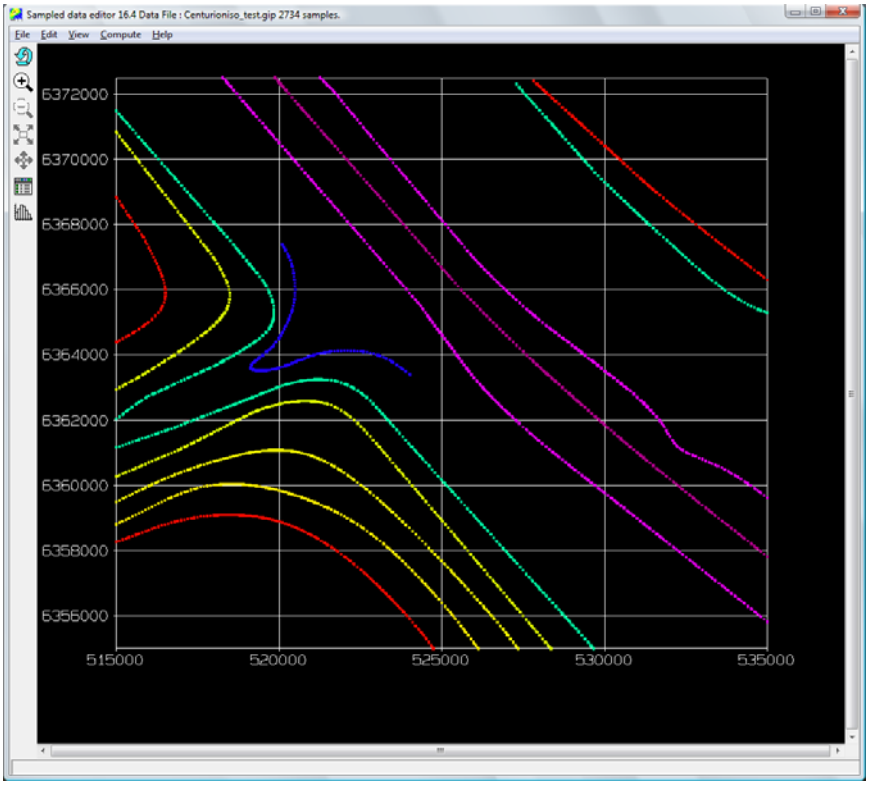


Figure 1 (above) - Option to select sample data file action.

Figure 2 (below) - Sampled Data File editing dialogue box showing map view of data points.



The first screen presented to the user shows a basic map view of the data in point form. The z value of the data is represented by a Petrosys colour gradient for ease of interpretation. The user may toggle between the map view, a standard histogram view, and a cumulative histogram (Figure 3 & Figure 4). Basic statistical data is shown below the histogram views allowing the user to quality control the range of values in the input data.

On each of the sampled data file editor screens the user may perform quality control and editing tasks on the input data. In the map view, data points may be edited individually or by enclosing points within a hand drawn polygon or a pre-prepared Petrosys polygon file. Edited points can be deleted entirely or given a specific z value determined by the user. Within the histogram views, users can quickly examine input for "bad" data points. These may be dealt with by specifying the removal of a range within which the bad data falls. Data points may also be added to the input here if the user requires more gridding control.

How to Quality Control Your Input Data When Gridding

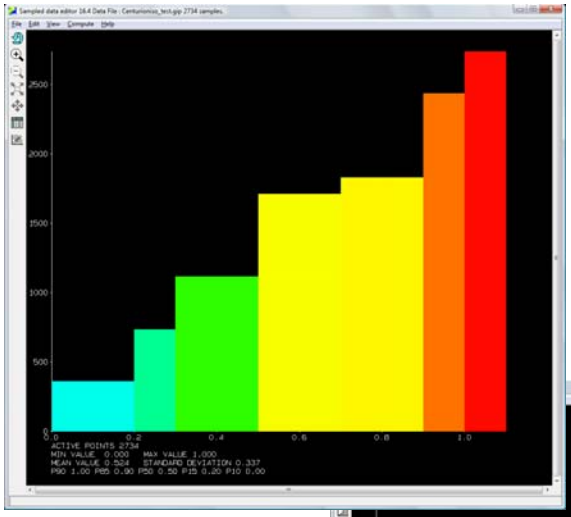


Figure 3 (left). Histogram view of input data.

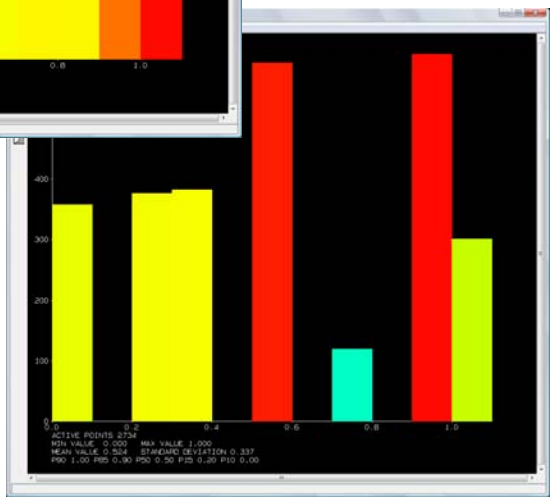


Figure 4 (right). Histogram view of the sampled data file editing dialogue box. Often useful to identify "bad data" points outside of reasonable data value ranges.

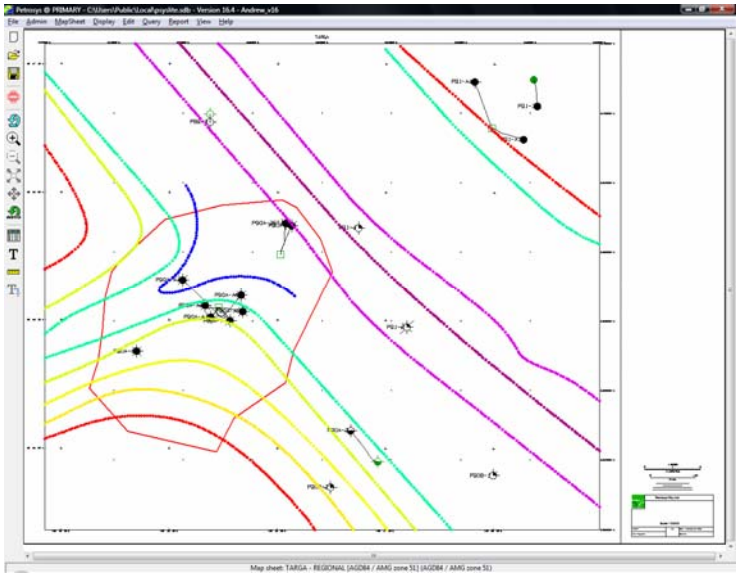


Figure 5 (left) - Sampled Data Files can be displayed on a Petrosys map.

Once data has been edited or quality controlled to the user's satisfaction, gridding may be resumed by selecting the compute option from the Grid menu.

Save & display sample data files

A powerful feature of the sampled data file is the ability to save the edited sampled data file. This gives the user the option to provide a meaningful name to the file allowing them to create a record of the final data used as input to the gridding task. The generated data file can be posted on a map to provide a visual record of the final input to the gridding (Figure 5). Additionally, a separate file may be generated of any added points that were not present in the original data.

If desired, the gridding task may be postponed after editing the sampled data file and the edited file used in place of the original data. In this way the task becomes repeatable without requiring the user to edit the input data every time the gridding task is run. In complex, multitask workflows which may be re-run numerous times before a final solution is arrived at, this can be a great advantage.

Sampled data file editing is available in all modes of Petrosys use whether the user is drawing data directly from Petrosys files (e.g. WDF, SDF etc) or using multiple connections to directly read data from a third party application (e.g. SMT, SeisWorks, OpenWorks, GeoFrame etc). Editing the sampled data file in no way affects the original input data.

For more information please consult our online help or feel free to contact Petrosys support via telephone or email.

Houston Inaugurates Training Facility

A group of Nigerian students became the first Petrosys users to benefit from Houston's expanded training facilities. A new 700 square foot training room includes 12 individual workstations for students as well as dual screen projectors for the instructor. In addition to public training courses, the training room is available for company specific Petrosys training and workshops. There are upcoming public courses in Houston (May & June) and Perth (April). For questions email training@petrosys.com.au or go online www.petrosys.com.au/training

Interview: Streamlining Installation of Petrosys

Petrosysguru.com spoke with software developer Michael Partridge about the ongoing work to make Petrosys software installation even better on Windows.

What does MSI stand for and what's it all about?

MSI doesn't actually stand for anything. Originally it was an acronym for Microsoft Software Installer, but I guess Microsoft decided they wanted to link it more closely to Windows, so renamed the product Windows Installer, the acronym just stuck.

Windows Installer is an installation engine that Microsoft developed to help software providers install their products. Basically the vendor provides a package (often called the MSI) which is kind of a relational database which specifies the "components" which need to be installed onto the user's computer. Windows Installer reads the package and determines what to do to install it.

Is it a new technology? Do others use it?

Windows Installer 1.0 was first shipped as a part of Microsoft Windows 2000. The most commonly installed versions are Windows Installer 3.1, shipped as a part of XP SP2 and Windows Installer 4.0 which is shipped with Windows Vista.

The Petrosys install package has been tested to run with Windows Installer 2.0, which is available as an upgrade for Windows 2000, the minimum Windows operating system supported by Petrosys. Of course, we've also tested with newer versions of Windows Installer on XP and Vista systems.

Most other software vendors use Windows Installer to deploy their products, with many installation software providers (e.g. InstallShield) now using Windows Installer as the installation engine underneath their own products. With the release of Windows Vista and User Account Control, Windows Installer is the easiest method of deploying a product.

Why should we care about this ... what's in it for me?

Three groups really benefit from the move to Windows Installer, Petrosys developers, sysadmins and end users.

For Petrosys it means that we can more easily control the version of files on the user's computer, which gives us more flexibility in creating releases. For example, we can create patch releases faster and more consistently. In fact, this is something that we've already made use of to create patches for 16.3.

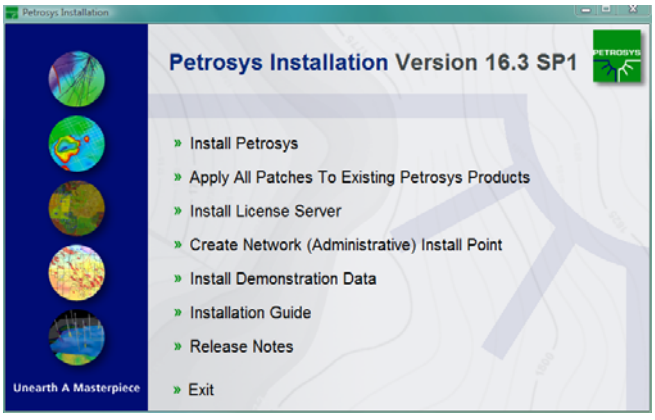
For system administrators it gives them a simpler method of deploying the product across their organisation. With the use of administrative packages, transforms and Microsoft SMS an administrator can push out a new version of Petrosys across their organisation without leaving their desk.

For users Windows Installer gives a number of benefits including:

Self-healing of the application: If a user's Petrosys install becomes corrupted (e.g. files accidentally deleted) they can run the Repair function through the Control Panel's Add or Remove Programs utility. This will restore the corrupted files to their original install state.

Addition of features: If a user installs a new product that Petrosys supports through a plugin (e.g. ESRI ArcGIS) they can go into the Control Panel's Add or Remove Programs and use the Change function. This will allow them to add the Petrosys plugin to an existing install without needing an uninstall or even the original distribution DVD.

Better uninstall: Windows Installer tracks each component installed on the user's computer, so when they want to uninstall Petrosys (say an old version) all installed files will be removed. The only items that are left are "user data", for example, the projects list, for use with your next install of Petrosys.



What does the latest Petrosys release (16.3) support and how has management of Petrosys windows installs improved?

16.3sp2 supports standard user installs with elevated (administrative) access rights, configurable local folder (e.g. on a shared drive for use by Windows and Unix users) and simple administrative install point creation.

In addition, the Petrosys Windows install package helps with the initial configuration of Petrosys by assisting the user to select appropriate license settings based on their existing settings or a license file provided by Petrosys.

Can we look forward to more enhancements on this front in the next Petrosys release (16.4)?

The Petrosys install package will continue to be developed and enhanced based on feedback from users - in the end, users don't care about the install process, they just want to use Petrosys. Our job is to get them running Petrosys with the minimum of fuss. 16.4 will help with configuration by setting default data connections and database options for users.

Beyond 16.4 there are a number of development options, however we are really interested in hearing from customers - is there anything that bugs them when installing and first using Petrosys? Maybe we can help.