Petroleum engineers join Ryder Scott

Yao Tian

Yao Tian joined the Houston office as a petroleum engineer in the reservoir simulation group. She is an expert in petrophysical interpretations of both conventional and unconventional reservoirs.

Most recently, Tian worked at Ryder Scott as a contractor on a multidisciplinary team estimating the reserves of offshore properties in China. Before that, she was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Houston during 2016 to 2018.

At the university, Tian conducted petrophysical analyses of several oil and gas properties in the Upper Bakken shale and Upper Three Forks formation. She also used machine learning to select controls for regional production from 2,100 wells in the Bakken play.

Tian also helped develop and teach an unconventional resources engineering class in petrophysics.

Before that, she worked at Marathon Oil Corp. as a petrophysicist, starting in 2014. She conducted analyses of completion designs in the Eagle Ford shale play. Tian also performed studies of formations in the Austin chalk, Mowry shale, Woodford and Caney shales and Marchand and Medrano sandstones.

She has a BS degree in petroleum engineering from China University of Geosciences in Beijing, and MS and PhD degrees in petroleum engineering from Texas A&M University, where she also received a faculty award of excellence.

Tian wrote nine published technical papers while studying and working at the universities.

Steven Beck

Steven Beck joined the newly formed facilities engineering group as a project engineer - integrated services. His experience in process engineering comprises simulation and optimization for facilities, including midstream, pipelines, downstream and petrochemicals.

Beck also developed process data — from design and sensitivity through equipment sizing and cost estimation to financial analysis and investment profiles.

Before joining Ryder Scott, he was a consultant in advisory services at Kellogg, Brown & Root Inc. where he worked on due diligence and related strategy. In 2017, Beck was a process and production engineer at Westlake Chemical Corp. He analyzed cooling-water flows to streamline future design and optimize flow patterns at chemical facilities.

Before that, he worked at P.O.&G. Resources LP as an engineering analyst. Beck evaluated and optimized operating costs of fields in west Texas and Oklahoma.

He has a BS degree in chemical engineering from the University of Texas. Beck is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.