



CONWY VALLEY SYSTEMS LTD.
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Image Management: A History of Innovation

In 1997 Conwy Valley Systems Limited (CVS) were requested by three Norwegian Oil Companies, Statoil, Nork Hydro and Saga, to create a system for sharing petrographic data amongst themselves. CVS was chosen because of its track record in enabling sharing and setting standards for data management. The system developed by CVS became PETROG, the world's first commercial digital petrography system.

In 2002 Conwy Valley Systems Limited developed the world's first fully automated stepping stage for a pol microscope. The design was so advanced that even now it would still be superior to anything else now available, but our goal then as now was the advancement of the science of petrography so, rather than simply offering a service better than anything else available, we were interested in offering the best possible. We have therefore continued to improve the stepping stage, with developments in wireless technology as well as improvements to accuracy and reliability.



Since introducing the first system and setting the standard for digital petrography, our offering has remained the only one integrating images with petrographic analysis. Managing the images has therefore always been an integral part of PETROG. With advances in computing power we have been able to go further, and archive entire petrographic samples as 'Virtual Images' at the highest resolutions available. Following our lead, there are now many services on offer but only PETROG integrates the images with petrographic data. Additionally, PETROG guarantees an understanding of the science of petrography and is therefore uniquely able to safeguard this valuable resource for petrographers and the whole enterprise.

We have continually invested in research and development to retain the position of the PETROG software as the most advanced petrographic data management system. These efforts have benefited petrographers at over 300 installations around the world, in industry, academia and in regulatory laboratories, but they were also recognised in 2011 by the UK's most prestigious business honour: The Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation. We are very proud of our achievements and aim to continue the path of investing in R&D in pursuit of petrographic technical excellence.