



For Immediate Release

Career path for Energy Asset Management made easier through program approval

October 9, 2008, Calgary, Alberta — SAIT Polytechnic will soon be accepting applications for an innovative new two-year diploma program in Energy Asset Management. The program, recently approved by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, will focus on the management and administration of regulatory, financial and contractual compliance pertaining to energy assets.

“This is an exciting new opportunity for those wanting to work in the oil and gas sector,” says Dr. Gordon Nixon, SAIT’s Vice President Academic. “The Energy Asset Management program will integrate all of the asset management disciplines: Mineral Land and Contracts, Surface Land, Operations and Production Accounting, Joint Ventures and Well Asset Management.”

The first known program of its kind in North America, SAIT’s Energy Asset Management program was developed in part with the Centre for Energy Asset Management Studies (CEAMS).

“This program approval is critical to increasing industry support as it takes the CEAMS vision from concept to reality,” says Melinda Scherger, Chair of the CEAMS Board of Directors. “The oil and gas industry is facing a shortfall of approximately 2,000 people in this area of expertise within the next 10 years. Future SAIT graduates who have studied Energy Asset Management will be tremendously valuable to industry.”

Applications for the two-year program will be accepted beginning November 1, 2008 with the program starting in September 2009.

Long-term plans also include development of an applied degree program, requiring an additional two years of study, one of which will be Directed Field Studies in a corporate environment. The applied degree will have three potential areas of specialization – Land and Joint Ventures, Operations and Production Accounting, and Well Asset Management.

More details on the Energy Asset Management program can be found on sait.ca.

SAIT Polytechnic has maintained close association with business and industry to ensure graduate success since 1916. SAIT offers 68 certificate, diploma, and applied degree programs as well as 33 apprenticeship programs, 300 distance education courses and 1,800 continuing education and customized corporate training courses. SAIT offers training in 15 countries around the world and has 75,000 course and program registrants each year. SAIT is a proud member of Polytechnics Canada.

The Centre for Energy Asset Management Studies (CEAMS) is an independent, non-profit organization established to influence and promote asset management skills development for and within the energy sector. For more information on CEAMS, please see www.ceams.org.

-END-

Media inquiries, please contact:

Heidi Sparks, SAIT Corporate Communications
Bus: 403-284-8473; Cell: 403-512-3291

Roger Rowley, CEAMS
Bus: 403-244-8175; Cell: 403-585-5421