Core has traditionally played a key role in the characterisation of conventional and unconventional hydrocarbon reservoirs, from exploration to mature production. It is the only means by which to observe and make measurements on actual reservoir rock. However, recent oil industry downturns have driven many to question the value of taking core, due to the associated increased costs and potential risks to well operations. In tandem, advances in other reservoir visualisation techniques, such as seismic and borehole imaging, have been used to give weight to the argument that coring is an increasingly redundant means of characterising reservoirs.

This multi-themed 4-day virtual conference will aim to redress the balance in this debate by exploring the role core can, or should, play in 21st century exploration, appraisal and production, and the emerging field of carbon storage. It will ask:

- Is core critical to sound commercial decision making?
- What are the challenges and benefits of integrating core-derived understanding across the geological, petrophysical and engineering spectrum?
- Integration of traditional core characterisation methods with new core, well and reservoir visualisation and mapping technologies - is the sum greater than its parts?
- How can the extensive network of global legacy core collections be best utilised to maximise their business and research worth?
- What role does core have in appraising reservoirs for hydrogen and carbon storage?

Dedicated virtual viewings will allow delegates to explore core that has been central to addressing key reservoir issues, under the direct guidance of those responsible for their assessment.

A discussion panel at the end of the conference will debate the future role of core in the lifecycle of a field and consider best practice as the nature and scope of subsurface challenges continues to evolve.

For further information:
For more information, please contact Sarah Woodcock, sarah.woodcock@geolsoc.org.uk or visit the conference website: https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/05-rescheduled-pg-core-values-2021