

SEG-Y Format Modernized

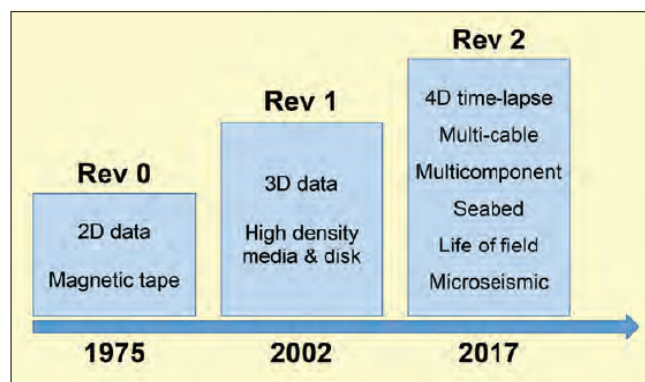
Version 2.0 acknowledges acquisition updates.

CONTRIBUTED BY TROIKA

SEG-Y has been the default standard for storing and exchanging processed seismic data since it was published in 1975. A revision in 2002 extended the standard to handle 3-D acquisition and high-capacity media. Since then, extensive developments in data acquisition and processing capabilities such as time-lapse (4-D), multicable, multicomponent and seabed data have continued to evolve, requiring a further revision of the format to ensure accurate capture of the data and associated metadata to future-proof valuable information on tape or disk.

Jill Lewis, managing director of Troika International and chair of the SEG Technical Standards Committee, led a team that has recently released specifications for SEG-Y revision 2.0. The revised format provides for up to 65,535 additional 240-byte trace headers for

metadata, more than 4 billion samples per trace, variable sample intervals and trillions of traces per line or ensemble. The revised format also supports additional data sample formats including IEEE double precision (64 bit); little-endian and pair-wise byte swapping to improve input/output performance; microsecond accuracy in time and date stamps; and additional precision on coordinates, depths and elevations. For more information about SEG-Y_2 visit Troika International at booth 645. ■



Data acquisition has evolved dramatically since the first SEG-Y format was introduced in 1975. (Image courtesy of Troika)