The Triassic Main Buntsandstein play
New prospectivity away from the main fairway

- The Triassic Main Buntsandstein (MBU) play is established in the SNS. Only 20 wells have been drilled in the study area (17,000 km²) with MBU as primary or secondary target. They were dry, however, from well reviews we conclude that 11 of these are invalid tests of the play.

- Three types of leads were identified, located in different parts of the Dutch northern offshore (Fig. 1): 1) "classic" leads with proven types of trap, source, seal and reservoir 2) leads which may be sourced with HC's via Tertiary volcanic dykes 3) leads with reservoir provenance area to the north

- Up to now, 29 leads have been identified; probabilistic volumetrics result in total P50 GIIP of 80 BCM (unrisked).

Reservoir
- MBU reservoir rocks are present in most of the study area.
- Abundance and thickness of aeolian Volpriehausen Sst. decrease from south to north.
- Fluvial sands with northern provenance may have developed as reservoir in the northwestern area (Fig. 2).

Seal
- Upper Germanic Triassic is a proven seal.
- Truncation traps depend on sealing capacity of overlying Jurassic, Cretaceous or Paleogene strata.
- Zechstein salt forms side seal of many leads.

Source & charge
- Source rock presence and maturity are likely in the largest part of the study area. See adjacent poster Source rock potential.
- In the western area leads may be charged from Carboniferous coals via volcanic dykes, analogous to UK Triassic gas fields.

Lead portfolio
- Up to now, 29 structures have been identified with P50 GIIP ranging from 1 - 9 BCM; total P50 GIIP 80 BCM (unrisked) (Fig. 3). Two examples are shown in figures 4 and 5.
- The prospects could be part of multi-target exploration with prospects at various levels.

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