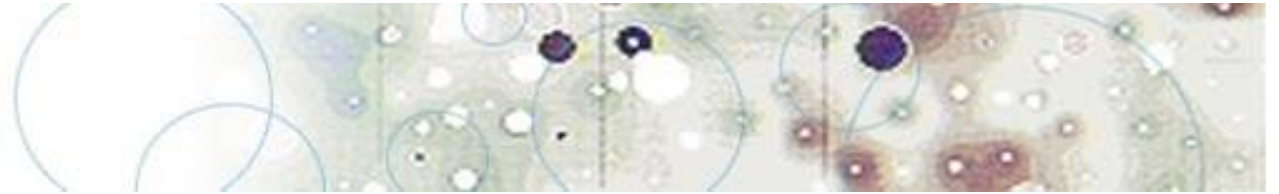




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# What happened to the public's log data?

Bill Price

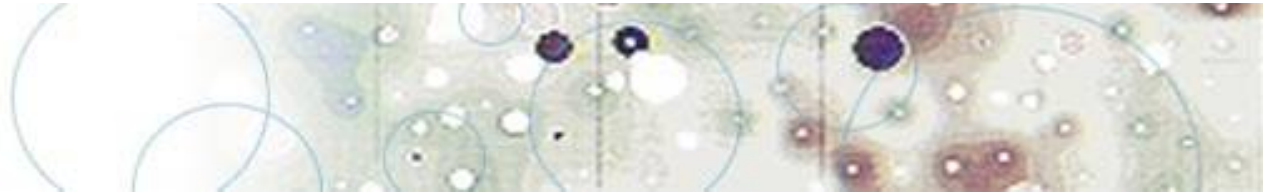
President

Petrophysical Solutions, Inc.

Houston, Texas



Petrophysical Solutions, Inc.

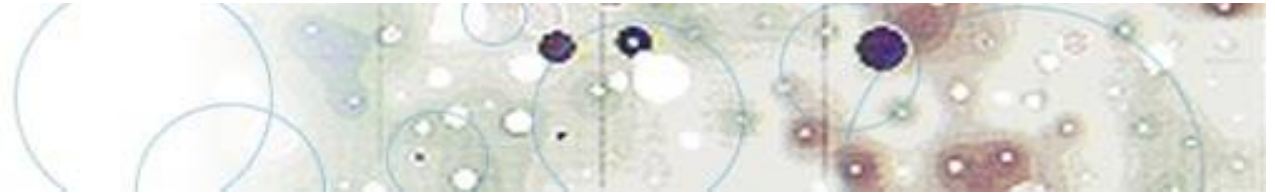


## History of logs offshore/MMS

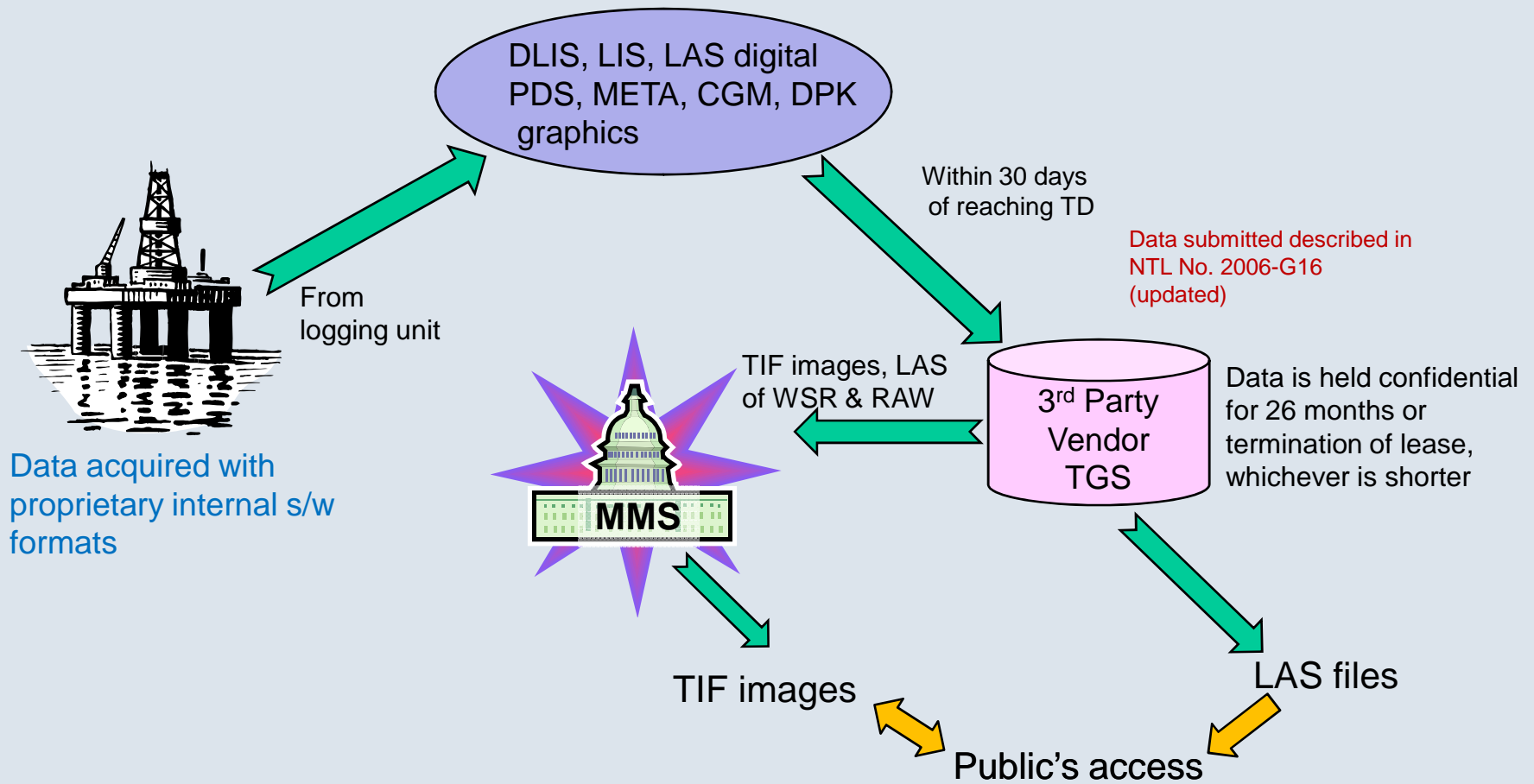
- Logs were acquired as paper prints
  - Took huge volumes of space and staff to manage
  - As industry began switch to digital, MMS originally had staff edit and manage digital data
  - Became more than they could handle
- First contract with QC Data/IHS
  - Provide staff in-house at MMS in NO to do above tasks
  - Data was available from MMS website directly or from IHS
  - No restrictions, except for re-selling of original data
  - Contract expired in 2004, then awarded to A2D, now TGS



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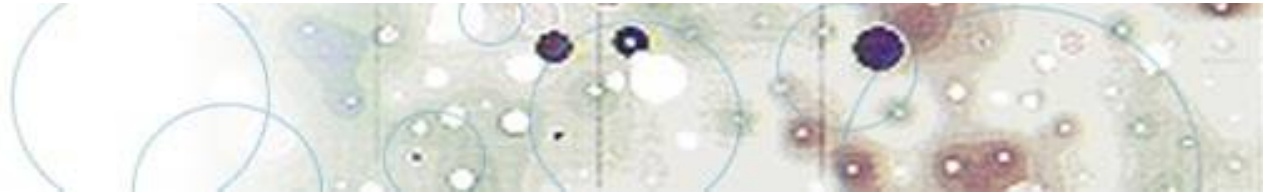


## How logs are handled currently





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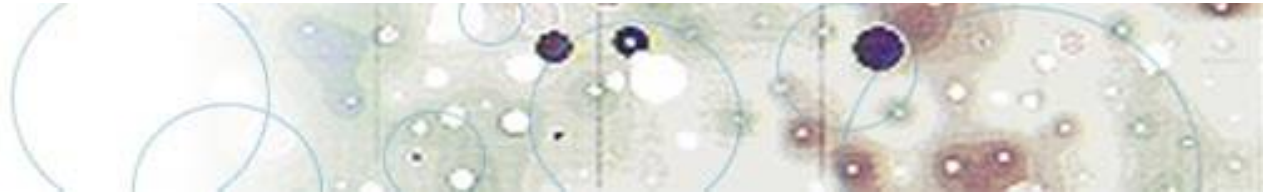


## Issues surrounding data

- Originally, log data was treated as data, you could own with conditions to not resell or distribute
- About +/-5 years ago, data vendors began to treat log data differently
  - Now licensed, not sold
    - Licensing has a term
    - Return to issuer upon cancellation of contract
  - Some exceptions
    - Some instances of perpetual licenses
- MMS advises operators under NTL 2006-G16 that data turned in will become part of the public record
  - MMS has now separated the digital log information from all other data and does not consider it part of the Official Record “record copy”



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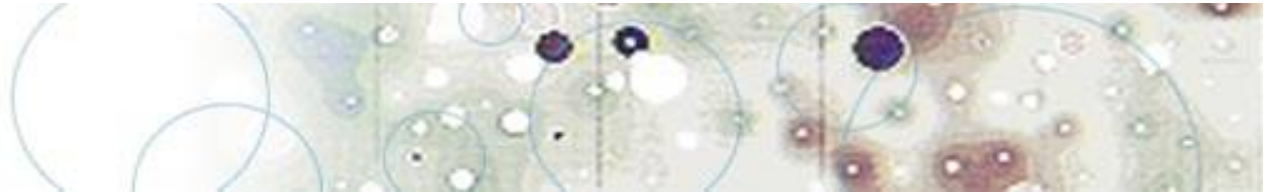


## So, what's the problem?

- Digital log data from publicly owned region has been monopolized to a single vendor
- No other division of Department of Interior handles data in same fashion, all is publicly available
- MMS option is to get TIFFs and have them digitized when digital files already exist
  - Extra time and money spent to re-acquire same data
  - Curtails free enterprise by discouraging other parties
- PSI requested access to all digital data under FOIA
  - Denied by MMS,
  - Appealed to Dept. of Interior, resolution promised in 20 days
  - Still on appeal a year later



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## Where does the industry go?

- Are oil industry's and the public's interest best served?
- Contract bid and renewal is due in March of 2009
- MMS is open to suggestions for improving the system
  - Records Management of DOI is where the decision resides
  - Industry pressure may get their attention
  - The time for input is now
- MMS – [stephen.kennedy@mms.gov](mailto:stephen.kennedy@mms.gov)  
(504) 731 7821