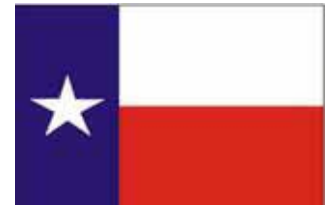


# SOCON USA



SOCON Cavity Control, Inc.  
renamed  
SOCON Sonar Well Services, Inc.

SOCON awarded survey contract for  
strategic oil reserves in the USA

**B**ack in October 2004 SOCON merged on the North American market with Sonar & Well Services (SWS), a subsidiary of Texas Brine Company, LLC (TBC). Up to that time SWS had been operating for some 30 years in North and South America as a service company in the sonar cavern surveying sector.

**I**n 2004 DynMcDermott Petroleum Operations Company, New Orleans awarded SOCON Sonar Well Services, Inc. the contract to survey the caverns holding the USA's strategic oil reserves. The contract has a duration of several years and has an extension option. Since the merger with Sonar & Well Services the market development has generally been pleasing and now in this contract we see a further sign of the



Survey truck in front of the SOCON office in Conroe, Texas

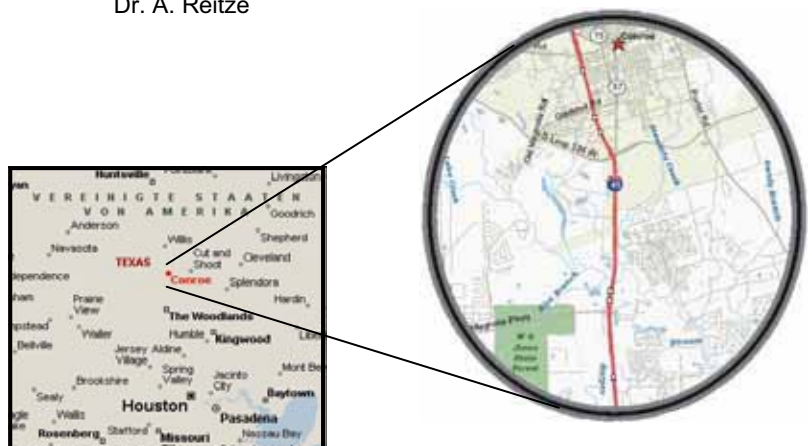
As a result of the merger our American subsidiary SOCON Cavity Control, Inc. was renamed SOCON Sonar Well Services, Inc. (SOCON SWS) and Larry van Metre, an experienced SWS staff member, was integrated into our team. The company continues to have its headquarters in Conroe near Houston, Texas.

In view of the current tough market situation in North America this arrangement represented the only expedient solution. Merging the two companies was the only way to make it possible, in the interests of our customers, to continue having high quality services available on the American market.

Dr. A. Reitze

increasing demand in North America for the high quality standard of our service offering.

Dr. A. Reitze



## SOCON and the fire brigade

- members of the fire brigade exercise on SOCON's premises in Giesen

A regular event that takes place within the scope of Safety, Health and Environmental Protection (SHE) are the training exercises that the Hildesheim Fire Brigade carry out on the SOCON company premises in Giesen.

The exercises are part of the practical training of fire brigade trainees in averting danger when handling radioactive substances and hazardous materials. During the exercises a radioactive source is simulated and this is looked for, recovered and made safe. This is an ideal way of putting into practice the theory that trainees previously learn, for instance cordoning off areas, donning protective clothing and checking for possible contamination. When necessary the trainers make it clear on the spot, sometimes quite harshly, any criticisms they may have.

Owing to the specific conditions and local circumstances at our company premises, which assure that the exercises go off well, the Hildesheim Fire Brigade performs the training almost annually here. The pictures shown were taken during the exercises carried out in July 2004 and March 2005.

The day always proves to be quite a strain for the fire brigade men and women dressed in their "spacesuits" with heavy breathing equipment, but for the SOCON staff it is a welcome and interesting experience.

T. von Tryller



Arrival of the Hildesheim Fire Brigade at SOCON



Donning protective equipment



Searching for the radioactive source with a dose rate measuring unit ...



... even in remote corners under difficult conditions



Checking the suits for contamination



And training analysis rounded off the exercise

# With the SOCON SEMINAR -*Express* to **Bad Ischl**



Once again this year we were able to go into one of Salinen Austria's caverns as part of a seminar meeting held in Austria. "***Accuracy of sonar surveys and running tools in a leached cavity***" was the theme of this year's event.

This is the fourth time that Salinen Austria, with whom we have had an amicable working relationship for over 40 years, has given us the opportunity to go into a cavern. Thanks once again for making this possible and also for the affable support provided.

As is the case in all seminars, and especially during events of this kind, the overall program with interesting talks, excursions and social get-togethers evolved into an unforgettable happening for all those involved. So it is only fitting here to let the pictures of the seminar speak for themselves. .

H. von Tryller

