



A new Bakken Exposition is coming to Minot, North Dakota –and in a big way!

Blue52 Productions will bring the **Bakken Oil Workers & Oil Service Expo** to the North Dakota State Fair Center in Minot, ND, in August 2013. The venue provides enormous capacity for the variety and types of exhibits- indoor and outdoor - and products/services the show organizers envision for this unique event.

The **Bakken Oil Workers & Oil Service Expo** will gather together oil companies, oil products and service suppliers, and supporting business who are supporting the Bakken now, as well as companies and organizations planning to bring business to the region in the future. In addition, the show will include vendors presenting products and services of particular interest to oil workers themselves. These vendors will showcase cold weather equipment and supplies, shower and laundry services, small-living-space products, food and nutrition, money management services, communications products and services, clothing and gear, all-terrain vehicles and related products. A menu of short (one hour) seminars will be offered for \$99/day. Participants can attend seminars in the morning and afternoon, as well as browse the various exhibit halls. In short, the **Bakken Oil Workers & Oil Service Expo** will include not only all Bakken oil and related business entities, but also feature products, services and seminars that focus on the physical, psychological and material needs of oil workers and their families.

Pamela Myers, a Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) on the planning team, got the idea for this type of Bakken show about two years ago. Her son, Michael, has worked in Williston for almost five years, while his wife and kids remain in Colorado. From conversations with Michael over these years, she has marveled at how his lifestyle has changed and how he has adapted to new living arrangements, weather, and working conditions. From those conversations and her own research into the overall Bakken experience, she became impressed with the rugged individualism on display in the Bakken, by companies working hard and innovating to tap America's natural resources, and the people they hire who sacrifice time away from their families, like her son, to earn a good living in these hard times.

Pam believes that America should be doing more to find and use our own natural resources. "As I look at what's happening in the Bakken, my hopes for America to become energy independent are lifted. We must be able to tap our own resources – oil, gas, coal – if we ever hope to wean ourselves off of foreign oil – and bring down the price of gas at the pump. Not using our own oil resources while paying high prices from foreign sources, makes no sense at all. It's like being hungry and out of food. Then you

discover that a bank account exists with your name on it, containing millions of dollars. But instead of withdrawing your own money, you borrow money - with interest – just to eat. That would be really stupid. But that’s precisely what we do when we purchase high-priced oil from foreign sources while leaving our own oil buried under our feet.”

Pam began to envision a Bakken expo that invites all-parties-Bakken to participate. She approached a friend and colleague about producing a Bakken show – Michelle Williams, CMP, Owner and President of Blue52 Productions, an event planning company based in Ohio. Not only friends and colleagues; Pam and Michelle share the hope for America’s future independence from foreign oil. After doing her own extensive research, Michelle decided that this type of show was a great fit for Blue52 Productions who specializes in producing technology research and development conferences and expos. She and Pam are excited about the size and scope of the show. “We welcome involvement from all quarters. There’s room for everyone to exhibit and share with their neighbors and colleagues what business they are doing, or hope to do, in the Bakken,” Michelle said. She added, “We acquired the Fair Center as the venue for the Expo because it has space for everyone who wants to participate. We won’t be turning exhibitors away due to lack of space.”

The North Dakota State Fair Center in Minot is the perfect venue for the ***Bakken Oil Workers & Oil Service Expo*** due to its location, size, various exhibit halls, and outdoor space for exhibits (aircraft, demo buildings, trucks, etc.) and RV campers. “Virtually any size exhibit can be accommodated at the Fair Center. We already have some building units coming from Utah, and aircraft service companies are inquiring about bringing small aircraft. Floor plans will be determined largely by the type and size of the exhibits as they sign up,” Michelle said. Huge opportunities for sponsorships are available at this event providing lots of opportunities for companies to set themselves apart. In addition to the various exhibit halls, the Fair Center has many smaller rooms that will accommodate the seminars we plan to offer,” Michelle said. The team hopes to have the various hall floor plans posted on the show website in the next few weeks.” The show website is [www.usasymposium.com/bakken](http://www.usasymposium.com/bakken).

The planning team understands that not all oil workers can attend during the working day, of course. However, with the varied schedules of workers in all areas, they believe that a great many workers should be off on at least one of the show days, so many will be able to attend for at least one day and will benefit greatly by participating. Pam, who will spearhead the seminar program, is confident that employers will see the benefits and encourage their workers to attend. Employers can also purchase Day Passes and give them to their employees. Seminar topics could include, among others:

- Send Your Money Home or Save It - Don't Blow It
- Man Camp Living
- Man Camp Living (Special Issues for Women)
- Internet Purchasing of Food & Gear
- Driving on Ice
- Preparing & Maintaining Your RV for the North Dakota Winter
- Avoid the Pitfalls of Isolation & Separation from Family & Friends
- Cold Weather Survival

- Healthy Living in a Rugged Environment

Michelle is scheduled to meet with Wendy Howe, Executive Director of the Minot Convention & Visitors Bureau, to get her input on seminar topics, as well as on other suggestions she may have on local issues and participants. Michelle will be meeting with business and community leaders from not only Minot, but Williston, and other cities as well. She and the planning team are assembling a small, targeted, steering committee to help drive the Expo's Seminar Program and ensure that local speakers and experts are recruited and involved.

Sign up early to exhibit at this very unique, first-of-its kind, expo. Qv21 Technologies, as a Media Partner to the ***Bakken Oil Workers & Oil Service Expo***, will provide updates in future issues of *The Oil Field Efficiency Newsletter*. So watch for further details in the months ahead.