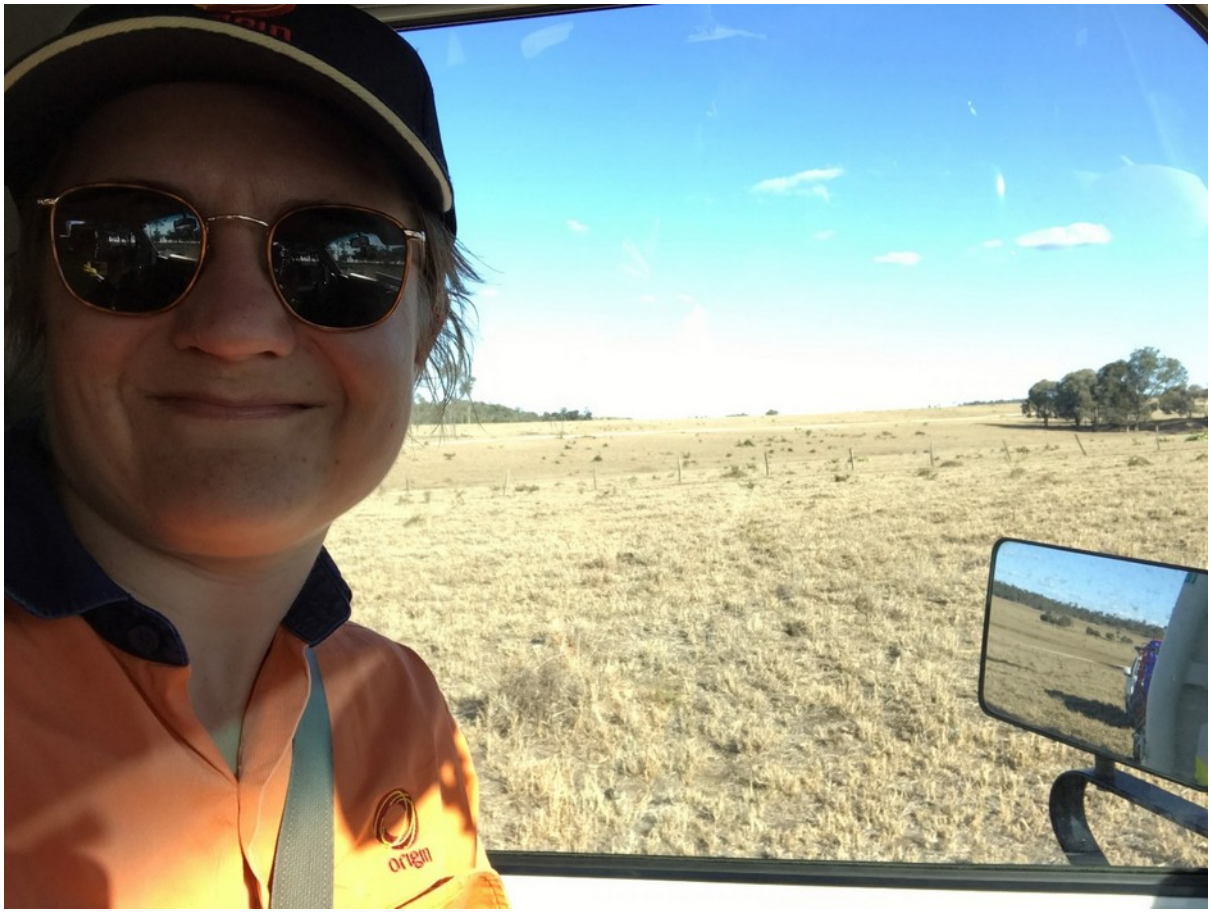
This month we have the ASEG's President Elect and the Program Manager of Renewable Fuels, Origin Energy, Emma Brand.

1. **For how long have you been a geophysicist?** My career in geophysics officially started when I graduated from the University of Queensland in 2003 with a BSc. (Hons) in Exploration Geophysics.

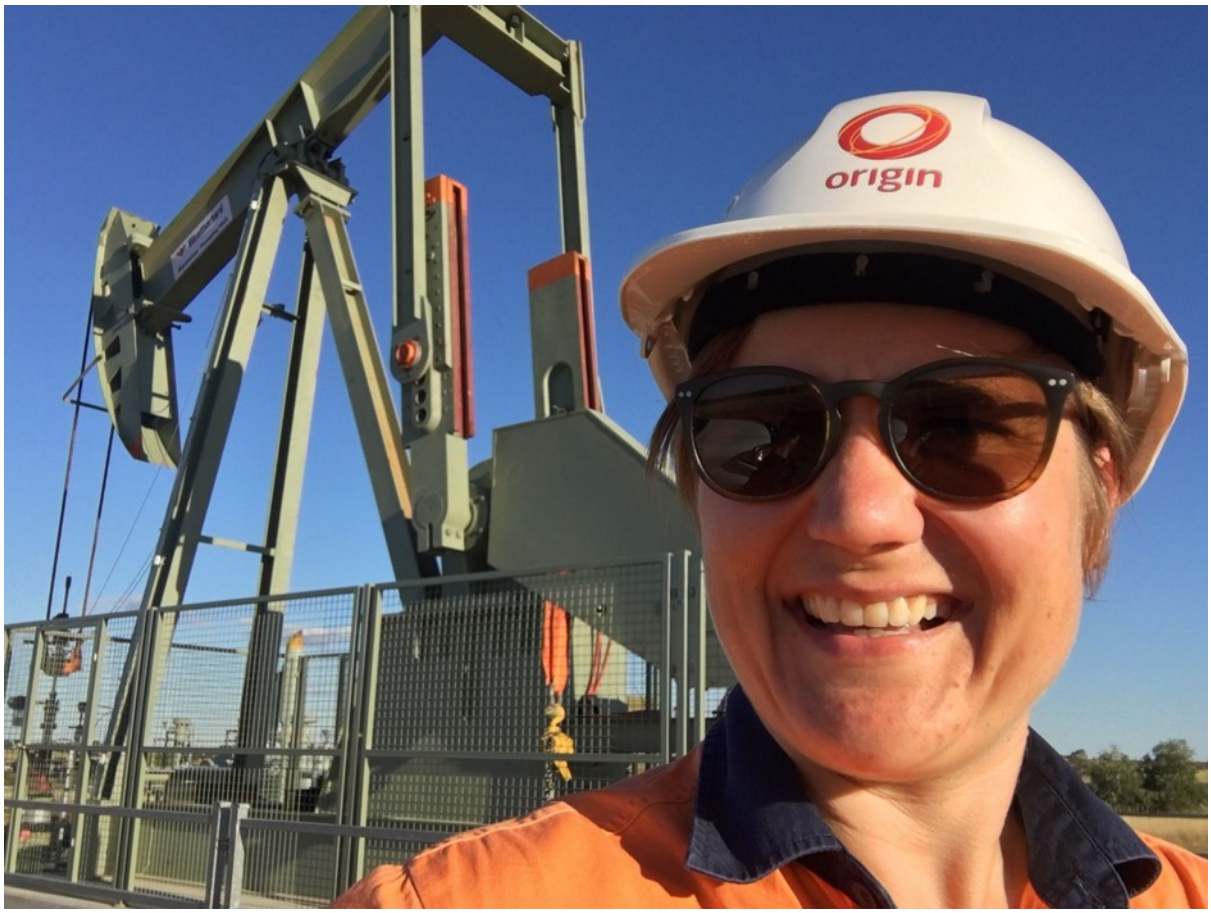


On site in central Queensland checking out the activities of the seismic field crew. Not observable, the practically invisible nodal system that was utilised.

2. **What do you like most about being a geophysicist?** The number one thing that I love about having trained as a geophysicist, is that I know the value of azimuthal data. I think about that every day when I solve problems – I ask myself how I can seek out-of-the-plane information and illuminate the issue from all angles.
3. **What is your best interview tip?** Prepare for the interview. Know what the job is about, come with questions of your own and focus on the values and behaviours of the organisation. Value-fit is critical for delivering your best every day.
4. **What are you reading at the moment?** At the moment I'm listening to The Ride of a Lifetime by Robert Iger the CEO of the Walt Disney Company. I'm

only into Chapter 1 and I'm already captivated by his clever story telling and his philosophy on leadership.

5. **What made you decide to be a geophysicist?** Two reasons – The first was that as a child I was fascinated by volcanoes and really wanted to study and understand them as an adult. The second was that as a teen I heard a statistic that 8 volcanologists die a year and using this was able to convince my mum that job prospects for geophysicists would be great! There are many flaws to that logic, but regardless, it enabled me to get the support I needed from my family to pursue a field that very few people had heard of.

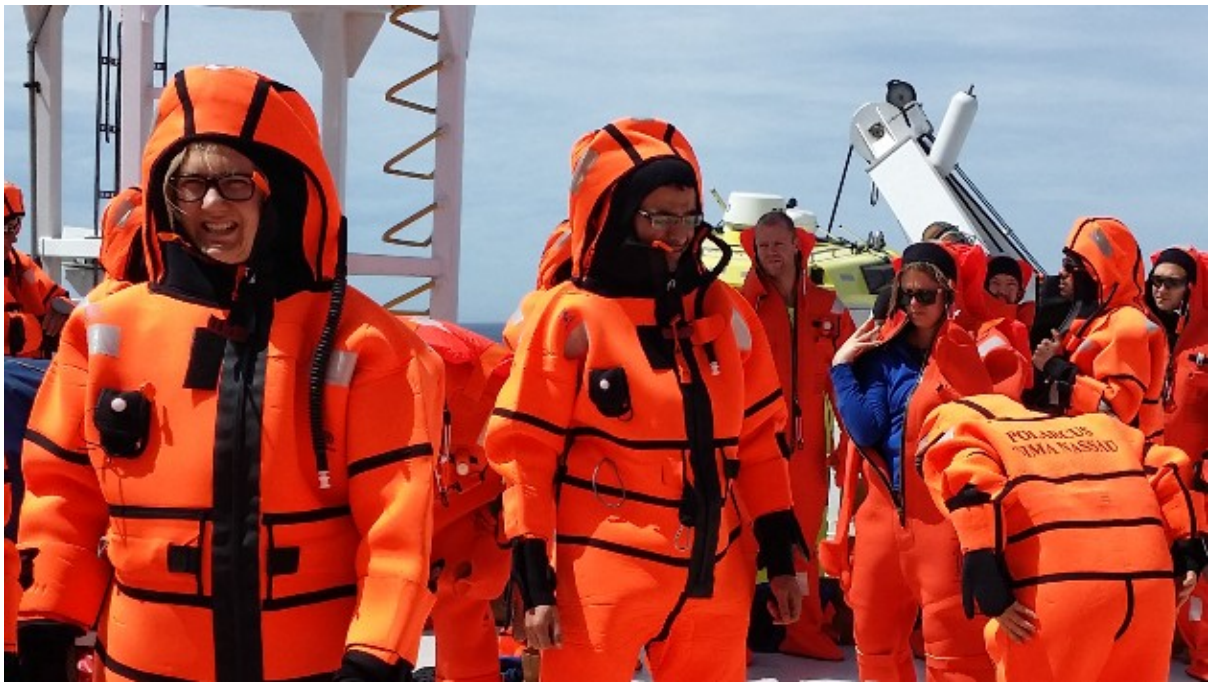


Assessing the visual impact of the classic nodding donkey style completion on a gas well head in central Queensland.

6. **What's your most treasured textbook?** I don't use this textbook too much these days, but "Interpretation of three-dimensional seismic data" was a really seminal textbook for my evolution as a seismic geophysicist. I think that having the privilege of being taught by Alistair Brown himself really helped build my engagement with the material and connect me to the concepts.
7. **What is a challenge that you see in geoscience today, and how do you see the community overcoming it?** I think this challenge is faced by all scientific communities, but it is ensuring we obtain and retain community

trust. We won't be able to solve the complex problems that our society faces if the value and believability of science is undermined.

8. **Where do you think exploration geophysics will head in the next 10-15 years?** I think exploration geophysics will continue to be a specialist skill set but will play an increasingly important role in the energy transition. Finding rare minerals for use in electrolysers, batteries, solar panels and wind turbines will be of critical importance to underpin the transition to net zero, whilst carbon capture and storage will need all the soft rock capabilities to explore, develop and maintain carbon storage sites.



In the middle of an emergency evac drill on a seismic vessel off the coast of southern Victoria. Pictured here mere minutes before succumbing to the effects of sea sickness.