

Dr. Jürgen Grötsch

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Jürgen is currently university lecturer in the Geo-Energy master program at the Friedrich-Alexander Universität in Erlangen, Germany and advisor to the German government and public on subsurface storage of nuclear waste. He holds a PhD in geology from FAU which he has done in collaboration with Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, CA.

In 1991 he joined Shell International and had various assignments in the Middle East and the Netherlands where he was amongst others Chief Geologist of NAM B.V. and Head of Geoscience Services in Europe. During his stay at the Shell Technology Center in Amsterdam, he initiated the Open Subsurface Data Universe™ project in 2011 which is currently the largest digital technology project in the energy industry and beyond providing a standardized cloud-agnostic open-source data platform as a service for geoscience and energy data.

After retirement from Shell in December 2022, his main focus is now on sustainable subsurface solutions in the energy transition like Natural Hydrogen Exploration, Geothermal Exploration and Development and their synergies with net zero brine mining and Helium production. Currently, he is leading the research project “Natural Hydrogen Exploration in Germany” supported by FAU, Fraunhofer-IEG, RWTH, LIAG, GFZ and KIT.

Jürgen has been SPE Distinguished Lecturer, is a member of the scholarship organisation ‘Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes’ in Germany as well as of the energy think tank ‘AURIGA’ in the Netherlands. He is Past-President of the German Geological Society (DGGV) and currently a board member there. During his career he has published numerous scientific papers and books on carbonate and clastic sedimentology and reservoirs as well as on Digital Geology.