

## Gas Business Expo in Troy Is Big Success

June 29, 2010



Potter County Commissioner Paul Heibel checks out a new gas rig at Shale Gas Show.



Thousands of people crowded into Alparaon Park in Troy, Bradford County, on Saturday for the Northern Tier Marcellus Shale Business to Business Expo. The event, which came on the heels of the Potter/McKean/Cameron Counties Natural Gas Expo in Coudersport, was described by its sponsors as an unqualified success.

Mark Smith, chairman of the Bradford County Board of Commissioners, was among the committee members who organized the event. He said business representatives from across the nation attended the Expo, both as exhibitors and as potential business partners. Some flew in from Texas and Oklahoma. Others brought equipment and personnel from Utah and Colorado.

One company was touting its state-of-the-art air quality monitoring equipment for use at well sites, compressor stations and settling ponds. Another firm was lining up customers for "silt socks" for water protection at drilling, pipeline and road construction sites. Heavy equipment dealers, drill manufacturers, financial service companies, law firms, environmental consultants, equipment leasing companies, and numerous other businesses filled the park.

Smith said the turnout was higher than the committee's expectations and reinforced the economic impact of the Marcellus Shale natural gas industry throughout much of northern, central and western Pennsylvania.

Among those attending from Potter County were Gas Field Specialists, a growing industry service company based in Shinglehouse; Amy Thompson of Thompson Graphics, who served on the organizing committee; Tim Gooch, manager of the Parente Beard financial services office in Potter County; and Commissioner Paul Heibel, shown here on the drilling rig brought to the Expo by Schramm.

Bradford County has been the epicenter of gas companies' activities in Pennsylvania over the past two years. The shale gas production is moving westward, growing incrementally in Tioga County and continuing to make its presence known in Potter County.

*-Solomon's Word's News Blog*