



Richardson (Pitch) Allen, PhD

RESEARCH PROFESSOR EMERITUS

In 1981 Richardson "Pitch" Allen began as a Research Associate and Research Assistant Professor at the Earth Sciences & Resources Institute in South Carolina, moving with ESRI to Utah to join the University of Utah Research Institute (UURI) and form what is now EGI. Pitch received a B.A. (1975), M.A., and M.Phil. (1978) from Columbia University, and in 1983 received his Ph.D. in Geology from Columbia as well. From 1992–1996 he served as Executive Editor for the Journal of South American Earth Sciences.

Pitch has specialized on South America since graduate school starting 40 years ago. He did field work in the Antarctica Peninsula, the Rocas Verdes Basin of southern Chile, the Neuquén Basin and the Cuyo and related Triassic basins of Argentina, the Cordillera Oriental and the Middle and northern Upper Magdalena basins of Colombia, and the Sub-Andean Ranges of Bolivia in the first two decades of his career. Studies on all of the continents except Antarctica, and continuous, extended research in South America have been his primary focus in the last two decades.

In the last few years Pitch has worked mainly on unconventional shale reservoirs in North America, Europe, North Africa, central Eurasia, and especially selected basins of South America.

Since 2006 he has led structural, stratigraphic, petrologic, subsurface geologic, and regional tectonic studies on Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Brazil and Middle East including field, laboratory, and literature-based studies, and reviews of unconventional oil and gas for North America, Europe and North Africa. Pitch's expertise and areas of interest have lent significant contributions to EGI CA Members and project sponsors.

Pitch is also a member of American Geophysical Union, European Association of Geoscientists & Engineers, and the Utah Geological Association.

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Research Interests

- Tectonics
- Stratigraphy
- Structure
- South American Basins
- Unconventional Reservoirs

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