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## Drilling & Completion

### LWD data booster development underway

(6/6/2002 - OGI: Houston) Precision Drilling's Advantage unit and Paragon Innovations have teamed to develop an Ethernet gateway that boosts the transmission of logging while drilling (LWD) data during drilling operations. With such a device, Advantage will be able to quickly collect and analyze data such as the amount of hydrocarbons in a mineral formation for its clients.

With the Ethernet unit, data collected downhole during drilling can be retrieved and transmitted via a proprietary protocol, then converted to a parallel interface for viewing via a PC computer.

"LWD data need to be processed quickly and accurately to speed the drilling process, which translates to reduced costs, reduced drilling problems, and increased hydrocarbon discoveries," said Alanna Pope, Advantage's senior firmware engineer. "Traditionally, converting data from the drill head to the computer has caused bottlenecks in transmission. We approached Paragon to develop an Ethernet gateway that boosts this transmission from a trickle to a sustained flow." Mike Wilkinson, Paragon's founder and CEO, said, "We're developing an Ethernet converter that both transmits data at sustained speeds of 2 megabytes per second and survives extreme environmental conditions, including temperatures up to 320° Fahrenheit."

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