Gas Strategies
Information Services

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# The NGLs Interview: Eric Smith, associate director of the Energy Institute at the AB Freeman School of Business, Tulane University

Since the oil price rout of 2014, US E&P companies have remained under immense pressure to cut costs and maximise profits. However, despite these challenges, natural gas liquids (NGLs) such as ethane and propane and their value-added derivatives have emerged as a consistently profitable segment for the upstream industry, even for firms primarily focused on producing dry gas rather than crude oil.

Gas Matters speaks to Eric Smith, industry veteran and former head of Saipem's US subsidiary, now associate director of the AB Freeman School of Business' Energy Institute at Tulane University in Louisiana, to ask him about how record levels of NGL production in the US are creating troublesome bottlenecks in parts of the country, while also spurring big investments that add value to the supply from the Marcellus shale.



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