



## Recruiting firm Orion tapping into oil-play

BY MIKE W. THOMAS

The Eagle Ford Shale has attracted a lot of attention this year with its potential to be a major jobs producer and economic driver for South Texas in the foreseeable future.

The latest firm to take notice is Orion International, a military recruiting firm based in Cary, N.C., that specializes in placing former junior military officers and technicians.

Orion has cleared its schedule to make room for a special Eagle Ford Shale hiring event that will take place on June 5-6 at the Embassy Suites San Antonio - International Airport at 10110 U.S. Highway 281 North.

Orion provides pre-screened candidates to client companies for job interviews. The candidates are mostly former military personnel with clean driving records and proven track records of performing highly-skilled tasks under difficult circumstances.



Harvey

“Our candidates are used to being deployed in rough environments where they may work long hours,” says Mike Harvey, a partner with Orion International. “They are a great fit for

working in the oil and gas industry because the culture is very similar.”

Harvey says they will have about 45 or 50 pre-screened candidates available for one-on-one interviews with about a dozen companies at the San Antonio event. He notes that this is not the same thing as a jobs fair because the candidates have already been selected; however there are still plenty of job openings.

“Our client companies have between 60 and 80 openings right now,” he says.

The positions they are looking to fill include production technicians, electrical technicians, equipment technicians, field service engineers, field service technicians, automation engineers, engineering technicians, electronics technicians, construction superintendents, health, safety and environmental specialists and managers, logistics coordination and supply chain management.

The Eagle Ford Shale, a geologic formation stretching some 300 miles from Victoria across South Texas almost to Laredo, could potentially be one of the largest crude oil and natural gas discoveries in the United States in the last 40 years. Harvey says Orion runs about 60 jobs events a year all across the country. Orion was established 20 years ago by a group of former military veterans. The company has placed more than 24,000 veterans with 2,200 different companies over that time.