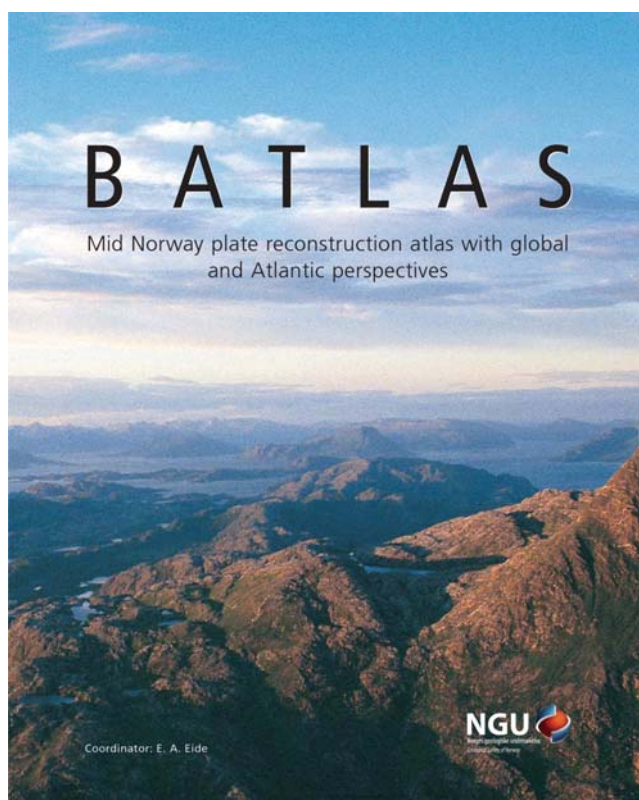


BATLAS

Mid Norway plate reconstruction atlas with global and Atlantic perspectives



ORDERING

BATLAS can be purchased at
www.ngu.no - geological services or
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Price:

NOK 250,- (incl.VAT)

EURO:34

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This book is the result of a five-year cooperative research project between NGU, eight petroleum companies-Norsk Agip, BP, ChevronTexaco, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Norsk Hydro, Shell, Statoil-and the NPD. The project's full title, 'Basin Analysis and applied Thermochronology on the Mid Norwegian shelf (1998-2002)', was shortened to 'BAT', an acronym which yielded itself nicely to the fresh title of the book, 'BATLAS-Mid Norway plate reconstruction atlas with global and Atlantic perspectives'. The title incorporates both the spirit and substance of the project as it related to understanding the evolution of the Mid Norway margin from the Paleozoic to the Present.

Plate reconstructions are the most visual and understandable platform within which to combine numerous datasets and interpretations related to plate motions over geologic time. Our general fascination with plate reconstructions probably lies in the fact that they illustrate in a completely visual form the fact that continents have moved and do move, and even more simply, that plate tectonics is a useful, first-order means to describe large-scale processes that have affected the crustal lithosphere. While the BAT project incorporated research in numerous disciplines, the research team has placed emphasis on plate reconstructions in the production of this book. In this way, the BAT team hoped to create an accessible platform both for geoscientists with working experience around the North Atlantic margin and the Norwegian shelf, as well as for individuals with a general interest in geoscience and the movement of plates on the Earth's surface through time.

The book is divided into five chapters:

- Chapter 1 introduces the reader to the basic data formats and concepts used in the BAT project and in the genesis of the plate reconstructions.
- Chapters 2 through 4 show time-progressive plate reconstructions, respectively, at global, Atlantic, and North Atlantic-Mid Norway scales to emphasize that a specific tectonic element or geologic 'event' must be viewed as part of a larger 'whole'.
- Chapter 5 highlights several particularly interesting interpretations obtained through use of different research tools or methods employed within the BAT project, and illustrates the idea that geologic 'processes' can be tackled best through combining fieldwork, laboratory experiment, computer modeling, and theoretical analysis.

Absolute plate reconstructions from Early Cretaceous through Early Tertiary using a hotspot reference frame. This example of some of the global reconstructions presented in the BATLAS details events like Early Cretaceous separation of South America from Africa and the Late Cretaceous propagation of the Central Atlantic spreading system into the Labrador Sea. In the book, the global and regional reconstructions are accompanied by text descriptions and fact boxes with time-appropriate field photos and illustrations from around the globe.

