In the last 10 years, seismic imaging has improved to such a point that formerly seismically blind sub-salt domains are now replaced by sets of coherent primary seismic reflections. In the Gulf of Mexico, or in Angola for instance, some of these features such as welds and megaflaps located below thick salt sheets and canopies, have been seen as prospective and have been successfully drilled.

The Sivas movie shows how incredibly meaningful is the comparison of the seismic images from the Gulf of Mexico or Angola with the outstanding outcrops of most types of salt structures located in the Sivas Basin in central Turkey. It also shows how sandbox models deformed under X-Ray scanner provide very important additional understanding regarding the mechanisms driving the deformation and its kinematics.

Such field studies and such models are definitely a great help since they provide some ground for the seismic interpretation, and they greatly contribute to de-risk the prospects and to gain confidence in locating exploration wells and designing their trajectories.