

## **PAYSANDÚ GROUP'S STRATIGRAPHY (CRETACEOUS) IN THE LITORAL BASIN, URUGUAY.**

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The inner continental sedimentary record (Paysandú Group) in the Litoral Basin (Uruguay) spreads over an area of approximately 25.000 square kilometers and is filled by mainly sandy and conglomerate deposits with maximum thickness of 220 meters. It is located between latitude 31°30'S to 34°00'S and longitude 57°W to 58°W. This research deals with the sedimentary evolution basin and its correlation with other basins, based on depositional system considering outcrop and subsurface data. Taking into account the geographic distribution and interrelations of the Paysandú Group facies associations, two main phases are proposed. The first one started in the Aptian and corresponds to the Guichón Formation. It is composed by a fluvial-alluvial system tract, controlled by the Daymán (NW-SE) and Rio Negro (E-W) lineaments. The fluvial system has low sinuous channels drained to SW and widespread sandy plains deposited mainly in two depocenters: Young and Quebracho. The second sedimentary phase started in the Coniacian with the Mercedes-Asencio Formation. It also corresponds to a fluvial-alluvial system tract, controlled by the Martín García (E-W) lineament in the southern portion. It is composed by channels, sandy and conglomerate bars and drained to the SW, well preserved specially in Nueva Palmira, Mercedes and Paso Ulleste localities. The bore hole analysis from Uruguay and Argentina allowed to identify the change in the depositional control from E-W trends to N-S, between the two phases. During the first phase an endoreic sedimentation is proposed. For the second one, a possible sea way connection to the north is suspected.