

Wild Well Control implements new training courses

Well control engineering, pre-event contingency planning and well modeling are only three of **Wild Well Control's** proactive services when it comes to predicting potential well control events.

Wild Well Control also is beginning its new training division with IADC WellCAP and WellCAP Plus accreditation. Additionally, the company performs rig inspections regarding well control equipment. The company also works with the operator and drilling contractor to resolve well kicks before they progress to worse situations.

WELL MODELING

Well modeling is a relatively new service for the company, which uses a commercial modeling software for its pre-event planning.

"A lot of our customers are drilling deep wells and they want to know about kick behavior," said **Dan Eby**, Engineering Manager for Wild Well Control in Houston.

"For example, if they took a kick, they want to know what the pressure response is going to be if they circulate it out with the driller's method or the engineer's method."

The kick model is built with operator-supplied wellbore information gathered when engineering the well. This service is growing among well control and well engineering companies as well as being utilized by some operators in-house as the industry moves toward deep, high pressure, high temperature wells.

Typically only the critical hole sections are modeled rather than the entire well.

Operators will use well modeling services whether drilling one well or a field, Mr Eby said. "We are modeling a lot of one-off wells if they are HPHT wells," he said.

"Other times the operator will provide a list of wells it wants to drill and we will provide them with kick models against certain criteria such as mud weight, depth, etc."

Depending upon the circumstances, the company can provide well models with as little as a few days notice, or work

with the operator if a critical well takes several months to plan.

"Typically a major will use the well modeling services we provide because they are the companies that tend to drill the 25,000 ft or 30,000 ft wells," Mr Eby noted, "but we are doing similar business with independents and small companies as well."

Part of Wild Well Control's well modeling business is driven by the insurance industry, Mr Eby said.

"Whenever a company obtains well control insurance, the insurer likes to see that the company is proactive and does pre-event planning such as well modeling and having a blowout contingency plan," Mr Eby explained.

"Insurance companies also like to see the operator conduct rig inspections,"

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he continued, "and we provide that as well."

Some of the company's customers are drilling contractors who hire Wild Well Control to conduct rig inspections and audits of the well control equipment after it is installed to make certain that it is installed correctly and working properly.

WELL CONTROL

Should a situation progress into a full-scale well control event or blowout, Wild Well Control provides the crews and equipment to resolve the situation.

Some operators will keep the company apprised of the well's progress either through various well reports or even

with a telephone call, Mr Eby said.

Should the operator notify Wild Well Control of a kick situation, the company will send a crew to help circulate the kick and control the situation before it worsens.

The company stages well control equipment in various strategic regions worldwide, including the Middle East, Southeast Asia and South America, for just such an occurrence.

TRAINING

The company recently began a well control training division in Houston that is being accredited for IADC's WellCAP and WellCAP Plus training. The company's first class is scheduled for September.

"Many of our clients requested that we implement a training program," said **Bill Mahler**, Vice President of Corporate Development for Wild Well Control. "We feel that with our well control experience we can offer a new perspective to the training."

Mr Mahler said the training courses will follow the WellCAP and WellCAP Plus curriculum but with new and fresher course material.

"People that take the WellCAP course every two years are taught the same material with the same instructors, and they are looking for something new," Mr Mahler said. "We will use the same curriculum but within a new presentation."

"Our presentation of the materials is from a different perspective and in a new format," Mr Mahler noted. "We will also have a first class rig simulator incorporated into the class."

Wild Well Control's training materials are new, according to Mr Mahler, and will be through media presentations. "We won't be using the same video that people have been watching for the last several years," he noted. "Our video has been remade."

Additionally, the company's instructors will use actual case histories from the company's well control jobs as examples during the courses. ■