Diagnosing conventional & alternative well barriers to enable rigless abandonment

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Presenter



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Learning outcomes

- 1. How passive acoustics helps to improve the P&A efficiency
- 2. How passive acoustics opens the opportunities to go rigless
- 3. The advantages and limitations of barrier verification using Chorus

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Objectives of P&A

- Permanent isolation of each flow potential zone
- Perform P&A as much as possible in Rigless mode



Traditional Well Barrier Verification Techniques



Plug & Abandonment - Cement Bond Evaluation

Challenges

- Current evaluation techniques assess casing to cement bond mainly

Cement – Formation

Poor bonding

- Minimum detectable channel in cement approx. 1"
- Limited assessment of cement to formation bond

Cement

Channel

- Cement map is affected by casing/wellbore condition
- Single casing only



Cement 2 - Formation

Casing – Cement

Microannulus/poor bonding

Plug & Abandonment - Pressure Test Technique.

Challenges

- Casing(s) ballooning
- Leaks into non-targeted zones
- Missed minor leaks
- Short monitoring time



New Offering

- 1) The verification of wellbore and behind casing well barriers including unconventional ones (shale creep, salt dome, bismuth / thermite)
- 2) Verification of zonal isolation of unconventional barriers
- 3) Characterisation of the well barrier failures (leak path, induced / existing fracs, bottom hole assemblies' failures etc.)
- 4) How can you go Rigless using new approach

Downhole Passive Acoustic Monitoring



• *At delta pressure of 90 Bars

⁹TGT

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Independent Barrier Verification Test



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Barrier Verification during Plug and Abandonment Using Spectral Noise Logging Technology, Reference Cells Yard Test

Behind Casing Flow Thresholds

- The resolution of Chorus technology was investigated over a range of leakage rates of water and gas for different casing cement sheath defects
- For the conditions tested, leakage was detected for rates of water and gas lower than the accepted criteria defined by API RP14B
- Where differential pressure is present across a well barrier, passive acoustics can be used to detect whether flow generated acoustic signatures are present

Reference cell	Rate thresho		
	Water	Gas	
Micro-annulus (56 microns)	80 mL/min	1.2 mL/min	
Good cement (induced microannulus)	9.7 mL/min	N/A	
5mm channel	300 mL/min	11 L/min	
API 14B	400 mL/min	420 L/min	



SPE/IADC Drilling Conference and Exhibition

5 - 7 March 2019 World Forum, The Hague

Pulse Electromagnetic Platform





Tube Integrity Diagnostics - Pulse



- Sensitive to the metal only free from scale influence.
- No requirement for the well to be shut-in.
- Internal / external corrosion assessment for the primary tube.
- Location of tubing to casing decentralization (severe).
- Location of completion jewelry in first 4 casing strings.



Stage 1 Pre-P&A As	sessment	
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Verifying the Cement Barrier Through Tubing



Locating & Isolating Flow Potential Zones During P&A



Pulse - Individual 4 Metal Barriers Integrity Verification



17 Chrysaor Lomond T8 MBI Logging Date 17.10.2019



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Plug & Abandonment - Pressure Test Technique



Chorus – During eXtended Leak Off Test (XLOT)





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Cement Plug Inflow Test (failure)



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Cement Plug Pressure Test (success)



Conclusion

- Chorus acoustic platform is an independently verified technique for assessing the sealing performance of well barriers
- Well barrier verification can be performed through tubing / casing
- Chorus acoustic sensitivity and dynamic range outperforms current barrier verification techniques
- P&A effectiveness can be improved to the level of complete or partial Rigless P&A

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