

Expro Excellence

Expro's Octopoda® System reinstates B Annulus integrity via OBM displacement and resin deployment

Well Intervention & Integrity



Objectives and background

- Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) encountered sustained casing pressure (SCP) in the B annulus during the drilling phase, shortly after cementing the 7 5/8" production casing
- PDO engaged Expro to eliminate the SCP and place a resin barrier in the B annulus, enabling the well to be drilled to target depth, completed, and production brought online
- The B annulus contained oilbased mud (OBM), with the top of cement (TOC) at 720 m. Traditional lubricate-andbleed methods were deemed ineffective at displacing the OBM with a resin-compatible fluid

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- OBM returns during initial hose deployment were highly viscous. The Octopoda® hose enabled effective break-up and mobilization of this fluid, proving critical to the success of the operation
- Following the removal of viscous fluids, the hose was conveyed to a maximum depth of 64 m. Leveraging immiscible fluid dynamics and gravity-driven displacement, the OBM was efficiently swapped from the annulus, eliminating the need to reach TOC
- A total of 14.2 m³ of oil-based mud (OBM) was recovered from the annulus, and SCP was fully eliminated through a fluid swap, establishing hydrostatic overbalance
- After conditioning the annulus, 1.75 m³ of resin was circulated and allowed to freefall to the target depth. The Octopoda® system enabled this large-volume placement without exceeding MAASP, ensuring effective resin transport to the treatment depth
- Following the resin cure period, the B annulus was pressure tested to the recalculated MAASP, confirming integrity with a straight-line pressure test sustained over 30 minutes

Value to the client

- SCP in the B annulus was eliminated by introducing hydrostatic overbalance, followed by resin deployment to establish a mechanical barrier
- The intervention was completed within three weeks from mobilization to demobilization, enabled by successful hose access into the annulus
- The client resumed drilling, completion, and production operations without requiring a costly workover rig intervention



