

Universal Wellhead Retrieving System Enables Flawless Execution of Wellhead Removal

Problem

An operator working in the Gulf of Mexico deepwater wanted to plug and abandon a well.

Solution

A Baker Hughes representative from the Houma Louisiana district recommended using the Hercules™ multi-string cutter in conjunction with Baker Hughes' Universal Wellhead Retrieving System for the removal of a subsea wellhead from the seafloor.

Results

- The 11-3/4-in. Hercules multi-string cutter with the hydraulic casing spear cut the 13-5/8-in. casing and retrieved it in one run
- The casing was cut in 18 minutes
- The team simultaneously cut both 20-in. and 36-in. casing in 4 hours, 5 minutes. Choosing the Hercules multi-string cutter and Universal Wellhead Retrieving System helped the operator save time and expense, and allowed the retrieval of the wellhead with minimal effort; the operator was able to finish the job several days before the planned AFE days, saving a substantial amount of money
- The entire operation was performed flawlessly, resulting in major time savings

Project Details

Location: Gulf of Mexico, Ewing Bank

Date: May 2009

Casing Size: 13-5/8 in., 20 in., 36 in.

Water Depth: 490 ft (149.4 m)

Wellhead depth: 524 ft (159.7 m)

Baker Hughes Equipment

- 11-3/4-in. Hercules multi-string cutter
- 17-1/2-in.-OD sleeve
- 7-3/4-in. OD ring-type space-out spacer sub assembly
- 8-in. OD string magnet
- 7-3/4-in. OD bumper jar
- Universal Wellhead Retrieving System
- Long stroke bumper jar
- Crossover sub
- Drillpipe

