



Weatherford®

REAL RESULTS

Bundling Open-Hole Whipstocks and Inflatable Packers Saves Time and Money on Sidetracking Operations in Central Arkansas

Objectives

- Drill 18 wells through their target zones.
- Log wells to find and identify target zones and formations. A caliper log would also have to be run to gauge intervals for setting an inflatable packer with a whipstock.
- Selectively sidetrack the open hole at each target zone without using balanced cement plugs or cement to anchor the open-hole whipstock.
- Set whipstocks and anchoring mechanisms in one trip.

Results

- Weatherford's 8-in. open-hole whipstocks and 6 3/4-in. inflatable injection production packers (IPP™) were run as one assembly, with the IPP packer serving as the whipstock anchor.
- The IPP packers were liquid-inflated through the whipstock and setting tool at target depth. In some cases, the distance from setting depth to the bottom of the hole was as much as 1,500 ft (457 m).
- The whipstocks were oriented, using EM MWD, gyro, and single-shot techniques.
- Whipstocks were then successfully drilled off with the directional bottomhole assembly.

Value to Client

- The operator saved the cost of cementing and cementation equipment in all 18 wells.
- The operator saved at least 24 hours in rig time per well that would otherwise have been spent spotting and waiting for the cement to set.
- The operator saved 12 hours per well of rig time and equipment rentals that would have been spent dressing and sidetracking off the cement plug.
- The operator reduced operational risk by sidetracking from a whipstock rather than from a cement plug.



Weatherford's IPP packer provides a positive, pressure-tight seal for annular isolation between the workstring and casing or open hole to assist in remedial or abandonment applications during drilling and production. Compatible with drillpipe, threaded tubing, and coiled tubing, this packer offers the versatility of a temporary or permanent seal for single- or multiple-packer configurations in wells of any deviation.

Client

Southwestern Energy and Production Company

Location

Central Arkansas, USA

Formation

Fayetteville Shale

Number of Wells and Type

18 onshore gas wells

Hole Size

8 3/4-in. open hole

Depth

From 1,570 to 4,564 ft (479 to 1,391 m)

Product/Services

- Open-hole whipstock
- IPP packer

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