More is not always better. Dumb gas-lift wells typically overinject and waste injection gas. This overinjection increases the bottomhole pressure and reduces inflow from the reservoir. By intelligently controlling injection rates, gas-lift operators can increase production, lower lifting costs, reduce gas-lift valve failures, and improve gas-lift system efficiency.

Smart gas-lift control from Weatherford delivers the optimal amount of injection gas to every well. This rigless, low-cost solution uses current production data and facility capacity to continuously calculate and adjust injection rates. As a result, you get the most out of each and every gas-lifted well in your field.

Smart Gas-Lift Applications
- All gas-lift wells
- Continuous gas lift
- Intermittent gas lift
- Gas-assisted plunger lift
- Multiwell pads
- Oil and gas metering
- Remote or hard-to-reach gas-lift wells
- New high-producing wells
- Old and underperforming gas-lift wells
- Offshore gas-lift wells

Features and Benefits
- **Rigless installation.** The easy-to-install controller minimizes risks at the surface and eliminates the need for a workover rig.
- **Increased production.** Preprogrammed control strategies take the guesswork out of optimizing single- and multiple-well pads. This preprogramming facilitates continual optimization as conditions change for improved recovery.
- **Reduced injection gas.** Intelligent intermittent controls turn injection off at the right times to avoid overinjection. Less injection gas lowers the bottomhole pressure, which often increases production.
- **Minimized manual intervention.** The smart-lift system performs unloading and ramping—typically a time-consuming, difficult manual task—to determine a well shut-in schedule and to identify wells for the available injection gas.
- **Decreased flowline backpressure.** Optimizing the injection pressures means that no additional pressures on the flowlines can restrict production.
- **Reduced OPEX.** Efficient management of production resources—for example using one controller to manage multiple wells—saves you operating costs.
- **Enhanced safety.** Real-time monitoring and control of your facility and operations helps to eliminate production downtime and create a safe working environment.
- **Increased visibility and data logging.** Remote access to the controller results in timely and accurate data that improves decision-making.
- **Multiwell control.** A single controller uses information from up to 16 wells to make intelligent decisions on the use of production resources, which includes the distribution of source gas.
Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I optimize gas-lift injection rates?
Optimization adds value. When you overinject, you consume more gas for the same amount of production. You also potentially increase bottomhole pressure, which results in less inflow.

How does Weatherford intelligently optimize gas lift?
Our WellPilot® controller. The controller monitors wellhead performance in real time and makes adjustments based on the selected control strategy.

What is the problem with manual gas-lift injection control?
Manual control can't keep up. Changes in reservoir and surface conditions require continuous injection-rate adjustments. Programmed unloading stays below the API C factor for erosional velocity, which prevents the valve from being flow cut during unloading.

Is intelligent gas-lift control difficult to implement?
It's easy. Controls are preprogrammed by Weatherford subject-matter experts, and users can easily configure them.

Does Weatherford offer intelligent gas-lift rentals?
Yes. We have several business models that can be adapted, depending on your needs.

Can I incorporate intelligent control from Weatherford into my real-time optimization system?
Yes. The controller has the flexibility to interface with most common field devices and host SCADA systems.

Are there additional benefits to this system?
Yes. The system provides advantages for well testing, data logging, and more.

Can this help old and new wells?
Yes. The WellPilot controller will easily transition throughout the well life cycle, from flowing to gas lift to gas-assisted plunger lift.

Cost-Efficient, Life-of-Well Alternative to ESPs

Smart Gas Lift

REDUCED LIFTING COSTS BY 50%

On a four-well pad of gas-lifted producers in the Eagle Ford formation, the Weatherford automated gas-lift system cut gas-injection volumes by 50% while maintaining the same production.

Lift Smarter™

To learn more about Weatherford Smart Gas Lift, contact your authorized Weatherford representative or visit weatherford.com.