Cementing

Top-quality cementing downhole is absolutely vital in a well. Not only does it hold casing in place and prevent it buckling but it prevents contamination of fresh water zones on land, is a barrier and prevents the production of water and gas in an oil well as well as providing zonal isolation.

Look at the aerial photographs taken below in the Middle East and note the effects of poor zonal isolation when control of the well was lost.

Well Blowout Attributed to Poor Cement Zonal Isolation

Poor cement jobs can also BHA’s to become stuck – through the cement, for example, becoming flash-set around the BHA due to an improper slurry mix being used.

Good quality cement plugs are also required for kick-offs prior to side-tracking and for well abandonment.

So as Operators (or as Drilling Contractors on Turnkey Contracts for example), always go through the cement’s design and displacement with the Cementing Contractor. Sometimes the difference between a good cement job and a bad cement job might be something as simple as not running the correct number of centralizers (as we saw on Macondo), a poor mix or not cleaning the hole properly prior to displacement.

With today’s low $ oil, we need to produce every barrel we can. And this begins at the reservoir.

IDEAS teaches cementing particularly from an optimisation perspective. Call us today and see how we can teach your personnel to optimize integrity, reduce costs and optimize well productivity.