6th Annual Sucker Rod Pumping Workshop
Wyndham Hotel, Dallas, Texas
September 14 – 17, 2010

New Sucker Rod Pump Technology
Breakout Session
New Sucker Rod Pump Technology

- Operator in the San Juan Basin with issues related to coal bed methane wells. Looking for solutions to eliminate gas interference in wells drilled and completed without rathole.

- Another SJ operator described a system utilizing small, hollow tubing as opposed to sucker rods combined with a pumping system that features a natural gas fired engine for the pumping unit coupled to a hydraulic unit that acts as a variable speed drive and significantly slows the pumping unit down as the POC determines that the pump fillage is decreasing, in combination with this, a casing choke system is activated that partially restricts the flow from the casing and allows accumulated liquids in the casing to fall back into the liner and be produced through the pump system.

- The casing restriction is released, lowering the casing pressure and returning the wellbore to improved inflow conditions.
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• A solution for frequent failures of clutch assemblies utilized with natural gas fired engines is needed.

• Environmental and regulatory restrictions are making finding solutions more and more difficult.

• Utilization of swabbing units and pole units as opposed to conventional workover rigs was identified as a cost reduction opportunity for well repairs.

• A SJ operator discussed a technique to utilize a flat pack coiled tubing system in conjunction with a jet pump to clean out coal fines in the wellbore during repair operations.
Utilization of new technology to determine bottom hole pumping conditions was discussed.

Discussion centered around controlling pumping units based on measured downhole conditions.

Discussion about ways/value of reducing electricity consumption.

Discussion about the importance of knowledge transfer from very experienced staff to newer less experienced staff.

Mentoring is a very valuable tool and similar methods need to be found to train individuals without ready access to experienced professionals.
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- Desire to share best practices in a given area was discussed but the exchange of knowledge needs to be equal without only limited sharing by few individuals and others only listening.
- Cooperation and communication would be very important.
- One particular drawback to this idea is that some companies/individuals feel that these best practices offer them a competitive advantage.
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