

Williston Basin, North Dakota

Fas Drill® Ultra frac plugs reduce time and difficulty of millout operations

Average millout time of 4.5 minutes achieved, less than half that of a typical composite plug

CHALLENGE

An operator wanted to reduce the cost, time, and risk involved with milling out composite frac plugs.

- Reduce millout time and difficulty
- Minimize fluid consumption during pump-down operation

SOLUTION

Install Fas Drill® Ultra composite frac plugs in two wellbores

RESULT

Operator safely removed 90 plugs from two wellbores in less than 40 hours:

- Average mill time was less than half that of a typical composite fracturing plug
- Saved days of millout operations, and reduced risk and cost

Overview

An operator in the Williston Basin wanted to lessen the difficulty and duration of the post-fracturing treatment millout process. Fas Drill® Ultra frac plugs were installed in two wellbores which comprised 10,000-ft (3.048-m) vertical and horizontal sections. The 4.5-in. frac plugs were pumped down to their setting depths with exceptional efficiency and withstood the demands of stimulation.

After the fracturing treatment was complete, both wells were milled out with a coiled-tubing unit. The Fas Drill Ultra plugs were quickly removed from the well at an average mill time of just 4.5 minutes. This saved the operator risk, several hours of operation, and tens of thousands of dollars (USD) in the overall cost of completion costs.

Challenge

The operator sought to scale down the time and risk required to remove composite plugs from the wellbore using a coiled-tubing unit. With coiled tubing becoming scarce in the region, the operator has had to use a smaller 2-in. unit opposed to the 2-3/8-in. unit that is conventionally used. Subsequently, the operator sought for an easier-to-mill composite frac plug solution.



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Fas Drill® Ultra frac plug

Solution

Halliburton recommended Fas Drill® Ultra frac plugs. These plugs have optimized geometry for efficiency while pumping the wireline tool string to depth, to reduce fluid consumption. Additionally, the Fas Drill Ultra plug is composed of easy-to-mill composite material. The design has been enhanced for millability without sacrifice to fluid efficiency.

Result

Fas Drill Ultra frac plugs were pumped to, and set at, the desired depths with an average volume efficiency of 51% without the use of a pump-down ring.

The operator was able to safely remove 90 plugs from two wellbores in less than 40 hours with an average mill time of 4.5 minutes per plug. This is less than half that of a typical composite fracturing plug.

Greatly reducing the difficulty and duration of the coiled-tubing millout saved the operator tens of thousands of dollars (USD), along with days of operation. The operator continues its focus on efficiency and partners with Halliburton for the best completion solutions.



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