

Flexi-Coil succesfully removes wax in West Africa subsea riser & flowline

100% Oil production uplift

Overview

An O&G operator in West Africa had a severly reduced flow path from a subsea well tieback due to heavy internal wax deposition in the pipeline and riser. The reduced flow path and high differential pressure resulted in shutting in the well and stopping production in order to attempt a remediation solution. Conventional methods were considered but deemed in effective.

Challenge

The riser and flowline were narrow bore at 4" OD and close to being completely blocked. The heavily restricted flow path would make it difficult to displace the wax deposit over 200m vertical displacement and 1500m step out distance. The receiving platform had limited availability of facilities and small area of deck space to rig up the Flexi-Coil unit and support equipment. Conventional cleaning using pigging technology and chemical soaking was either not possible, too costly or ineffective. The narrow bore and limited working space made intervention using conventional coil tubing impractical.

Solution

The compact footprint, ability to traverse multiple tights bends and powerful cleaning tools made Flexi-Coil an ideal fit. Flexi-Coil has integral dynamic pressure and isolation, which ensures control of the coil and annular flow of fluids to and from the surface package. Brine was used to assist displacement of wax solids back to surface. A filtration package separated the wax particles and recirculated the fluid ensuring containment and zero spills. Wiper trips were made to minimize build-up of wax behind the coil and maintain clear flow.

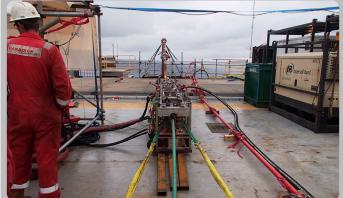
Result

- Over 45bbls of wax deposits successfully cleaned and returned to surface.
- Production Flow tests performed immediately post clean showed steady state 100% production improvement.
- Operation completed safely without LTI within 10 days of arrival on platform including rig up/down.
- · Back to parent metal deep clean of riser & pipeline bore

Value to client

- · Immediate and sustainable production improvement.
- Rapid return on investment using new & innovative technology.







Wax Removal from the Production flowline

Main Features / Benefits

- Powerful cleaning action with integral pressure control & isolation.
- · Rapid rate of penetration and footage/hr
- · Ability to access narrow bore and tight bends.
- · Minimal personnel and equipment in tight operational space.
- · Cost-effective solution; ideally suited for heavy wax deposition.