

CASE STUDY

UROS-CT

DEEPWATER



EXPLORATORY WELL, URUGUAY

UROS-CT PROVIDES A FLEXIBLE CLOSE-TOLERANCE CENTRALIZATION SOLUTION FOR A DEEPWATER EXPLORATION WELL

Region: Americas

Country: Uruguay

Application: Deepwater exploratory well

THE CHALLENGE

A major operator drilling an exploratory well in record water depth offshore Uruguay needed to run a 13-5/8 in. casing string below a 17-7/8 in. liner.

Because it was an exploration well, there was uncertainty over whether downhole conditions would require a 16 in. contingency liner to be installed between the two strings. If the contingency liner was required, the 13-5/8 in. centralizers would need to pass through its restricted internal diameter.

The conventional option was to purchase centralizer subs in advance, regardless of whether the contingency liner was ultimately installed. This would have increased upfront costs and created additional inventory-management requirements.

THE SOLUTION

The operator selected Centek UROS-CT close-tolerance centralizers as a flexible solution that could be run with or without the 16 in. contingency liner.

The UROS-CT's slim profile allows it to pass through tight restrictions while retaining the restoring force required to provide effective casing standoff. Its low running force and open bow design also provide sufficient flow-by to help manage surge and equivalent circulating density in narrow annular clearances.

The centralizer end bands are manufactured to precise tolerances, with an internal diameter only 0.030 in. greater than the maximum casing OD. Their roundness enables them to fit closely around the casing and supports reliable passage through restricted sections.

THE RESULT

More than 20 UROS-CT close-tolerance centralizers were installed offline on the 13-5/8 in. casing string before the pipe was transported to the rig.

The casing was subsequently run to total depth and cemented successfully without issue. The UROS-CT centralizers passed the required restrictions and provided the operator with a single centralization solution that could be used whether or not the 16 in. contingency liner was required.

The successful installation demonstrated how the UROS-CT can reduce the need for centralizer subs while providing greater flexibility, simpler inventory planning and a more cost-effective approach to uncertain deepwater well configurations.

This was the first run of the UROS-CT for this major operator, saving over \$250,000 in costs on both 13-5/8" and 9-7/8" strings.

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