



ALPHA PETROLEUM SERVICES, LLC

◆ Experience ◆ Innovation ◆ Integrity

Tunisian Subsea Well Program

Client

A Canadian oil and gas company with a focus on international offshore development.

Challenge

Our client is the owner and operator of an offshore Tunisia lease with a commitment well due to be drilled less than six months after initially discussing the project with APS. The client had recently experienced a major change in management and did not possess the required level of experience to assure completion of the commitment well. In addition, the detailed planning for the well was begun in early summer for a well to be commence prior to the end of the same year. Alpha Petroleum Services was asked to provide Project Management support throughout the well planning and drilling operations.

Alpha Petroleum Services Approach

Working directly with the client team, APS consultants conducted a thorough evaluation of the existing status of the well planning done to date by the client. Alpha's experienced staff travelled to Tunisia to meet with the Client's Country Manager and identify the work performed, the specific requirements of both the Tunisian Government and the Clients Partner (a part of the State Oil Company) and the availability of support contractors and services within Tunisia.

The Alpha staff identified the commitments made to date, created a well plan that met the requirements of the local regulatory agencies and reduced the time to drill and perform a drill stem test of the well. The Alpha team developed bid packages, tendered bids, and assessed contract proposals for provision of major drilling and completion equipment and services. APS finalized contract negotiations with preferred suppliers enabling our client to execute contracts concurrently with Well Plan submission.

The project timeline was very short when Alpha became involved and Alpha had only about 120 days to generate the well plan, assure that necessary services were contracted for and expedite delivery of equipment before the planned spud date. Alpha assembled a team to provide a Project Manager onshore, a drilling engineer onshore, Company Men offshore for rig supervision and a logistics team to handle the flow of equipment to and from the jack-up drilling rig.

Alpha coordinated with the authorities and our client to ensure that well plan and drilling activities were conducted in full compliance with Tunisian laws and regulations. The close coordination with our Client, in both Canada and in Tunisia, provided the flexibility to modify the well plan during the drilling operations. The Client elected to conduct three Drill Stem Tests, no the single DST envisioned in the original well plan.

Result

The Alpha team supported our client in securing Tunisian government approval of the Well. The well was spudded within the same-year time frame allowed by the Tunisian authorities and was drilled to TD close to the time forecast in the original well plan and approximately 15 days faster than the typical drilling operation conducted offshore Tunisia. Three drill stem tests were conducted, not one. The well was plugged and abandoned. Even with the additional testing time, the well was drilled and tested in a time-period that was less than the typical offshore Tunisian drill and test time. The client obtained valuable and useful reservoir information and the total cost of the drill and test operations were less than the Client's original well AFE.