# The Evolution of Diversion, An Engineered Approach

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**Completions Advisor** 



### Overview

#### Introduction

- Evolution of Diversion Technology
- Perforation Efficiency
- POD Diversion Systems
- Deployment Methods
- Case Studies
- Summary

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- Evolution of Diversion Technology
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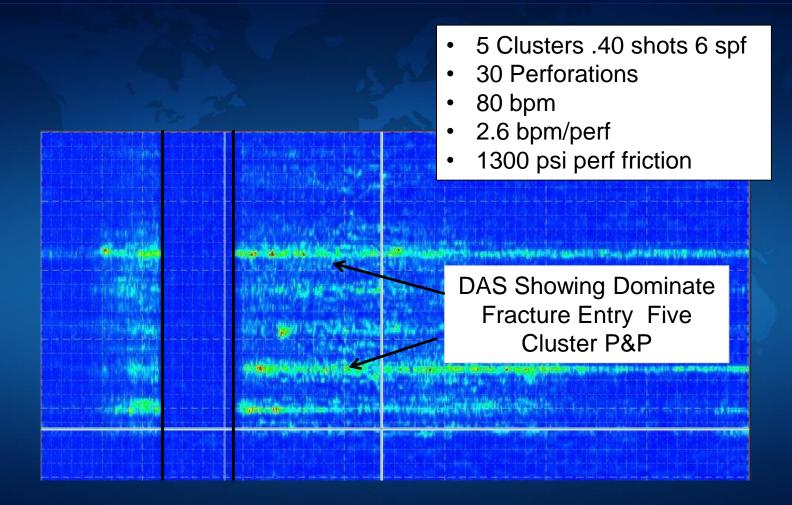


Summary

# A case for Diversion

- New Well
  - Increase cluster efficiency via intra-stage diversion
  - Lengthen lateral coverage stage size
  - Replace or reduce the number of Frac Plugs
- Remedy for casing problems
  - Temporarily seal leaks
  - Casing restrictions to frac plugs and BHAs
- Offset well interaction
  - Reduce the risk of frac hits
  - Increase production of offset wells
- Re-Fracs
  - Seal existing perforations and/or sliding sleeve ports
  - Promote propagation into new perforations through stage sequence diversion

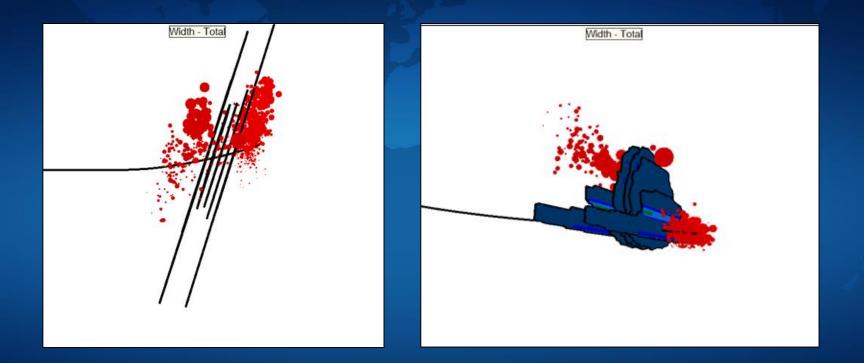
### **Increase New Well Fracture and Cluster Efficiency**



Fiber optic DAS Perforation Cluster Efficiency

An Integrated Dataset ... URTeC 2171506– July 2015

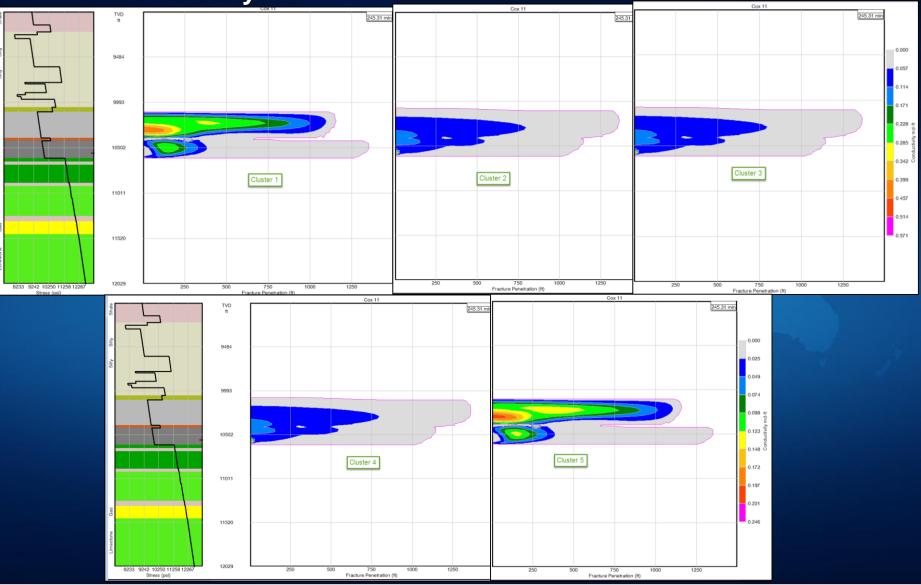
# Microseismic vs HF Model



#### Fracture Efficiency 30% effective at best

Re-fracturing Horizontal Shale Wells ... SPE HFTC 168607-MS and April 2014 JPT

# **Post Job History Match**



## How can we Improve Cluster Efficiency

- Geo-Engineered Design (perforate like rock)
- Limited Entry
- Extreme Limited Entry
- Perforation Design
- Intra-Stage Diversion
- Plug Elimination

# **Considerations to Improve Cluster Efficiency**

#### Limited Entry

- Better Fracture initiation
- Should consider consistent hole sizing
- Perforation Erosion can be a

#### Diversion C

- Perfora
- Fracture
- Diverter type
- erforation Strategy Intra-Stage Diversion

#### **Geo-Engineered Completions**

- Cluster placed in "Like Rock"
- Understand in-situ stress and NWBFP
- Stress Shadowing

#### URTeC: 2171506 - GeoEngineered Completion Optimization

### **Considerations to Improve Cluster Efficiency**

#### Limited Entry

- Better Fracture initiation
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- Perforation Erosion can be an issue

#### Diversion Considerations

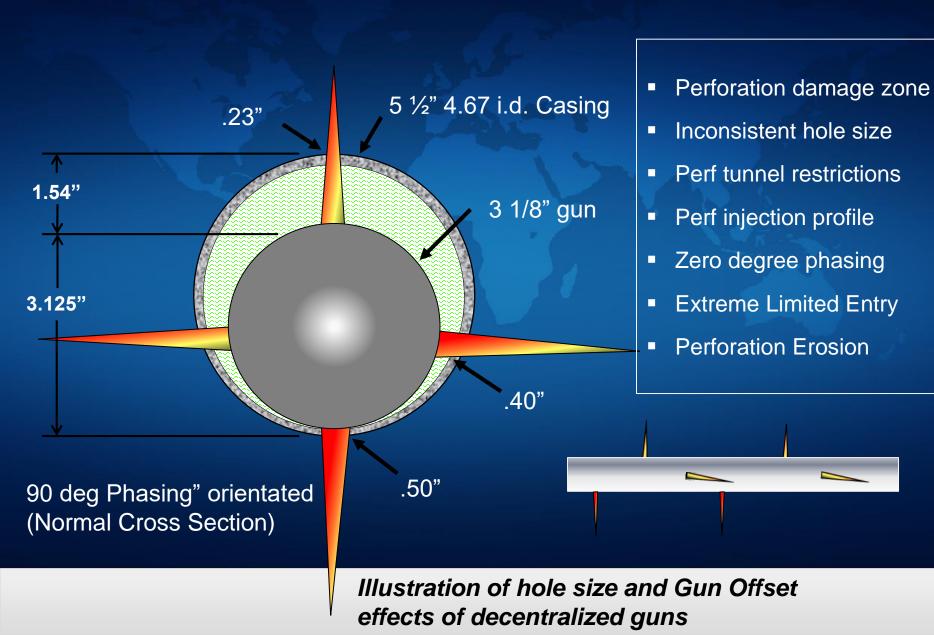
- Perforation design strategy
- Fracture design
- Diverter type
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#### Geo-Engineered Completions

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#### **URTeC: 2171506 - GeoEngineered Completion Optimization**

# **Perforation Efficiency**



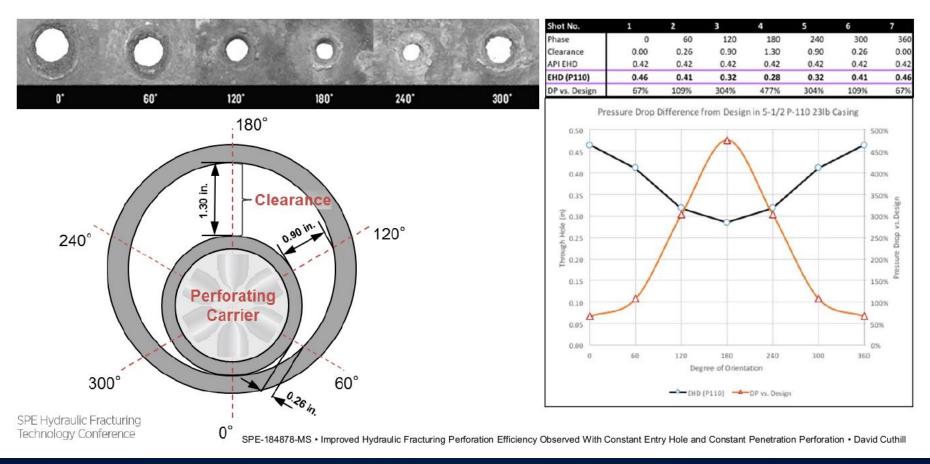
# Perforation Gun Phasing with oriented guns



Illustration of hole size and perforation phasing of decentralized guns

# **Conventional Perforating Systems**

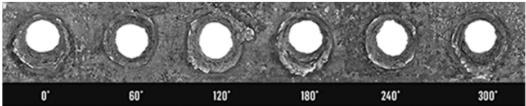
# **CONVENTIONAL PERFORATING SYSTEMS**



SPE-184878-MS • Improved Hydraulic Fracturing Perforation Efficiency Observed With Constant Entry Hole and Constant Penetration Perforation

# **Enhanced Perforating Charges**

# CONSISTENT PERFORATING SYSTEM



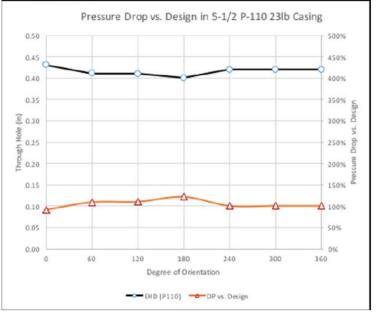
Shot No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Phase	0	60	120	180	240	300	360
Clearance	0.00	0.26	0.90	1.30	0.90	0.90	0.90
APIEHD	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42
EHD (P110)	0.43	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.42	0.42	0.42
DP vs. Design	91%	109%	110%	122%	100%	100%	100%

- Entrance hole diameter
  - Predictable and constant in a range of casing sizes, weights, and grades (eg. 4-1/2 – 5-1/2 P-110)
- Penetration
  - Variation in clearance does not impact the penetration

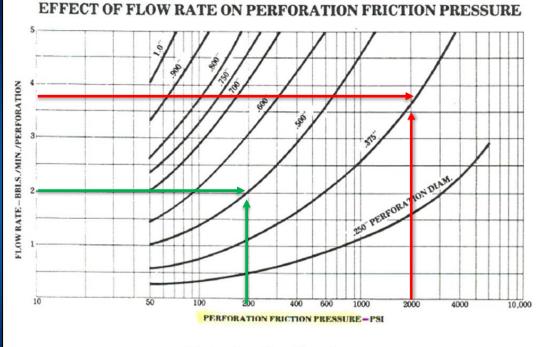
SPE Hydraulic Fracturing Technology Conference

SPE-184878-MS • Improved Hydraulic Fracturing Perforation Efficiency Observed With Constant Entry Hole and Constant Penetration Perforation • David Cuthill

SPE-184878-MS • Improved Hydraulic Fracturing Perforation Efficiency Observed With Constant Entry Hole and Constant Penetration Perforation



# **Limited Entry**



BJ Hughes Handbook

- Limited entry is an attempt to assure total zone coverage during stimulation
- Limited entry may be enhanced through diversion by limiting fluid flow into adjacent perforations throughout the treatment, but it may also limit production.
- Extreme limited entry may lead to perforation erosion

# **Balance between limited entry and erosion**

#### **Downhole Image Showing Perforation Erosion**

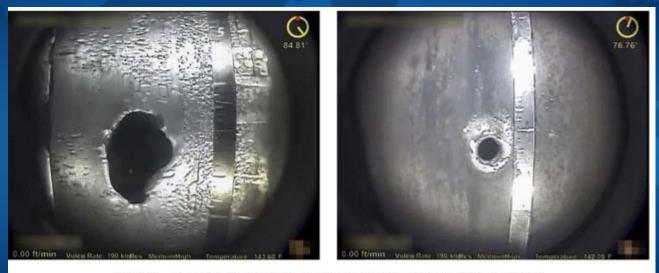


Figure 15—Post-treatment images of heavily eroded (low side) and minimally eroded (high side) perforations from the same well. Orientation of the charges with respect to circumferential position is often a contributing factor in post-treatment dimensions.

#### SPE-194334-MS, Cramer HFTC 2019

# **Geometric vs. Geo-Engineered**

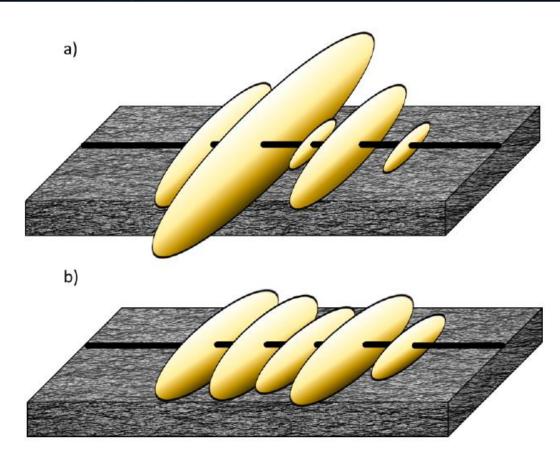


Figure 4: Geometric Completions (a) are more likely to create highly conductive, dominant "super fracs" while Engineered Completions (b) tends to provide better reservoir coverage

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/why-some-engineered-completions-fail-kevin-wutherich

#### Near Wellbore and Formation Stress Variance

### **Evolution of Multi-Cluster Diversion Technology**

- Rock Salt, Benzoic Acid Flakes, Proppant Slugs
- Sliding Sleeves
- Single Point Injection CTA Fracturing and Abrasive Jet Perforating
- Plug and Perf
- Limited Entry
- Extreme Limited Entry
- Ball Sealers, Biodegradable Ball Sealers (PLA)
- Small mesh PLA material
- POD Diversion

# **Diverting Agents**

#### Rubber coated nylon balls



#### Bio-degradable balls (PLA)

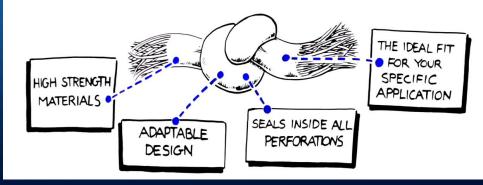


#### Bio-degradable PLA Mesh (8 / 40 / 100 mesh)



#### **POD Diversion**

#### PERF PODS ARE A FIT FOR PURPOSE INTRA-WELLBORE DIVERTER



#### **The Next Evolution of Diversion**

# **POD Pod Diversion Test (0.50" perf holes)**



4.5" casing w/ 2 x 0.5" perf holes at 4 bpm – 600 psi perf friction

### **POD Diversion**

- Serve as miniature frac plugs
- Can eliminate the need for frac plugs
- 1: 1 perforation seal efficiency ratio
- Can be more reliable than conventional frac plugs
  - frac plugs have a documented history of up to 40% failure rate when measured with fiber optic (DAS / DTS) SPE 2171506
- Thermally Degradable or millable
- Diminish drill out and wellbore cleanup time
- Stay in the flow stream during the treatment to assure proper lateral coverage
- Stay on seat until they dissolve or removed

# **Acrylic Flow Loop Demo**



### Dynamic flow illustration – 8 bpm - real-time

# **Conventional vs. Extreme Limited Entry**

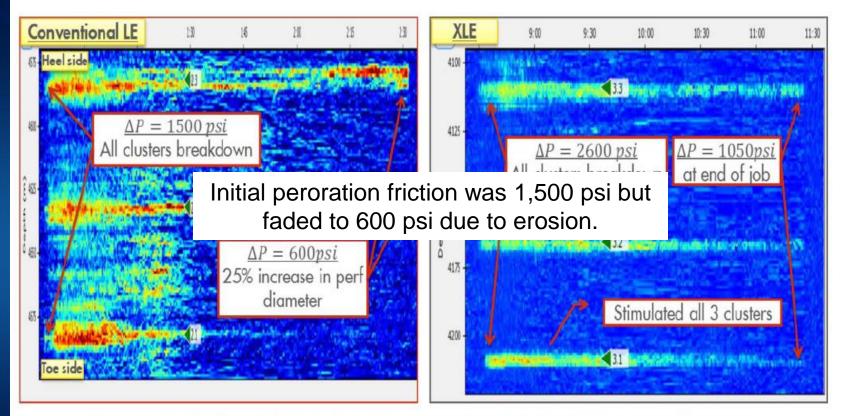
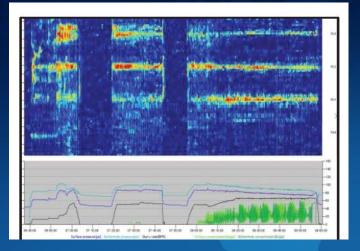


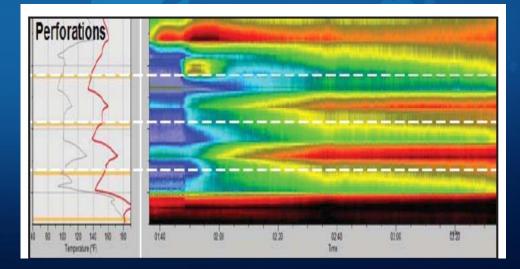
Figure 7— The "XLE" waterfall plot on the right shows that the toe-side cluster 3.1 is connected throughout the treatment. The nominal acoustic fading towards end of frac is more likely visual. As perforations erode, the acoustic noise shifts into lower frequency bands causing it to look like the connection is "fading".

#### SPE-173348-MS; Shell – HFTC 2015

# **Three Cluster Limited Entry Design**



DTS post job warm-back showing each cluster taking a significant amount of fluid DAS acoustic activity while pumping shows each cluster taking fluid and sand through the duration of the stage.



#### URTeC: 2171506 BP-2015

# **Plugless Completion**

#### 2 Well Study – Greene County, PA

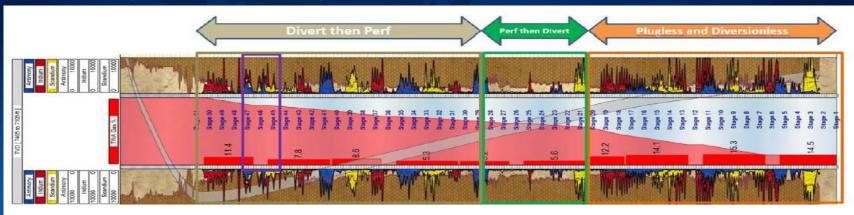


Figure 12—Marcellus 1H log plot with gas tracer returns percentage and proppant tracers.

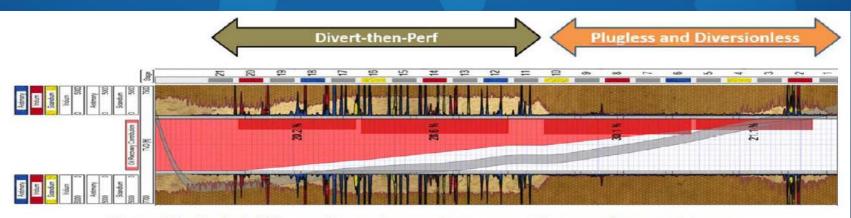


Figure 22—Burkett 1H Log with gas tracer returns percentages and proppant tracers.

SPE-191781-18ERM-MS

#### **Plugless Completion - Production**

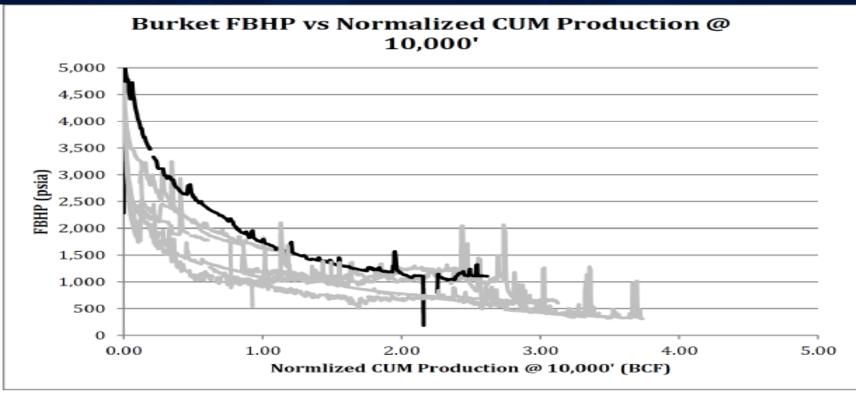


Figure 26—Burkett flowing bottomhole pressure vs normalized cumulative production to 10,000 ft lateral length.

• Above average production compared to offsets within 5 mile radius

#### SPE 191781 – Plugless Completions

#### **Recommendations and Considerations**

#### Divert & Perf - Operationally

- Leave open enough perforations for subsequent pump-down at desired rate
- Seat PODs and achieve max surface pressure at minimal rate reduction
- Perform "soft" shutdown on pumps to minimize water-hammer effect

#### Divert & Perf – Trial

- Full well trial to compare production results with offset
- Partial well trial to evaluate effectiveness of POD isolation
  - Recommend at least 10 stages to obtain substantial data set

#### Full Stage Isolation

- Use POD Wireline Deployment
  - Drop PODs from surface and plug remaining perforations with Wireline Deployment

#### SPE 191781 – Plugless Completions

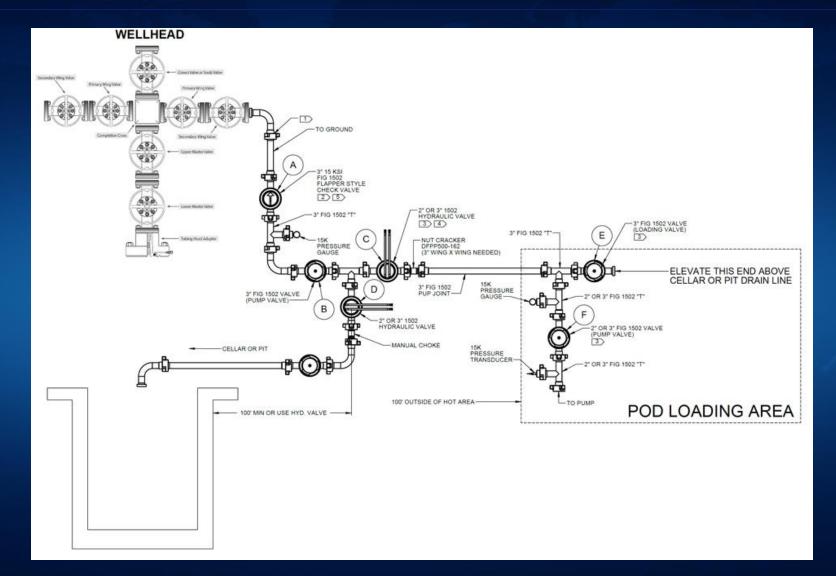


Ball Drop System

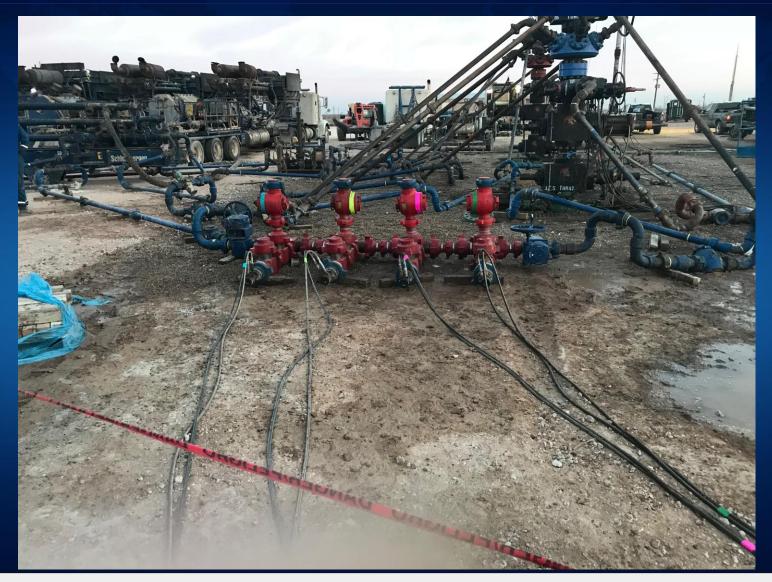
Auger System

Wireline – Baker 10 - Setting tool

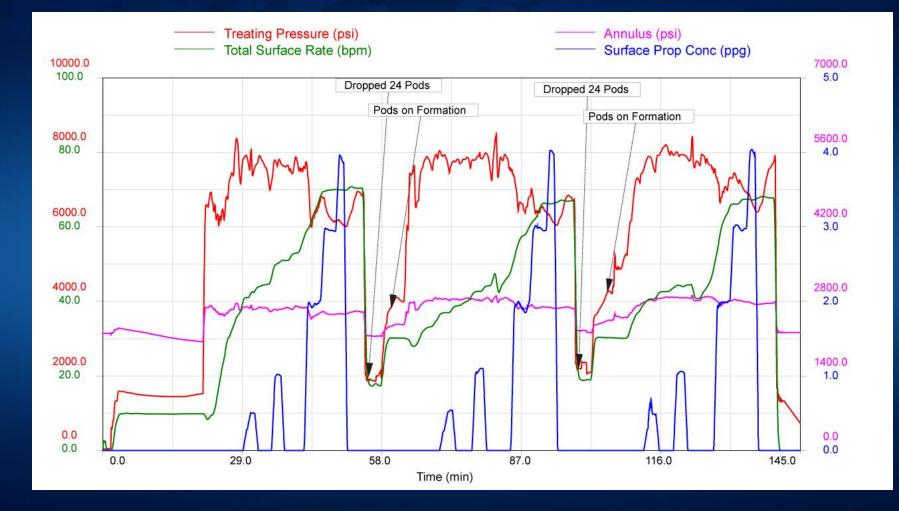
# **POD Ball-Drop Style System**



# Auger Deployment System



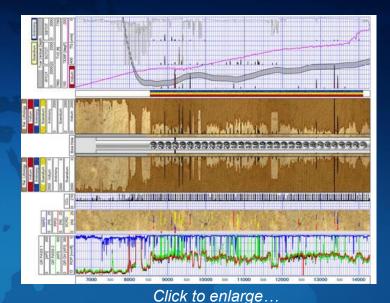
# **Case Study – Cottage Grove Formation, Custer County, OK**



#### Case Study No. 6202 PODs Divert Multistage Sleeve System for Successful Re-Frac

# **DETAILS:**

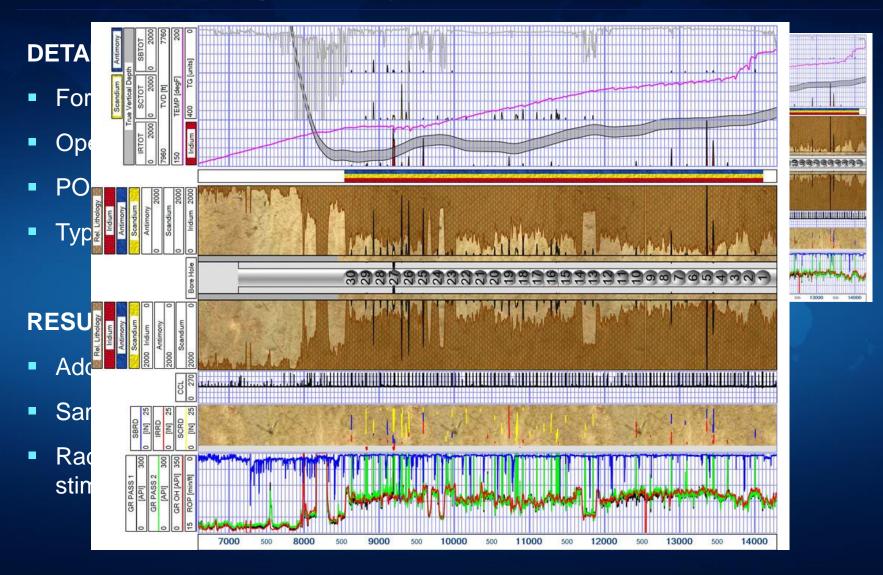
- Formation: Bakken
- Operation Depth: 13,710' 14,400'
- POD Type: PCL-Large Millable PODs
- Type of Operation: Horizontal Re-Frac



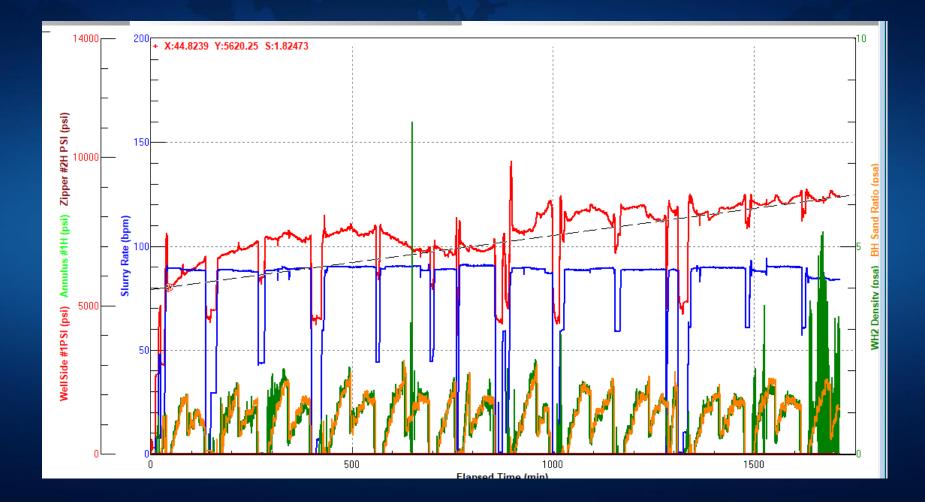
#### **RESULTS:**

- Added new perforations between existing sleeves
- Same Perf PODs were used to plug sleeves and new perforations
- Radioactive tracer showed diversion throughout entire lateral with stimulation to sleeves and new perfs

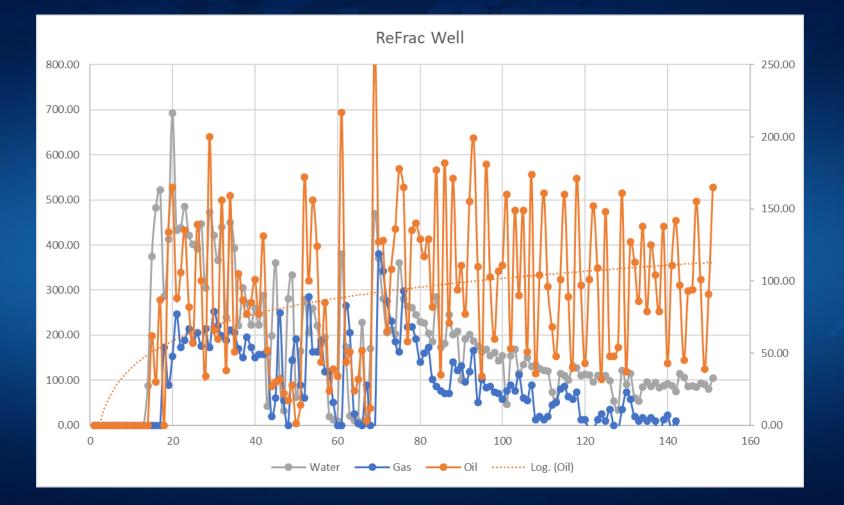
#### Case Study No. 6202 PODs Divert Multistage Sleeve System for Successful Re-Frac



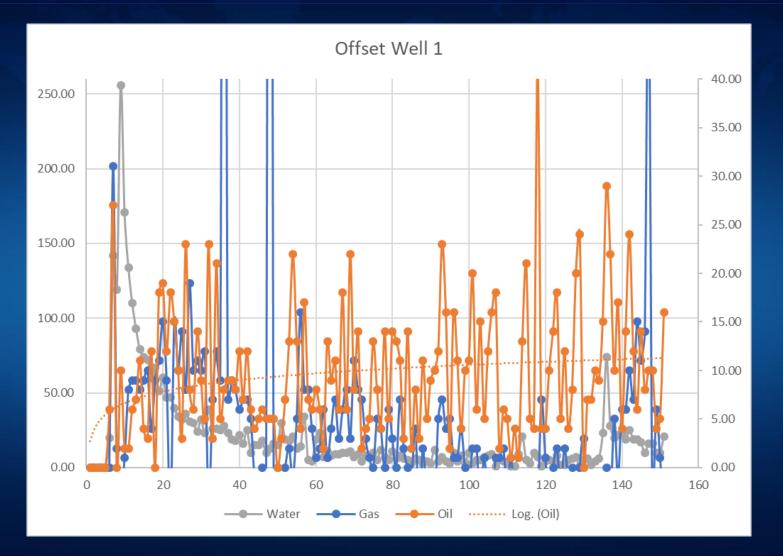
# Eagle Ford POD ReFrac



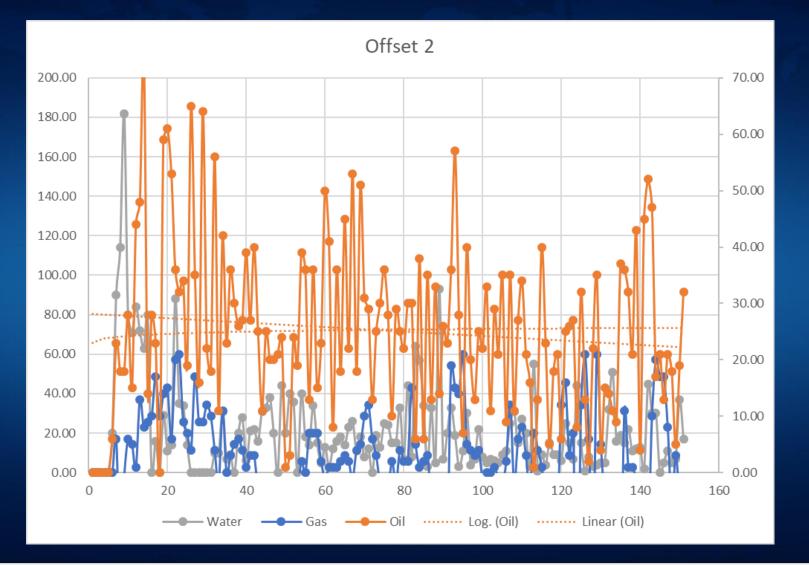
# **ReFrac Production**



# **Offset Well 1 Production**



## **Offset Well 2 Production**

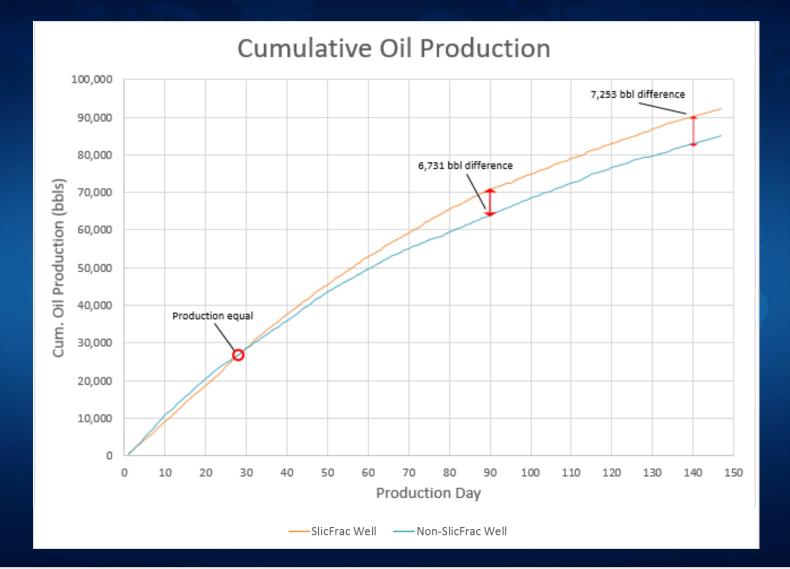


## **POD Diverter Test - Irregular Perforations**



Erosion can diminish the ability of some diverter systems to seal

## **Intra-Stage POD Diversion Production Comparison**



Karnes County, TX

## **Technology Update**

- 1,298 Total Jobs
- 32,900 Stages
- 1,025 Plug & Perf Interstage Diversion Jobs
- 36 Pod & Perf
- 92 Horizontal ReFracs
- 65 Vertical Refracs
- 696,400 PODs
- 1,995 Frac Plugs Eliminated
- 160 Operators

## **POD Diversion Opportunities**

- Extend fracture stages in horizontal wells
- Eliminate or reduce the number of frac plugs required
- Higher perforation seal ratio compared to conventional material
- Thermally degradable to reduce or mitigate well-bore clean-out time
- Stay in the flow path during the treatment (path of least resistance)
- Fit for purpose in ReFracs
- Can be used where casing restrictions prohibit frac plugs

## **Closing Thoughts**

- Begin with the end in mind
- Understand expected treating pressure
- Have a good understanding of fractures and NWBFP
- Calculate expected perforation friction pressure

## Acknowledgements

## SPEGSC

- Thru Tubing Solutions
- Jeff Whitworth and Cody Trebing TTS
- David Cramer, ConocoPhillips
- Friends and Colleagues



#### Property of Rodgerson Completions Consulting

#### **POD Diversion References**

- HFTC SPE 189900-2018; Diversion Optimization in New Well Completions; ProTechnics (PODs)
- URTeC : 2902114-2018 ; Rapid Evaluation of Diverter Effectiveness From Poroelastic Pressure Response in Offset Wells; Linn Energy, Reveal Energy Services (PODs)
- URTeC 2888446-2018; New Mexico Delaware Basin Horizontal Well Heel Frac and Refrac Program and Hydraulic Fracture Diagnostics; ; OXY (PODs)
- HFTC SPE-194331 2019; Continuous Use of Fiber Optics-Enabled Coiled Tubing Used to Accelerate the Optimization of Completions Aimed at Improved Recovery and Reduced Cost of Development; Oasis – PODs vs. PLA
- HFTC SPE-189880-2018; Mining the Bakken II Pushing the Envelope with Extreme Limited Entry Perforating; Liberty Resources
- HFTC SPE-194374; An Eagle Ford Case Study: Improving an Infill Well Completion Through Optimized Refracturing Treatment of the Offset Parent Wells; Nobel (POD-ReFrac)

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## **Additional References**

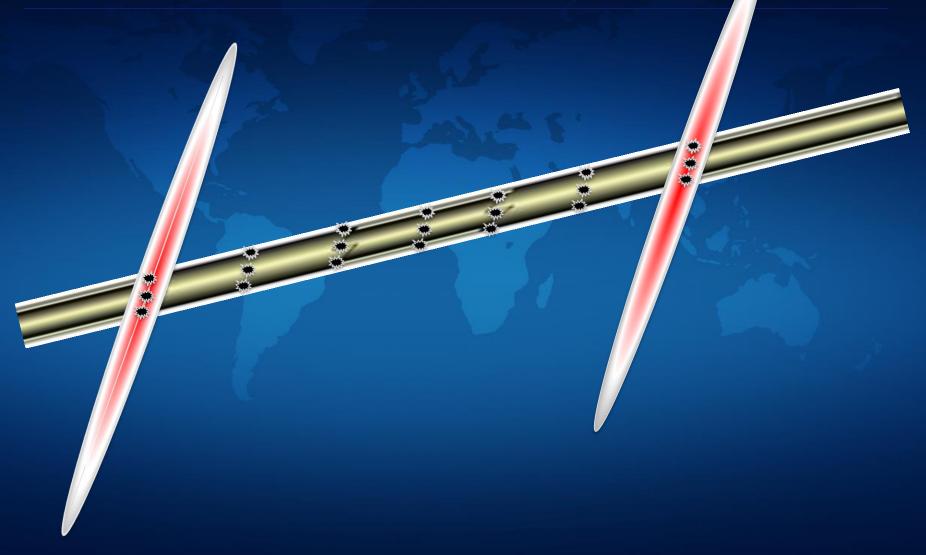
- URTeC: 2171506-2015 ; An Integrated Dataset Centered Around Distributed Fiber Optic Monitoring – Key to the Successful Implementation of a Geo-Engineered Completion Optimization Program in the Eagle Ford Shale; BP (Plug Failures)
- HFTC SPE-184834-MS 2017; Extreme Limited Entry Design Improves Distribution Efficiency in Plug-n-Perf Completions: Insights from Fiber-Optic Diagnostics; (Shell)
- HFTC SPE 168607-2014; Re-fracturing Horizontal Shale Wells: Case History of a Woodford Shale Pilot Project;, (BP)
- SPE 173348-2015; Challenging Assumptions About Fracture Stimulation Placement Effectiveness Using Fiber Optic Distributed Sensing Diagnostics: Diversion, Stage Isolation and Overflushing; HFTC (Shell)
- SPE 103232 ATCE 2006; A Field Study Optimizing Completion Strategies for Fracture Initiation in Barnett Shale Horizontal Wells; Devon Energy; (Stress Shadowing)

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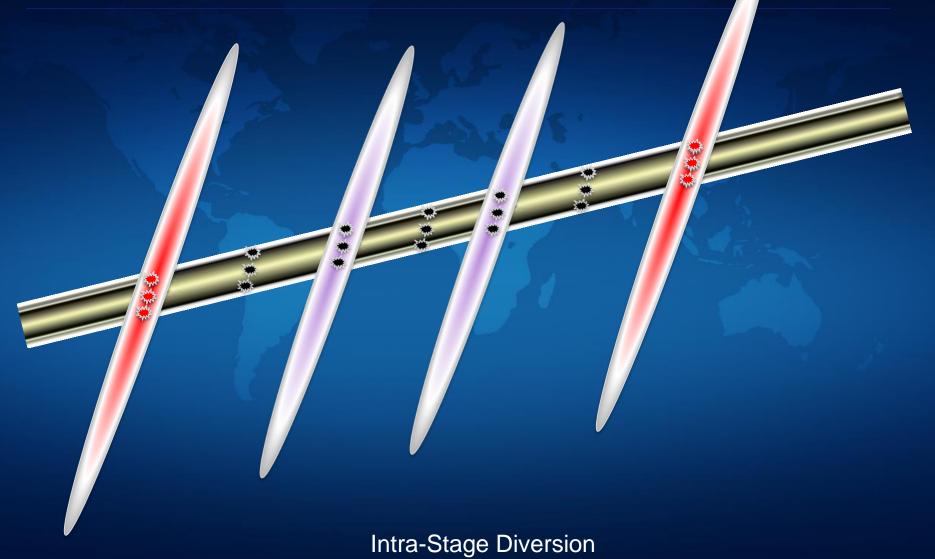
#### **Additional References**

- HFTC SPE-194329 2019; Utilization of Far Field Diverters to Mitigate Parent and Infill Well Fracture Interaction in Shale Formations; Conoco
- HFTC SPE-194334 2019; Integrating DAS, Treatment Pressure Analysis and Video-Based Perforation Imaging to Evaluate Limited Entry Treatment Effectiveness; Conoco, Cramer
- HFTC SPE-194354 2019; Child Well Analysis from Poroelastic Pressure Responses on Parent Wells in the Eagle Ford; Reveal, SM Energy
- HFTC SPE-194371 2019; New Near-Wellbore Insights from Fiber Optics and Downhole Pressure Gauge Data; Shell – Canada (Fiber Optic)
- SPE-191781-18ERM-MS 2019; Plugless Completions Techniques and Evaluation in the Appalachian Basin; CNX, ProTechnics

# Intra Stage Sequencing – POD Drop #1



# Intra Stage Sequencing – POD Drop #2



# Intra Stage Sequencing – POD Drop #3

**Optimum-Stage Diversion-Stage Behind Method**