CASE HISTORY

Isolating a Lost Circulation Zone in a Horizontal Eagle Ford Well - South Texas

CHALLENGES: While drilling the lateral of a horizontal well into the production zone, the operator encountered a formation at 15,300 ft that resulted in lost circulation prior to reaching the target depth of 16,200 ft. After fighting for several days to regain circulation the customer decided to pull out of the hole. The crew pumped over 1,600 bbl of oil base mud (OBM) with lost circulation material (LCM) while retrieving the bottom hole assembly (BHA).

SOLUTION: TAM was contacted and provided a solution to seal off the lost circulation zone using the TAMPlug Permanent Bridge Plug System. The system, which uses a specialized BHA, provides a high probability of success in an LCM and mud environment. The equipment and a TAM service specialist were on-site within 24 hours. A TAMPlug was set in the 8 ¾ in. open hole at 15,187 ft.

RESULTS AND BENEFIT: TAM’s system offered the customer maximum flexibility and confidence in handling the downhole conditions. Using the TAMPlug allowed the customer to seal off the lost circulation zone on the first run, regain circulation, condition the well, and ultimately run and cement a 5 ½ in. liner.