

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

6"x18,000' Cleanout via eelReel®

Mechanical cleanout of a subsea flowline

An Independent E&P Company operator's main 6" infield flowlines on the Gulf of Mexico shelf had been experiencing problematic organic deposition, ultimately rendering it inoperable. The production was re-routed through a parallel 4" line that allowed for production to sustain while the paraffin-stricken line was temporarily abandoned. When the permit cycle for temporary abandonment was nearing, an economic feasibility study determined it would be advantageous to clean and restore the line rather than attempting to remove and permanently abandon the line.

SOLUTION

Bluefin conducted an in-depth evaluation to determine the best method and economic approach to restore the line. Initially, a diagnostic pumping scope was deployed to the field in order to verify the hydraulic condition of the line and provide a clear path for the next phase. It was determined that the line was completely obstructed and a mechanical intervention was required. A comprehensive plan was developed and deployed within a short timeframe.

PLAN OF EXECUTION

- Detailed torque, drag and hydraulic modeling was conducted to determine feasibility and design selections of the intervention.
- Access to the flowline was gained subsea by means of a temporary riser deployed from a cantilevered system on a Liftboat.
- The eelReel® tool was deployed on 19,000' of 1-3/4" Coil Tubing.
- A fluid management system was used that allowed re-circulation of filtered seawater as the drive medium throughout the project.

TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS & BENEFITS

- Cleaned entire flowline from riser to riser.
- Cleaned line to original pipe ID by full size tool and aggressive pigging in commissioning phase.
- Performed solvent soak on riser section while mainline cleaning was executed.
- Conducted a successful hydrotest prior to reinstatement, as per CFR Title 30_250.1003.
- Restored 1,900 BOPD production.
- Reduced disposal by re-circulation and fluid management.
- Job done with zero incidents and no environmental impact.



LOCATION

Gulf of Mexico Shelf

