

Improving Drilling Efficiency in Colombia Deepwater Exploration

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ABSTRACT

Anadarko is currently drilling its fourth well in deepwater Colombia, a complex geologic setting. The lack of offset drilling data within comparable water depths has also created challenges during the drilling of the first two exploration wells, which opened the play. Applying the lessons learned from the first drilling campaign, Anadarko has drilled the third well in the Purple Angel Block on time and within budget. This demonstration of the company's commitment to continuous improvement required a great deal of collaboration with the G&G team to de-risk the well during the planning phase, both with selecting a safe drilling location to avoid potential hazards and also in understanding the shallow interval overlying the target objectives. Using foam cementing for surface casing and Anadarko's first deployment of managed pressure drilling technology (MPD) have significantly reduced the non-productive time (NPT) from that of the first campaign while delivering a good quality wellbore, well-suited for data acquisition.