

Pumps and High Rate Filtration Spread Assist with Retrieval of Collapsed Smart Pig



CASE STUDY

Objectives

- The customer made an initial attempt to pig the pipeline from a subsea launching site to a shelf production platform. This resulted in the smart pig collapsing in the J-tube on the deepwater launching site, due to the hydrostatic head of the fluid column and the pump pressure required to propel the pig.
- Greene's was consulted to evaluate the situation and determined that the pressure needed to be reduced on the shallow end of the pipeline to prevent collapsing of the smart pig during operations.
- Greene's was selected to provide the low head centrifugal pumps to assist in this operation – reducing fill spread pump pressures to assist the client's pump that was pushing the pig.

Result

- Greene's rigged up a 6" vacuum / suction line and was able to assist in retrieving the smart pig.
- The water in the pipeline was separated, filtered and discharged overboard.
 - Filtered at a flow rate of 24 bbls/minute
 - Total volume of 1 million barrels filtered throughout the job
- Pipeline test was completed successfully, meeting customer's stated objectives with no safety, environmental or operational incidents.

Value to Client

- Extremely high flow rates and volumes were achieved with a small equipment footprint on a shelf platform with very limited deck space.
- A consistent flow rate was maintained throughout the duration of the project to obtain accurate results from the smart tool.
- The water was treated and discharged overboard, meeting NPDES standards for the duration of the project.

Date:	2011
Client:	Major Pipeline Contractor
Location:	Gulf of Mexico
Project Type:	Subsea Pipeline Commissioning

PRODUCTS/SERVICES:

- Low Head Centrifugal Pumps
- Three (3) 10 bbl/m Filtration Spreads

