

# **Optimizing well production**

Resolving proppant flowback issues with 3M<sup>™</sup> Ceramic Sand Screens

## **Customer challenge**

Procure a sand control method to preserve the integrity and productivity of the well.

Limit investment at top surface.

### North Sea application

Wells stimulated without possibility to cope with proppant flow back at surface

Need for simple sand control solution

High-erosion environment (100 ft/s)

#### Why ceramics?

Wire-wrap screens failed every erosion test (lower photo). The ceramic screens did not show any visible wear or material loss.

Made of abrasion-resistant silicon carbide, 3M<sup>™</sup> Ceramic Sand Screens mitigate wash-out erosion compared to all steels and hard coated steels tested.

#### **Erosion test results**





3M<sup>™</sup> Ceramic Sand Screen. After 240 min.



#### Results

- The 2 wells equipped with 3M ceramic sand screen technology have been online and producing since late 2014
- Hang on packer and set across the upper perforation zone
- Ca. 25 and 35MMSCFD
- Still producing, no proppant flowback seen at surface
- Next wells to be completed in the same way





# Customer key decision drivers

Should not be decided by initial cost but decided by value creation on capital spend

Decision matrix included:

- Overall intervention cost
- Increased longevity potential
- Optimized production utilizing ceramic properties
- Simplified logistics and operation

Economic comparison with other options includes:

- Standalone metallic screen
- Frac pack
- Top surface investment (de-sander)

#### **Technical references**

**SPE 176225-MS:** cased hole ceramic screen cutting completion cost for marginal reservoir: application in Tunu Field

**OTC 25106-MS:** an innovative approach of revival for damaged wells in high erosive environment using ceramic sand screens – BG Group

**SPE 146721:** An innovative milestone in sand control – Maersk Oil & Gas

**SPE 160327:** ceramic sand screens for sand control in unconsolidated reservoirs (with fines content) – RAG

**SPE 166092-MS:** ceramic sand screen: ceramic sand screen – an innovative downhole sand control solutions for old & challenging cased holes – BG Group

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