Case study: Artificial Lift

Location: Permian Basin

Permian Operator Saves USD 700,000 on ESP Interventions

Lift IQ service minimizes manual ESP restarts, saving time and eliminating deferred production

After struggling with ESP downtime in unconventional Permian Basin wells, an independent operator used the remote operation capability of Lift IQ® production life cycle management service to slash deferred production and intervention costs.

The operator’s concerns
- Well downtime because of ESP gas lock issues, power shortages, and pumps stuck for hours per incident while waiting for field service technicians to visit a wellsite to reset the pump
- High intervention costs

The operator’s goals
- Reduce or eliminate travel and human intervention for ESP restarts
- Accelerate restarts to cut deferred production.

What Schlumberger recommended
Introduce the Lift IQ service to monitor ESPs and enable remote intervention.

What was achieved
The operator saved nearly USD 700,000 by monitoring four wells from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily and nine wells 24/7.

Over 9 months, the service executed 155 remote startups, 54 remote gas lock interventions, 61 remote speed increases to accommodate real-time production changes, and 113 other remote operations. The 75 critical interventions were controlled in an average of 21 minutes, rather than several hours. The service enabled production of 6,474 bbl of oil that would have been deferred otherwise.

More technical details
See SPE-192512.