

From: John Gisclair
Sent: Wed Jul 21 23:55:39 2010
To: James Bement - VP Sperry PSL; Thomas Roth
Subject: Indicator of trouble
Importance: Normal

Guys,

With the help of a couple of the mud loggers from the Horizon, I discovered some information in the database that I believe closely identifies the time when the rig crew realized they were in a well control situation. At 21:14, after conducting the sheen test, the pumps were brought up to begin dumping returns (including the 454 bbl 16 ppg LCM spacer) overboard. Four minutes later at 21:18 the pumps were shut down. Two minutes later at 21:20 the pumps were brought up. What is strange is that at this same time the rig crew started filling the slugging pit. Over the next 13 minutes, from 21:20 to 21:33, almost 50 bbl were pumped into the slugging pit. The fluid was never moved out of the pit, and 16 minutes later we lost the transmission.

I can think of no reason why they would pump fluid into an empty slugging pit at this point except that they saw a problem and needed to mix a heavy pill quickly. To me, it seems one of the implications of this (if correct) is that it narrows the time window in which a well control problem could have been detected to less than ten minutes (21:10 to 21:18). Any indicators appearing after this time window would have come when the rig crew was already aware of a problem.

I have issues regarding the actions taken after this point, as well as other discoveries, which I would like to discuss. When would be best to set up a call?

Thanks,

John

