

7.0 VERTICAL INTERVENTION

7.1 INTRODUCTION

All blowouts are different to various degrees, and the circumstances associated with the intervention are also varied. These include the following factors:

- . Geography
- . Water depth
- . Water current
- . Weather windows
- . Rig availability
- . Equipment compatibility
- . Blowout rate

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Blowouts remain a top priority in any plan. All operations should include contingency and plans as well as plans to ensure the safety of the well control team and vertical intervention vessels.

This section also includes certain vertical intervention procedures which may not be feasible in some geographic locations. These must be considered and evaluated for each situation, on a case-by-case basis. These procedures involve various preparatory steps required for a base case scenario. They may not be applicable to a specific blowout. The reader must select the sections which apply to his situation.

For the purposes of this report, the vertical intervention will be performed from a semisubmersible vessel. Both guideline and guidelineless running of intervention equipment is addressed. Also described are simple modifications that require minimal modification costs and could be incorporated into present drilling equipment to facilitate vertical intervention procedures.

7.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING VERTICAL INTERVENTION METHODS

Several factors can influence planning and executing vertical intervention procedures. Some of these are discussed below. The degree of influence of each depends on the location of the blowout and the specific circumstances associated with it.