

## Introduction to Well Decommissioning

### Course Objectives

The overall objective of this course is to provide delegates with an introduction to the basic technical aspects of well decommissioning and how this activity fits into oil and gas decommissioning projects overall. It is delivered by one of Well Decom's three Directors, Steve Jewell, Graeme Johnston or Peter Greaves each with extensive well engineering and decommissioning experience, mostly with Operating companies.

The course will focus on how and why wells are decommissioned and will highlight the risks and uncertainties faced by engineers and how this can impact on the financial performance of a decommissioning project. New and emerging technologies and techniques will also be covered to consider where improved performance in well abandonment techniques may emerge in the future.

### Who Should Attend

This course is intended primarily for non-technical staff (of all disciplines) and Managers looking for an overview of what well decommissioning involves, how costs are estimated and how well work fits into the overall decommissioning process.

### Training Method

The course will be delivered using a combination of instruction and the facilitation of group discussion. No specific technical knowledge is required, although familiarity with oil and gas practices is assumed.

### Course Content

- **Introduction**  
Scene setting regarding the importance of good decommissioning practice in the modern world. UK and global context.
- **Key Definitions**  
Regulation – Guidelines – Standards. Critical definitions in the context of UK Guidelines, their meaning and interpretation.

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- **Permanent Barriers**  
Meaning of permanence, types of barrier, materials, size etc. The importance of annular cement and annular barriers and special cases.
- **Verification, Responsibilities and Accountability**  
The importance of verification in all aspects of well decommissioning. The role and responsibilities of Technical Authorities, the Well Examiner and Management.
- **Abandonment in Practice**  
Planning for and dealing with risk and uncertainty – Equipment and Services selection – contracting strategies - record keeping.
- **Cost Estimating and Budgeting**  
Reflecting uncertainty in cost estimates – cost estimating methods – balance sheet liabilities – budgeting, AFEs and project cost management.
- **New Technology**  
A brief review of existing and developing technologies likely to impact on future techniques and costs.