

# Pipeline Evacuation & Assessment

Pipeline pigging SME and integrated pipeline services provide single source solution

A GoM operator witnessed a leaking 6" pipeline. Upon repairing the visual leak and attempting to perform a successful hydrostatic pressure test a second non-visual leak occurred, ultimately resulting in extended production loss. In order to perform a second assessment and bring production back online, the pipeline assessment required a 100% fluid packed volume of seawater to ensure an oxygen-free environment. This demand ultimately created two major concerns: the utilization of nitrogen for evacuation tasks exceeded the project budget; the utilization of a typical poly pig created a structural integrity risk, since the said asset lacked maintenance pigging attention.

## TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS & BENEFITS

- Displace a 250' column of AquaGel Plus into the 6 inch pipeline.
- Fluid-pack the said pipeline with seawater.
- Receive and filter all fluids in front of and including the AquaGel Plus spacer.
- Discharge all filtered fluids overboard per BSEE regulations.
- Perform a planned hydrostatic pressure assessment upon confirmation of fluid-packed pipeline.
- Return the pipeline back over to the operator for production startup.

## TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS & BENEFITS

- Utilized the same tie-in points and equipment for both the AquaGel Plus spacer tasks and the hydrostatic pressure assessment tasks. No additional on-site equipment or pig launchers/receivers were needed.
- Received the full 250' column of AquaGel Plus, insuring that a proper hydraulic seal was maintained during the fluid-packing stage.
- Mitigated concerns of oxygen presence inside the pipeline.
- Decreased pressurization time during hydrostatic pressure operations.
- Provided zero risk of pipeline plugging with a 5 psi pressure increase.

## LOCATION

Gulf of Mexico

## SPECIFICATIONS

Pipeline: 6 inch, 5.3 miles

## CHALLENGE

Create a low risk and economic solution to ensure 100% fluid packed volume and oxygen removal; perform a successful hydrostatic pressure test assessment.

## SOLUTION

Launch BlueFin's water-based AquaGel Plus pig system to transverse the pipeline and evacuate any trapped oxygen.