

Mission

The Helix Well Containment Group (HWCG) is a consortium of 24 deepwater operators in the Gulf of Mexico who have come together with the common goal of quickly and comprehensively responding to a well control incident to protect people, property and the environment. Bringing together the technical expertise and resources from this diverse group of operators and their Industry contractors; building upon equipment technology proven since the inception of deepwater drilling, now with enhancements tested and proven in the Deepwater Horizon response; HWCG has developed a deepwater well containment response system capable of being immediately deployed in the event of a deepwater well control incident. Further, each HWCG member company has committed to a mutual aid agreement, allowing any member to draw upon the collective technical expertise, assets and resources of the group.

Readiness

HWCG has developed a comprehensive well containment response model —made up of equipment, people, procedures and processes—ready to be activated immediately in the event of a deepwater well control incident.

- **Equipment:** Building upon equipment effectively used in the Deepwater Horizon response, HWCG has signed an agreement with Helix Energy Solutions Group (NYSE: HLX), to provide the primary components of the response system. HWCG has also worked with Trendsetter Engineering to develop the World's most advanced, dual barrier, 15,000 psig intervention capping stack. The two stacks create capping redundancies to 10,000 psi. Additionally, HWCG members have agreements in place with more than 35 service providers who will provide additional services, products and personnel, if needed.

- **Processes & Procedures:**
 - **Well Containment Plan:** With guidance from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, HWCG Deepwater Intervention Technical Committee (DITC) developed the HWCG Well Containment Plan, a comprehensive and detailed technical plan clearly identifying response protocols for foreseeable deepwater containment scenarios.
 - **Mutual Aid:** As recommended in 2010 by the Joint Industry Task Force to the Presidential Commission, the HWCG members have signed a 24 company Mutual Aid agreement that allows any member company to draw upon the collective technical capability and available response equipment of all members to comprehensively respond to an incident.
 - **Command Center:** HWCG has entered into negotiations with PetroSkills Training Center, located in Katy, Texas to provide a joint command center that would be utilized by any member responding to a deepwater incident.
 - **Training and Exercises:** HWCG has conducted a series of day-long, comprehensive tabletop exercises and drills to simulate the implementation of the group's Well Containment Plan, ensuring increased coordination and preparedness. More exercises are planned to continually improve the capability and knowledge of the well containment team, otherwise known as the Source Control Section. HWCG has also committed to holding an annual deepwater table-top exercise that will involve all members and service providers in 2012.

System Capabilities

Building upon Helix-owned equipment used in the Deepwater Horizon response, the HWCG system is currently capable of facilitating control and containment of spills in water depths up to 10,000 feet, with a 15,000 psig full opening dual ram intervention capping stack; the most advanced capping stack in existence today. HWCG is capable of capturing and processing up to 55,000 barrels of oil per day and 95 million cubic feet of natural gas per day at surface pressures of up to 10,000 psig.

Additional enhancements to allow capturing, processing and burning up to 105,000 BOPD and 215 MMCFD and full system operating pressure capability of 15,000 psig are being evaluated by the DITC and will be adopted as required by the members. To assist in this engineering evaluation, the DITC is also undergoing an extensive well by well flow-back modelling process that will ensure the HWCG system is tailored to member needs.

HWCG Members

HWCG is made up of a diverse and experienced group of deepwater operators, representing a majority of the deepwater operators and about half of all deepwater oil and natural gas production in the Gulf of Mexico.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation • Apache Deepwater LLC • ATP Oil & Gas Corporation

BHP Billiton (Americas), Inc. • Century Exploration New Orleans, Inc. • Cobalt International Energy, LP

Deep Gulf Energy, LP (Deep Gulf Energy II LLC) • ENI U.S. Operating Company

Energy Resource Technology GOM Inc. • Hess Corporation • LLOG Exploration Company, LLC

Marathon Oil Corporation • Marubeni Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.

Murphy Exploration & Production Company – USA • Newfield Exploration Company

Nexen Petroleum USA Inc. • Noble Energy, Inc. • Plains Exploration & Production Company

Repsol E&P USA Inc. • Statoil Gulf of Mexico LLC (Statoil USA E&P, Inc.)

Stone Energy Corporation • Walter Oil & Gas Corporation • Woodside Energy (USA), Inc.

W&T Offshore, Inc. (W & T Energy VI, LLC)

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