

New technologies in drilling for use in cavern and layered salt wells

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Introduction

Several new technologies and improvements to equipment have been developed in the oil drilling industry. Although most are still in early stages of their development, they have matured sufficiently to be used with confidence in other drilling industries or at least to be considered for use in future developments. They have the potential to enable development of deposits, where this has been difficult so far, or to make further development of an existing site economically feasible. This paper summarises some of the more prominent and interesting techniques. Although KCA have been involved in the planning, engineering and operations of wells using these technologies, it is not our intention to go into great technical detail, but just to show their potential.

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