WELL-SPECIFIC BLOWOUT RISK ASSESSMENTS

DNV GL has developed a methodology to assess well-specific blowout risks from drilling operations. This methodology provides operators with a more realistic risk picture for exploration drilling projects, and enhances internal decision-making on blowout risks.

Recent blowout events have put an increased focus on well-specific risks. As the oil and gas industry moves into more challenging territories and as the public becomes increasingly aware of the risks from drilling operations, it is important for the industry to better understand and systematically manage these risks.

Not all wells are equal
Traditionally, risk analyses have been based on generic data with very limited consideration for the specific characteristics of the well and operations. DNV GL’s well-specific risk assessment method considers the field-specific reservoir challenges, best available technology and best operational practices in order to generate an appropriate field- and operation-specific risk exposure.

A risk-based approach
During the risk assessment process, DNV GL applies a multidisciplinary approach to assess the drilling operations and reservoir challenges. Several parameters are evaluated according to a set of predefined criteria. A benchmarking analysis is used as a basis for adjusting the likelihood of a blowout. Well-specific blowout flow rates are calculated through well flow simulations, and the likelihood of each flow rate is adjusted to reflect the reservoir conditions and the latest trends in historical data. The potential blowout durations are assessed using statistical models and take into account the context of the drilling and well operations. At every step of the process our team works closely with our customers in order to provide the most accurate risk picture.

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