

# Oilfield Paraffin Case History

## BACKGROUND

A light oil producer in Alberta, Canada was experiencing significant fouling issues from paraffin on two of their producing wells. There was wax deposition from formation, in tubing, and across the high line to the separator. Hard deposits were present on the pig receiver and it was difficult to pig with no liquid flow (Figure 1). To address these issues, the customer was wireline cabling, scissoring, and hot oiling every two to three weeks.

# SOLUTION

ChemTreat conducted a trial of *FL5478ZC* on the two wells. Both trials were started on a hot well with no pre-cleaning. The trial started with a 200-liter batch of FL5478ZC down the casing and a 2,500 ppm feed rate for the first week. Dosage was then decreased to 1,500 ppm. The customer had previously been using a competitor's product at a dosage of 30–50 liters per day into the casing and 70–100 liters per day into the high line to keep liquid flowing.

### RESULTS

Cold finger testing during the trial illustrated an average wax reduction of 60 percent with FL5478ZC treatment. In the third week of treatment, the pig receiver exhibited no wax with all liquid flowing. According to the customer, this was the first time they had liquid flow after pigging (Figure 2). With three weeks of continuous treatment, one of the customer's operators stated that the "consistency of the wax has changed and the pig [was] traveling much better" (Figure 3).

According to the customer, bridal blowdowns were not required; filter changes were minimized; pressure trucks were not needed for high-line cleaning or pipeline hydrates; and there was less overall operator maintenance, reducing their costs. ChemTreat helps the customer maintain steady pipeline production and helps their wells produce an average of 20–24 m<sup>3</sup> of oil per day with no service or maintenance required.

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# SUMMARY

ChemTreat has been treating the customer's wells for 12 months. Since the initial cleanup phase of the trial, the customer has not needed to wireline, scissor, or hot oil the wells, high line, or pipeline.



*Figure 1:* Pig receiver prior to ChemTreat treatment

*Figure 2:* Initial pig receiver in the third week of treatment

*Figure 3:* Pig receiver during third week with continuous treatment.



#### Field Operator:

"The real and true KPI is the fact we have not put a hot oiler on this well. Pigging has been very easy and the consistency of the wax has changed and is traveling much better. At -40°C, if we were using the old product, we would have had operations out there trying to squeeze it (wax) out of the pipeline like a noodle."

