



Stop Work Authority Used to Prevent Serious Incident

What happened?

While on the job Effected Employee (EE) was instructed to back out hold down pins to release the tubing hanger of the well head profile. EE took time to stop work and called on rig personnel to assess active pressure on the equipment before proceeding with the task. There was ~3,300 PSI of pressure and during the bleed off they brought on roughly 200 barrels of oil

What went wrong?

Knowing the rig had done some pumping into the casing and down the tubing earlier, EE asked if anyone had checked for pressure and EE was told it should be good. EE had doubts and proceeded to check the casing annulus and found it contained a lot of pressure.

Why did it happen?

Operating Procedures or Safe Work Practices – Nothing in the written procedure indicated checking the backside/annulus for pressure prior to backing out the holding pins.

Outstanding job of EE trusting their instinct and not letting others dictate to them how to perform their job safely.

What areas were identified for improvement?

The Decompletion Operating Service Procedure was reviewed shortly after this incident and nothing was written which indicated that checking the backside/annulus for pressure prior to backing out holding pins, was required.

What will WE do to prevent this from happening HERE?

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