

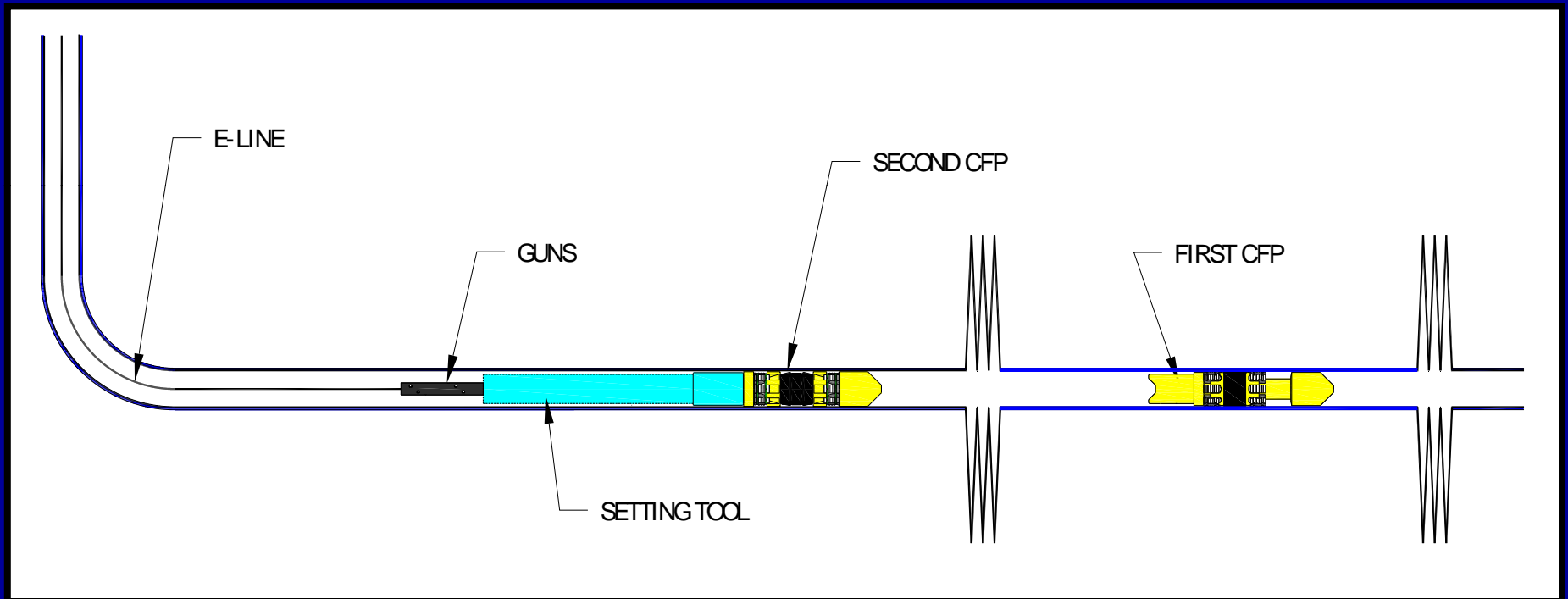
**SPE Calgary Section – October 2011**

# **Best Practices for Multizone Isolation Using Composite Plugs**

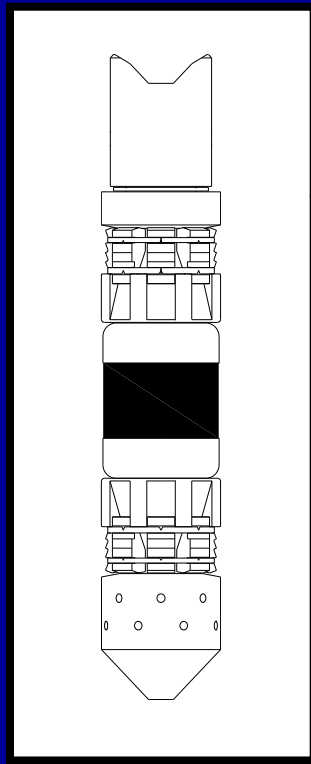
**Doug Lehr, Baker Hughes**

**Based on SPE Paper 142744**

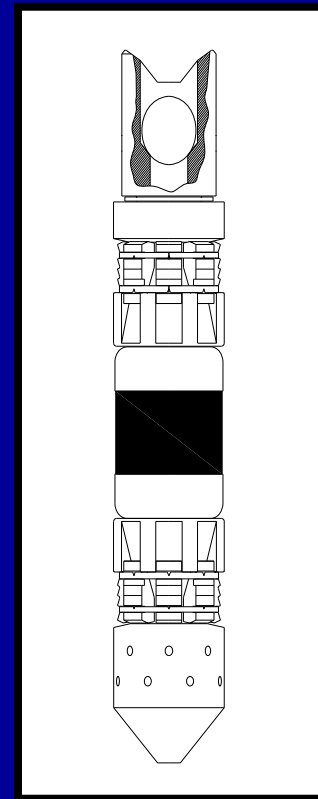
# Plug N Perf – Multizone Isolation



# Bridge Plugs vs. Frac Plugs



**Bridge Plug**



**Frac Plug**

**A.K.A.  
“Flow  
Through  
Plug”**

# **Global Need**

**Next Challenge - International Unconventional**

**Argentina...Neuquen Basin...774 TCF**

**Australia... Beetaloo Basin...23 TCF**

**Eastern Europe...50 basins...700 TCF?**

**China, Indonesia, Russia – CBM and shale**

# Today's Presentation

**Why Determine Best Practices?**

**Methodology**

**Selected Survey Results**

**Selected Best Practices**

**Q & A**

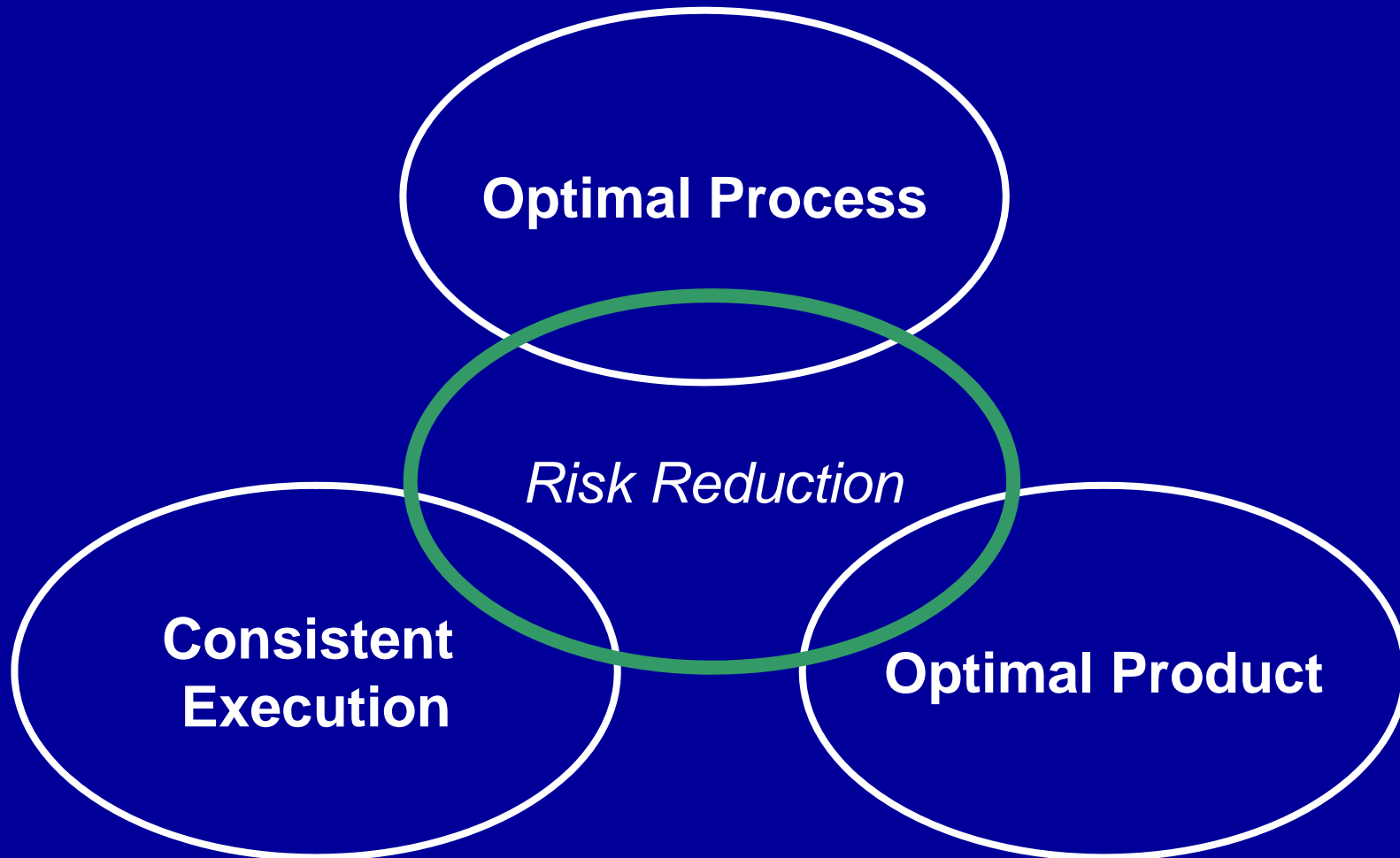
# Definition of Best Practice

**A process or method...**

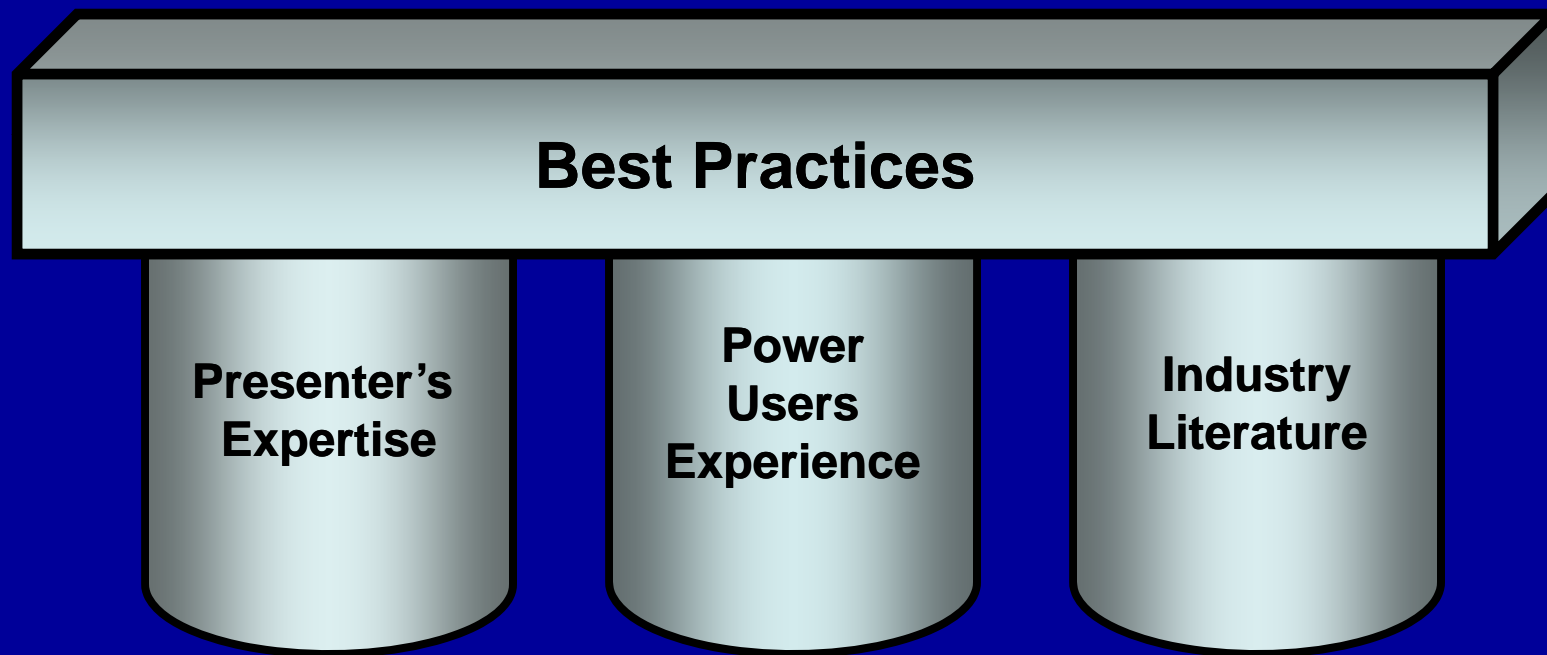
**Customary or routine...**

**The highest probability of success**

# Why Determine Best Practices?



# Best Practices Methodology





# Selected Survey Results

**Table 1: Ratio of Positive-to-Negative Responses (P/N)**

<b>0.3 or less</b>	<b>Very Strong Disagreement</b>
<b>0.4 - 0.5</b>	<b>Strong Disagreement</b>
<b>0.6 - 0.8</b>	<b>Agree/Disagree</b>
<b>0.9 - 1.0</b>	<b>= (P/N) = Ratio</b>
<b>1.1 - 2.0</b>	<b>Mild Agreement</b>
<b>2.1 - 3.0</b>	<b>Strong Agreement</b>
<b>3.1 or more</b>	<b>Very Strong Agreement</b>

# Definitions & Abbreviations

**CP = Composite Plug**

**CFP = Composite Frac Plug (Flow Through)**

**Perf = Perforation**

**Stim = Stimulation or Hydraulic Fracturing**

**CT = Coiled Tubing**

**PnP = Plug and Perf**

**Power Users = Respondents in Industry Survey**

# **Selected Best Practices**

**Product Selection**

**Determining the Plug Pressure Requirement**

**Wellsite QA/QC**

**Wellbore Preparation**

**Perforating above the CP (Composite Plug)**

**Special Operational Situations**

# Test Your PnP (Plug and Perf) Knowledge

## *...Trivia Question #1*

Approximately how many composite plugs were run in the United States in calendar year 2010 ?

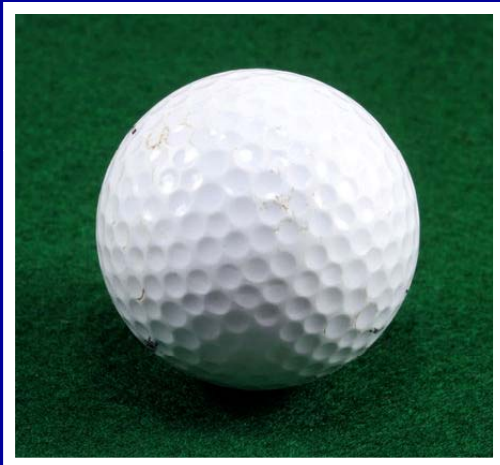
*Is the answer...*

A      60,000 – 80,000

B      100,000 – 140,000

C      160,000 – 200,000

# Product Selection Criteria



**Which Golf Ball  
do I Choose?**

## Golf Ball Selection and Purchase Guide

Now in its 8th year, [GolfBallGuide.com](http://GolfBallGuide.com) has been helping golfers all over the world choose the **best golf ball** for their games.



Due to the speed at which new product enters the market, you will find up-to-date golf ball reviews and ratings in the new 2011 version of our **Golf Ball Selection Guide (below)**.

A full range of golf balls for players from the highly skilled to high handicap golfers are covered.

Special emphasis is placed on understanding the formula for increased distance, especially for golfers with slower driver swing speeds.

The **best golf ball for seniors** will maximize carry distance with optimal roll resulting in maximum total distance for a golfer's swing speed, equipment, physical limitations, etc....

In fact, today's products are nothing short of incredible, especially when combined with the amazing advancements in driver and iron designs. It is indeed a great time in history to be playing this great game!

The correct golf ball will explode off the "trampoline-like" faces of today's drivers, resulting in maximum compression and ball speed (see our video and impact compression images inside the Guide).

All the top brands including Titleist, Nike, Srixon, Taylormade, Bridgestone, etc.. are referenced including a breakdown of the composition of the various models.

Low compression, 2-Piece (a core and cover) golf balls on up to 5 piece, "Tour" balls are discussed in detail.

Join 1000's of golfers worldwide benefitting from the most unique and up to date resource on the internet.

**Grab your copy of the 2011 "Golf Ball Guide"**

**Absolutely FREE!**

***Objective  
feedback  
required !***

# Product Selection Criteria

	Yes	No	Don't Know	P/N Ratio
Length of exposure?	9	19		0.5
Combined pressure & temperature rating?	20	8		2.5

# Corrosive Environments

## Elastomeric Materials < 30 days exposure

Material	Temp, ° F	<u>Environmental Compatibility</u>							
		H <sub>2</sub> S	Oil Base/Diesel Completion	Light Brine Completion	Bromide Completion	Amine Inhibitors	Acids Max exposure time, hrs	Solvents Max exposure time, hrs	High pH Fluids, pH > 10
Nitrile	To 175	YES	YES	YES	CaBr <sub>2</sub> /NaBr <sub>2</sub> OK to 250°F; NO for ZnBr <sub>2</sub>	YES	8	6	YES
	400						6	4	24 hrs.
Viton	To 200	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	24	24	NO
	350					NO	4	4	
Aflas	To 175	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	48	4	YES
	350						8	NO	
EPDM	To 500	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES

Composites - H<sub>2</sub>S, CO<sub>2</sub> & H<sub>2</sub>O – blistering, disbonding, leaching

# Best Practices - Product Selection

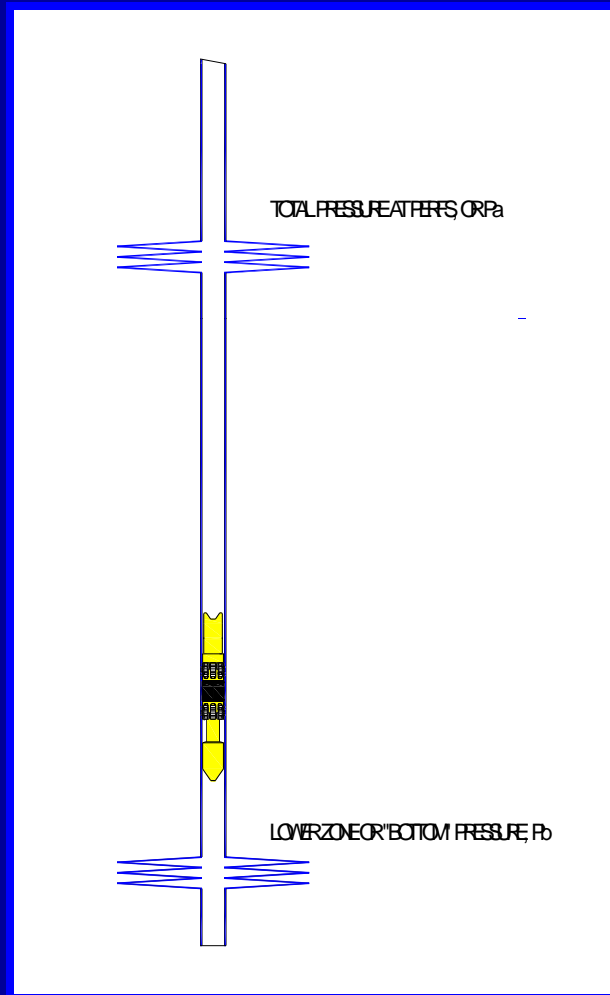


Optimal Product

- **Combined pressure & temperature rating.**
- **Require database of installations.**
- **Corrosive Environments - manufacturer estimates CP life**



# CP Pressure Requirement



Negative Test	Positive Test	Stimulation	Flowback
$P_{SI} = 7500 \text{ psi}$	$P_{SI} = 7500 \text{ psi}$	$P_{SI} = 7500 \text{ psi}$	$P_{SI} = 7500 \text{ psi}$
$\Delta P = -9097 \text{ psi}$	$\Delta P = +4466 \text{ psi}$	$\Delta P = +3172 \text{ psi}$	$\Delta P = -7752 \text{ psi}$

## The 4 Scenario Method

# Best Practices

## CP Pressure Requirement



Optimal Product

**CP - calculate using 4 Scenario Method.**

**CFP - positive test, zonal stimulation scenarios.**

# Wellsite QA/QC – Survey Results

Documentation Required	Yes	No	Don't Know	P/N Ratio
Electric line setting tool servicing records?	22	5	1	4.4
Traceability - size, part number, serial number?	18	9	1	2
Plug dimensions?	23	5		4.6
Pre-run checks - plug, setting tool, CCL?	23	4	1	5.8

# Wellsite QA/QC – Quick Check

Wireline setting / CCL tools – redress– Document!

CP – *Document Everything!*

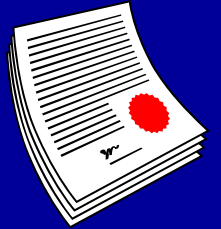
Brand...style...rating...color

Dimensions

Traceability markings

Condition before RIH

# Best Practices - Wellsite QA/QC



## Consistent Execution

- Operators – drive this process - information & format
- Check lists – manufacturer or service company.
- Archive all available CP information

# Test Your PnP Knowledge

*...Answer to Trivia Question #1*

Approximately how many composite plugs were run in the United States in calendar year 2010 ?

*The answer is...*

A      60,000 – 80,000

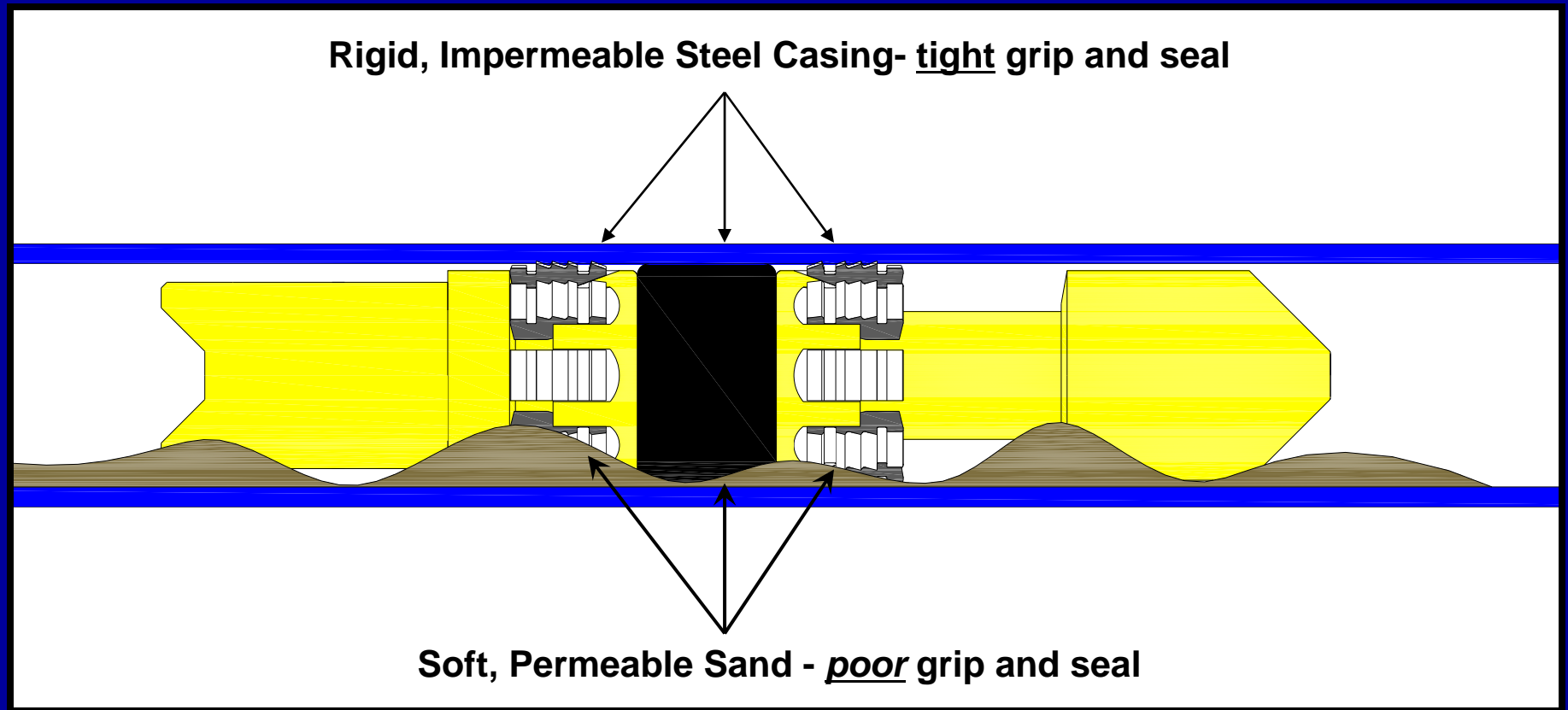
**B      100,000 – 140,000**

C      160,000 – 200,000

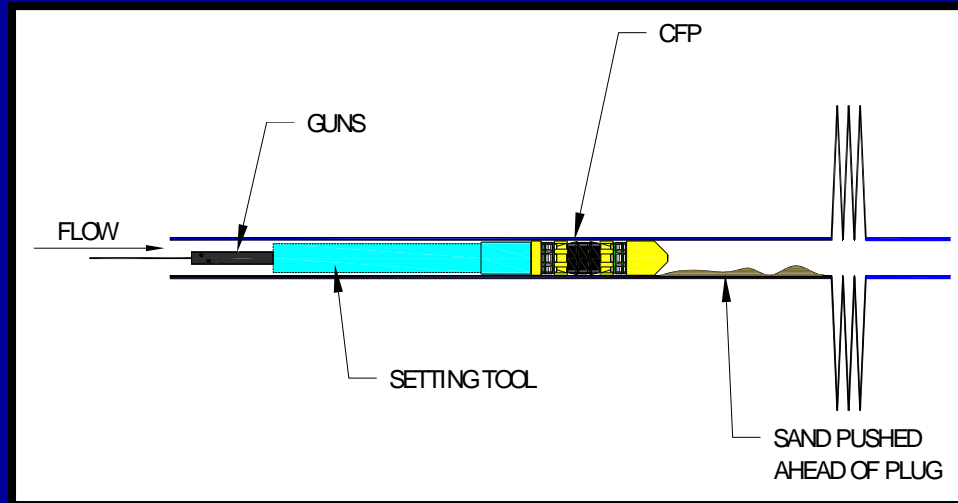
# Wellbore Prep – Survey Results

Power Users - wellbore preparation is a success factor

Bottom line ... avoid sand in casing!



# Options for Clean Wellbore



## Begin with End in Mind

Avoid Flowback  
Between Stages

Size the flush to  
aid cleaning

## Pump-Down Method

Intrinsic  
Advantage

Flow pushes  
sand ahead of  
CFP

## Coiled Tubing (CT)

Remove debris  
between stages

CT setting tools  
remove debris



# Best Practices - Wellbore Preparation



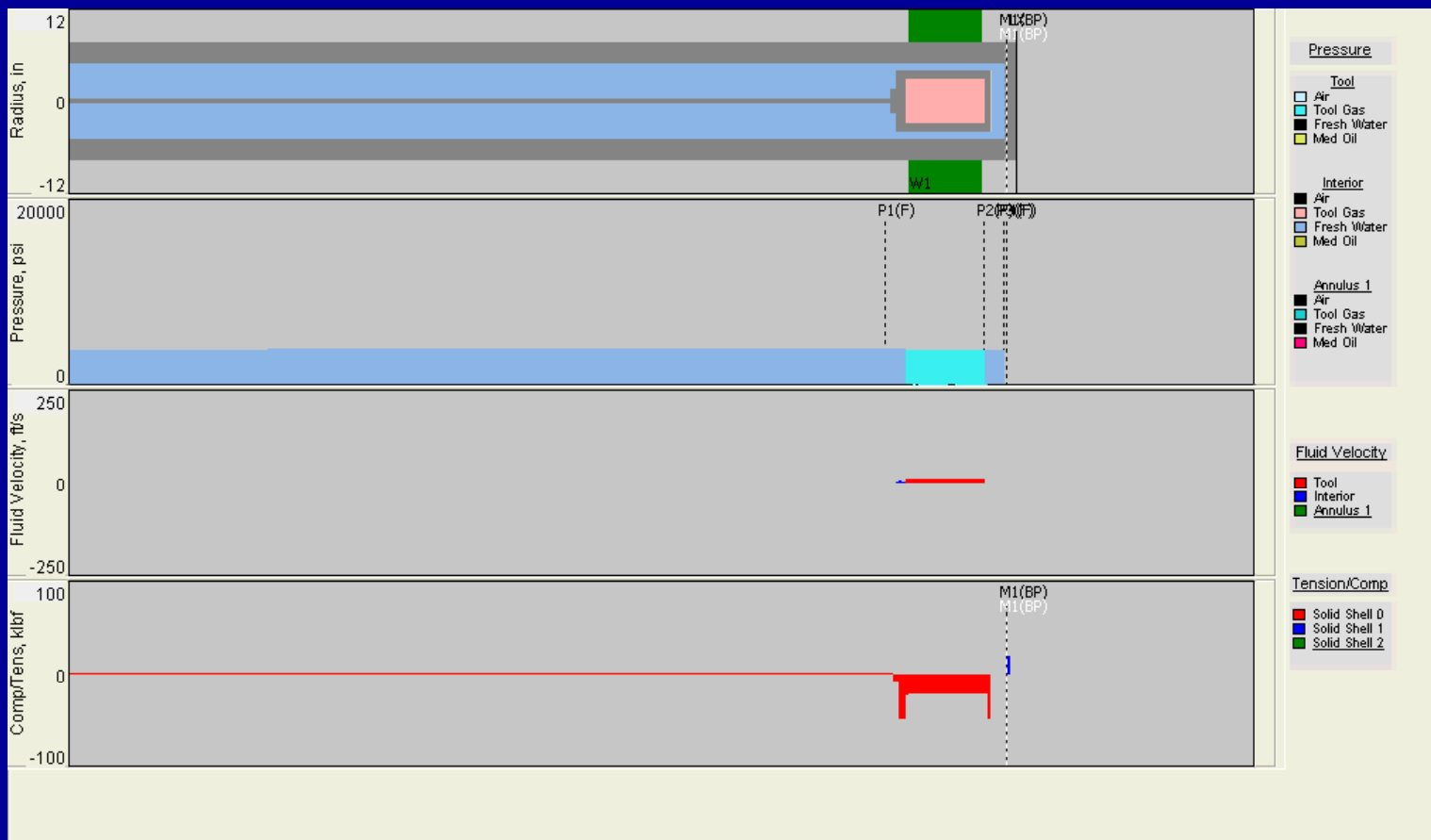
Optimal  
Process

- **Execute stimulation job to prevent debris**
- **Avoid flowback between stimulations**
- **Pump-down method - intrinsic advantage**
- **Coiled tubing - if flowback between stages is used**

# Perforating Above CP – Survey

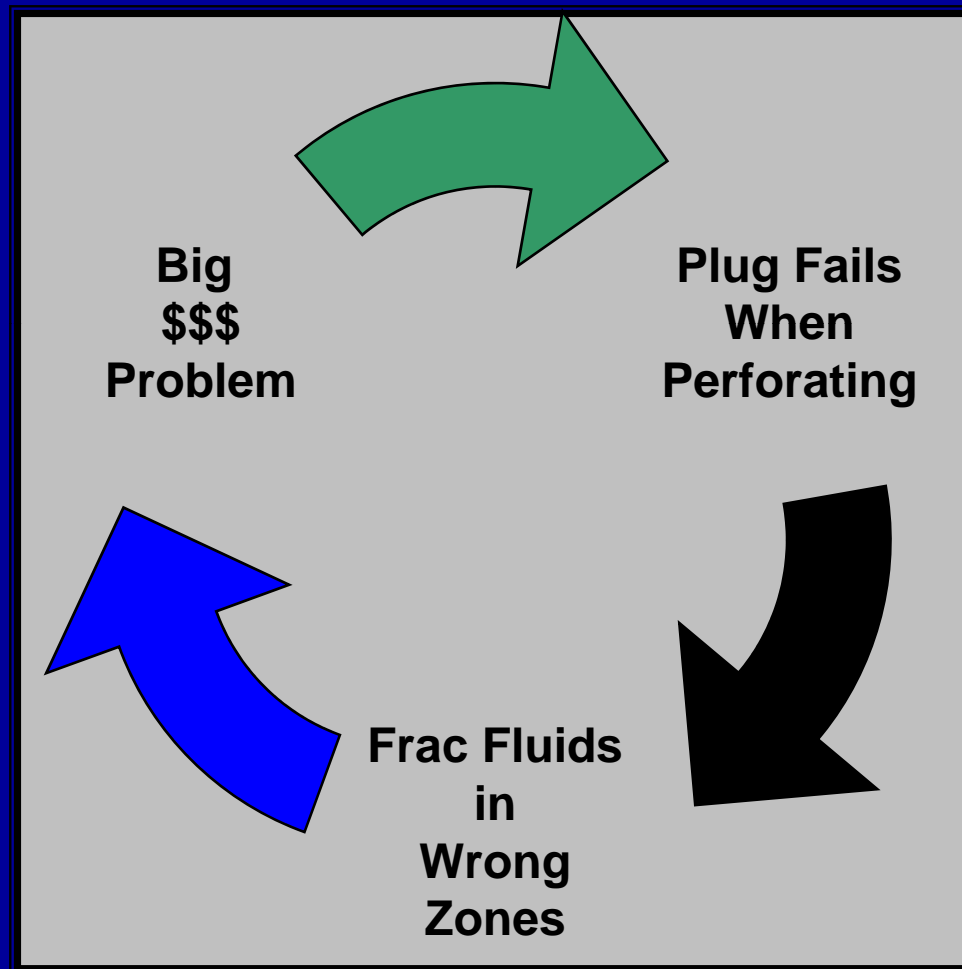
Is This a Best Practice ?	Yes	No	Don't Know	P/N Ratio
Perforate at least 75 ft. above plug?	8	15	4	0.5
Perforate at least 100 ft. above plug?	9	14	4	0.6
Use Shock-wave software to determine safe perforating distance?	7	7	13	1
Use field experience and shock-wave software (S/W)?	15	4	7	3.8

# Shockwave Simulation Using S/W



Sample Simulation Using 5 1/2" CP

# When CP Fails During Perforating



# Best Practices - Perforating Above CP

- Shock wave intensity ↑ gun length, rock stiffness, etc.
- Simulate, then compare to plug rating
- Pressure wave is bigger problem for CPs.
- When possible, use software to make the decision

# Special Operational Situations

Is This a Best Practice?	Risk	Yes	No	Don't know	P/N Ratio
Tag plug with setting tool	Stuck setting tool	15	13		1.2
Low fluid level wells	Damage plug	20	8		2.5

Is This a Best Practice?	Yes	No	Don't Know	P/N Ratio
Set plug in perforated casing joint?	14	10	4	1.4
Set plug where packer had been removed?	14	9	5	1.6

# Tagging Plug with E-Line Setting Tool

Assume 5 ½" 20 ppf casing (ID = 4.778) & test pressure = 10,000 psi

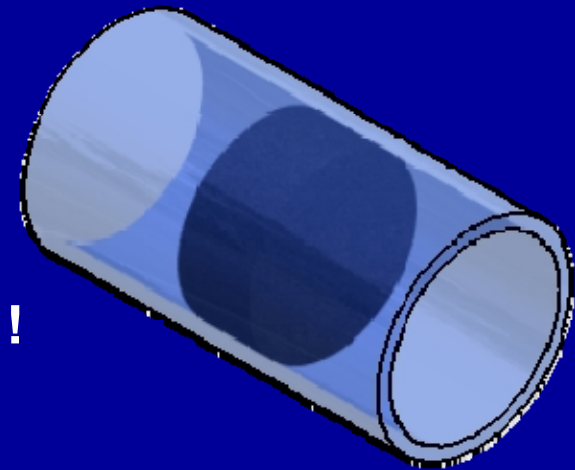
ID area of casing = 17.93 in.<sup>2</sup>

17.93 in.<sup>2</sup> x 10,000 psi = 179,300 lbs.-force

Setting tool + CCL + perf gun = 500 lbs

Partially set plug resists with 2,000 lbs.-force !

Conclusion: 500 lbs. vs. 179,300 lbs. is NOT a valid test

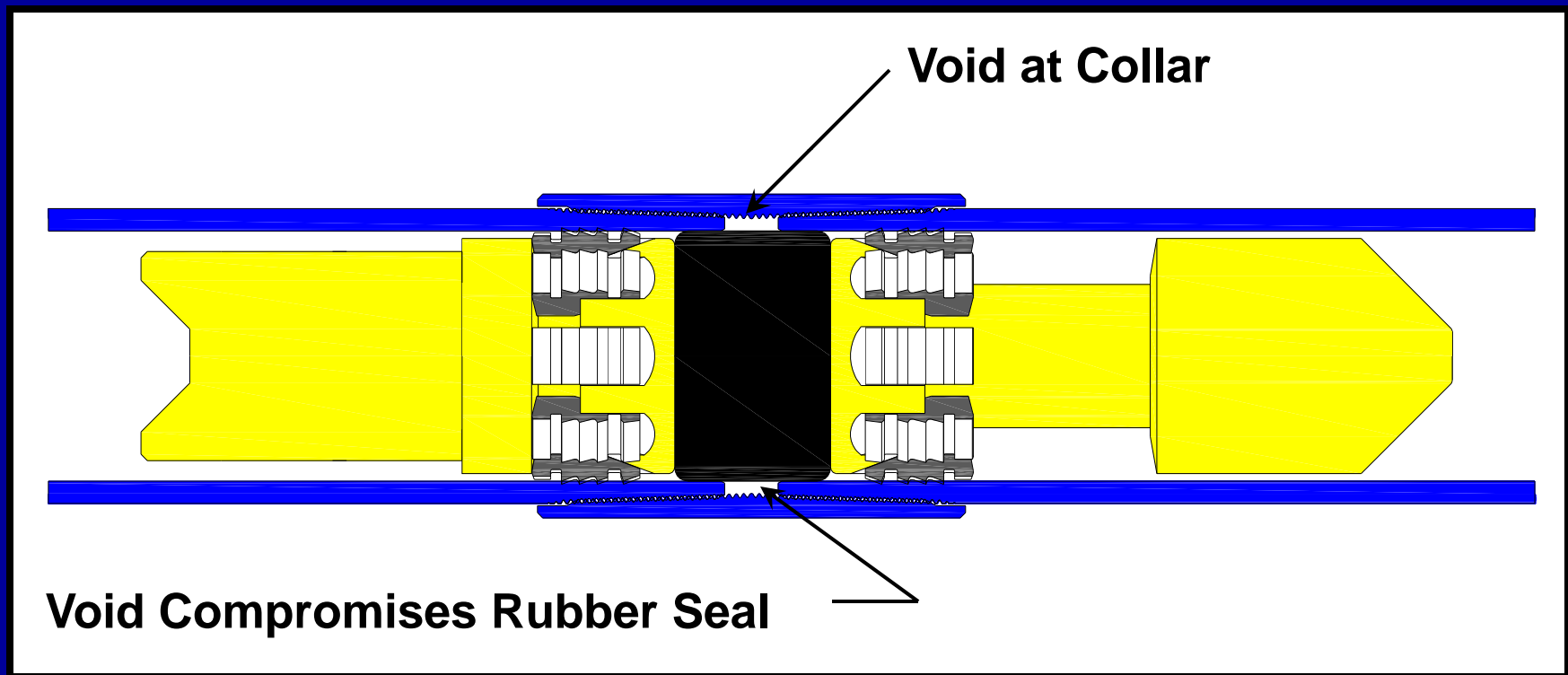


**Risk**: Stuck E-Line tools and fishing job

**Solution**: Use a pressure test will confirm proper set

# Casing Irregularities

Plug Set in Casing Collar, Perforated, or Drilled-In casing joint ...



Same result...Any gross discontinuity in casing compromises plug



# Best Practices

## Special Operational Situations

### *“Problem Casing”*

➤ Avoid collars, perforated or drilled-in casing

⇒ *Use pressure test to assess plug condition*

# **Review**

## **Plan for Success & Minimize Risk**

- 1 Pick the right product.**
- 2 Avoid over-pressuring the plug.**
- 3 Emphasize documentation.**
- 4 Prepare the Wellbore.**
- 5 Perforate for Plug Survival.**
- 6 Avoid “Special Operational Situations”.**

# End of Presentation

**Thank You!**

**Thanks to the Management of ConocoPhillips &  
Baker Hughes who provided support for SPE 142744.**

**Questions & Answers**