Total Backyard Management (TBM) Delivers Impressive ROI for Permian Basin using Vertical Cuttings Dryer

Anchor USA, a QMax Company, has helped operators add value to more than 300 Permian Basin wells with major backyard equipment suites utilizing Total Backyard Management.

**Context**

Permian Basin wells are drilled at a high rate (~18 days/well) and are usually over an hour from the nearest disposal facility. This results in increased hours for truck drivers for disposal transport, and increased risk of motor vehicle accidents. In addition, each untreated truckload of cuttings hauled off has an average of 40 bbls of recoverable oil-based mud.

**Challenge**

Recovering this excess mud on cuttings is possible, but precautions must be taken to ensure the fluid returned to the active system is suitable for reuse. Every drop of mud on cuttings contains some level of low gravity solid (LGS). If left unchecked, LGS can drive mud costs up. Minimizing LGS in recovered fluid allows for more fluids to be effectively reused, and will deliver greater value on each well.

**Solution**

Anchor USA’s Total Backyard Management (TBM) approach deploys equipment and expertise focused on two primary KPIs: to reduce haul-off and to recover OBM.
Results
Data was collected on more than 190 oil-based mud (OBM) wells and more than 135 water-based mud (WBM) wells to determine the effect of a Total Backyard Management (TBM) approach on haul-off and fluid recovery. The TBM model was used on all wells and a project manager tracked every aspect of the well. Final haul-off and disposal results were consistently predicted to a great level of accuracy.

Conclusion
In the Permian Basin, the baseline for haul-off (when a Vertical Dryer is used) of OBM cuttings is .191 bbls per foot drilled, and for WBM cuttings is .261 bbls per foot drilled. This metric is tracked and reported to ensure measures are taken to help reduce haul-off. Deploying a TBM approach, in addition to reducing the overall volume hauled off by removing excess mud on cuttings with a vertical dryer, personnel onsite also make sure trucks are properly loaded. By deploying a Vertical Dryer on Permian Basin wells, approximately .087 bbls of fluids can be recovered per foot drilled, or an average of 680 bbls of fluids recovered per well. The value from recovering and reusing these fluids is seen in lower fluids replacement costs, lower haul-off and disposal volumes and costs, as well as decreased risk from transportation-related motor vehicle accidents.

Your Unique Well
Innovation is at the core of our global operations. Our unwavering commitment to providing optimum solutions for each customer’s unique well is how We Deliver, No Excuses. Contact Anchor USA today and find out how we can help you with your next drilling challenge.

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