

Drilling Rig Discovers Fluid-Cleaning Solution

Spinner II® Centrifuge Triples Oil Drain Intervals



Scenario

Unit Drilling Company is part of Unit Corporation, a diversified energy company active in the exploration and production of oil and natural gas in the Mid-Continent region. In 2007, Corporate Maintenance Manager Mike Almond was looking for ways to effectively extend oil change intervals and improve lube oil maintenance practices for engines supporting the company's drilling operations. Almond was also targeting the long-term goal of improved wear protection for longer engine life.

Solution

After evaluating available filtration technologies, Unit installed a Spinner II Model 3600 centrifuge on a Caterpillar 3512B engine operating on Unit Drilling rig 317. The engine is packaged with a Kato generator as the prime power source for the SCR rig.

Results

Prior to installing the Spinner II centrifuge, Unit Drilling changed the oil in this engine at 1000 hours. "With the Spinner II centrifuge," stated Almond, "we have extended the oil drain interval on this rig to 3000 hours. For maintaining engine oil life, the Spinner II centrifuge is the best way to go."

"We now plan to install Spinner II centrifuges on our top drive engines and other applications as we see fit," added Almond. "The current price of oil has made this more of a priority than it was a couple of years ago."

Brandon Field, Service Coordinator for Unit Drilling Company, recently purchased a Spinner II Model 3600 centrifuge with PEEK bushings (for glycol service). This centrifuge will be installed on service trailers that clean antifreeze in the rig engines before Unit Drilling moves them to new drill sites.

The Spinner II centrifuge removes both large contaminants and fine particulate as small as one-tenth of a micron. This high-efficiency cleaning will allow Unit Drilling to recycle expensive antifreeze and reduce waste.

For Unit Drilling, Spinner II centrifuges are proving to be a versatile solution for cleaning fluids, reducing maintenance costs and protecting their valuable equipment.

*Questions about this centrifuge application?
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