The Oil Drum
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Deepwater Oil Spill - A Comparison of Flows, A Little Optimism, and a Live Comment Thread

Posted by Heading Out on May 27, 2010 - 7:30am
Topic: Supply/Production
Tags: deepwater horizon, oil spill, top kill [list all tags]

New thread, please redirect to http://www.theoildrum.com/node/6528.

Below the fold are two pictures to show why I believe that the injection pressure of mud into the well has dropped, indicating that BP have filled the well, and are now holding pressure to see if there are any problems. I would assume, if none develop, that they will inject cement to seal the top of the well, sometime today.

New thread, please redirect to http://www.theoildrum.com/node/6523.

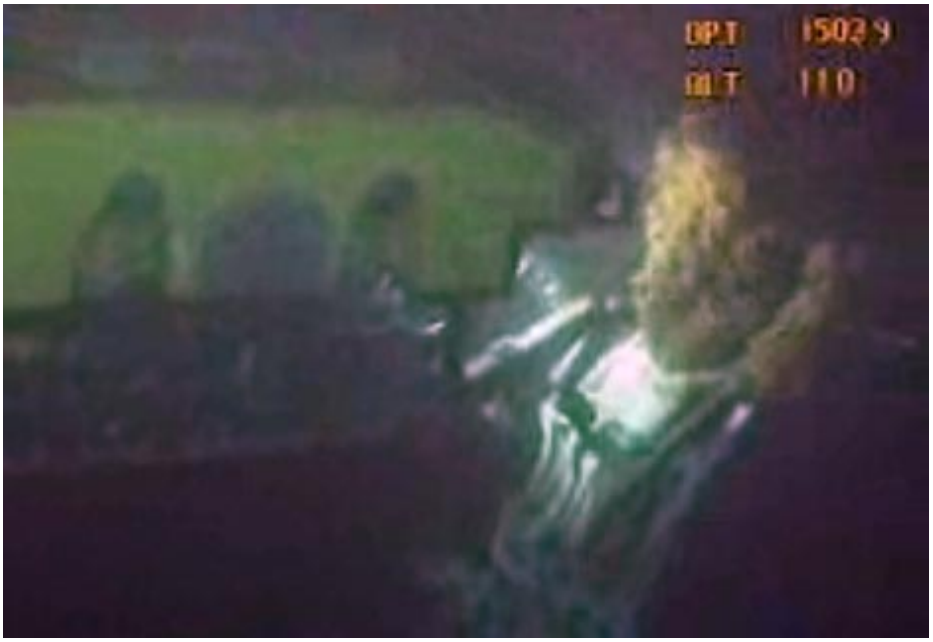
Below the fold are two pictures to show why I believe that the injection pressure of mud into the well has dropped, indicating that BP have filled the well, and are now holding pressure to see if there are any problems. I would assume, if none develop, that they will inject cement to seal the top of the well, sometime today.

Flow at 3:45 pm yesterday

Flow at 6:35 am today

Notice how the flow was longer and straighter in the first image, indicating that it was at higher pressure (velocity) and that now it blows out at much closer distance, meaning it doesn't have the same pressure (velocity). There is a small caveat, and that is that I am assuming that there hasn't been any significant erosion of the surface of the cracks between the two shots, and that may be a possible change, though not enough to cause the reduced throw distance of the central jet.

UPDATE: Here is a picture showing the ROV and the leaks - note the pipe on top of the riser that is also flowing mud.



Showing the ROV and plume (6:35 am)