

Cementing through PBL® to control losses with BHA in place

Pumping cement as the last resort to cure severe losses is nothing new. Operators have pumped cement through open-ended pipe to cure severe losses for decades. What is relatively new, however, is the concept of using a circulating tool to pump cement through it without needing to POOH and change out the BHA.

Operators have been somewhat skeptical about using circulating tools in this manner and for good reason. Why? Because most of the circulating tool manufacturers and suppliers are cautious about allowing cement to be pumped through their tools. They may have a lack of confidence in their product's capabilities or perhaps, a lack of understanding about the differences in the characteristics of lost circulation material (LCM) vs. cement, which would naturally necessitate completely different operational processes and procedures to be followed.

DSI, on the other hand, has been quite vocal about the capabilities of its world-renowned PBL® Multiple Activation Bypass System, not only with regards to the tool's capability to pump aggressive LCM but also, boasts about the tool's proven track record for pumping cement through it to cure severe losses. Let us consider the below scenario as well as the real-life example of the successful solution provided by DSI PBL® Multiple Activation Bypass System.

SCENARIO

- Challenge** The Operator is facing total losses and unable to control losses after displacing several LCM pills.
- Generic Solution** Pull out the BHA and run in hole with open-ended drillpipe to displace cement plug as an emergency remedy? **NO.**
- Why?** The operator can save multiple days of rig time and associated costs by avoiding this operation!
- How?** Having the most reliable circulating sub, the PBL®, to displace Cement & LCM for losses control without pulling the BHA out.

REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

An operator in South America was drilling ahead in a deepwater well and started experiencing severe losses and eventually total losses. The decision was made to pump cement slurry to control the losses without pulling out the BHA. The PBL® was activated, and the operation was performed with no issues. The team waited for the cement to set and the drilling operation, once again, was resumed.

BENEFITS

DSI PBL® Bypass System is a unique circulating tool that enabled the operator to perform multiple loss control operations, protecting and isolating the sensitive tools within the BHA while displacing cement and LCM to the well.

