

VALLOUREC & MANNESMANN TUBES

VAM[®]21 Success in GDF SUEZ Germany casing application

The latest generation of VAM connections proves success in German operation.

A string of 9-5/8" 47# L80 casing with VAM®21 connection was supplied to GdF Suez, Germany for Römerberg 3 well by Vallourec & Mannesmann Tubes. The casings were manufactured at V&M DEUTSCHLAND GmbH in Düsseldorf-Rath mill, Germany . A total of 201 joints were successfully run in hole on 24th January 2011 with no rejects or backouts linked to the connection, and achieving a maximum speed of 10 joints per hour. This running was carried out on an onshore rig equipped with automated casing handling tools and a Casing Running Tool (CRT) power tong.

During the running, the full string needed to be rotated and the drilling team made full usage of the high torque capacity of the connection. VAM®21 **Maximum Torque with Sealability** option (**MTS**) allowed this rotation to be performed without any risk to compromise the connection sealability performance.

GdF SUEZ was very satisfied with this product and commented: "The expectations placed on the VAM®21 casing have been met. The gas tightness after full usage of the high torque capacity of the connection was established with a pressure test of approximately 280 bar. We intend to use the VAM 21 casing also for following projects in field Roemerberg-Speyer."

Following this very successful running, GdF SUEZ is now looking into standardizing usage of VAM®21 casing for other projects in Germany as well.