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# Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Training Course

15 – 19 February 2027
Vienna

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**Ref:** 2901_110673 **Date:** 15 – 19 February 2027 **Location:** Vienna **Fees:** 6600 GBP

Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking is a 1-week training course for drilling engineers and well planners who produce a costed well plan with an expenditure estimate. Rig spread rates make every lost hour expensive, so organisations need planners who can see where days go before the spud. Jupiter Prime Training delivers this course on drilling time-depth curve and well cost tracking.

## Why Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Matters Now

Rig and service contracts are priced by the day, so each hole section's duration drives the largest share of the well budget. Asset owners and partners ask for a defensible authorisation for expenditure before they approve a well and expect variances explained against it. Rig sensors and daily drilling reports now expose invisible lost time hidden inside productive hours. An organisation that plans duration well spends less money and argues budgets; one that plans poorly finds overruns only on invoices.

## Who Gains Most from Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking

- Engineers who estimate well duration from offset wells
- Planners who prepare the authorisation for expenditure and its contingency
- Rig-based supervisors who record daily activity codes and report progress against the curve
- Cost engineers who accrue spend and explain variances
- Performance specialists who review flat time and tripping speeds

A drilling team preparing a new campaign gains most when office planners and rig supervisors attend together.

## Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Capabilities

Each hole section and its day rates feed one curve that predicts spend and later measures it.

- Build a planned time-depth curve from offset well durations — well approval and rig scheduling
- Calculate section costs from spread rates, consumables and services — the expenditure estimate presented to partners
- Specify contingency from the spread of offset outcomes — budget holders weighing approval risk
- Apply activity coding to daily reports — accurate accruals and variance explanations
- Assess invisible lost time in connections, trips and casing runs — rig crew performance targets
- Communicate actual versus planned curves — asset owners deciding on supplementary budget

## Key Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Terms

- Time-depth curve — A plot of measured depth against elapsed days that shows planned or actual drilling progress for a well.
- Authorisation for expenditure — The approved estimate of well cost that partners sign before money is committed to drilling.
- Spread rate — The combined daily cost of the rig, crew and services charged each day.
- Non-productive time — Hours lost to failures, waiting or unplanned events that stop planned progress.
- Invisible lost time — Time hidden inside productive operations, such as slow connections or trips, measured against a technical limit.
- Technical limit — The shortest duration an operation could take with no delays and a crew at demonstrated peak.

## Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Day by Day

### Day 1: Well Duration Drivers and Design Basis

- Well Design Basis Summary — Which Hole Sections Drive Duration Most
- Offset Well Duration Review — Choosing Representative Wells for Benchmarks
- Casing Point Selection Effects — How Section Count Changes Total Days
- Rig Capability Matching — Spread Rate Against Expected Section Speed
- Activity Breakdown Structure — Consistent Codes for Planning and Reporting

### Day 2: Building the Planned Time-Depth Curve

- Section Duration Estimates — Drilling, Tripping, Casing and Evaluation Allowances
- Rate of Penetration Assumptions — Formation Hardness and Bit Run Lengths
- Flat Time Allowances — Connections, Wiper Trips and Rig Moves
- Probabilistic Duration Ranges — Low, Expected and High Curve Cases
- Technical Limit Curve — Setting Stretch Targets for the Crew

### Day 3: Costing the Well and the Expenditure Estimate

- Time-Dependent Cost Lines — Rig, Services and Support Vessel Days
- Depth-Dependent Cost Lines — Casing, Cement, Bits and Drilling Fluid
- Fixed Cost Items — Mobilisation, Wellhead and Site Preparation
- Contingency and Risk Allowance — Converting Duration Spread Into Budget
- Expenditure Estimate Pack — What Partners Need to Approve the Well

### Day 4: Daily Cost Tracking and Lost Time

- Daily Drilling Report Coding — Separating Productive and Non-Productive Hours
- Daily Cost Accruals — Matching Field Tickets to Activities
- Invisible Lost Time Measurement — Connection and Tripping Speed Against Limits
- Actual Versus Planned Curve Overlay — Early Warning of Overrun
- Variance Explanation Notes — Supplementary Budget Requests to Partners

## Day 5: Practising the Costed Well Plan

- Offset Benchmark Selection — Applying Day 1 Review to a Case Well
- Case Well Curve Build — Applying Duration and Flat Time Methods
- Case Well Cost Lines — Applying Time and Depth Cost Splits
- Lost Time Reduction Targets — Agreeing Measures With Rig Supervisors
- Costed Well Plan Completion — Curve, Estimate and Tracking Sheet

## Applying Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking After the Course

- Rebuild the planned curve for the next well from three offset wells and present three cases to the drilling superintendent.
- Run a two-week invisible lost time review of connections and trips on an active rig and agree crew targets against the technical limit.

## Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking Questions FAQ

### What is drilling time-depth curve and well cost tracking and why does it matter now?

It is the practice of predicting well duration as a depth-against-days curve, costing it, and tracking actual spend against it. It matters now because day-rate contracts make duration the main cost driver.

### Which roles gain most from drilling time-depth curve and well cost tracking?

Drilling engineers and well planners gain most, along with rig supervisors who code daily reports and cost engineers who accrue spend.

### How does drilling time-depth curve and well cost tracking differ from a general well delivery course?

It concentrates on duration, cost and lost time rather than on casing, cementing or fluid design in detail. It turns sections into days, budget and tracked variance.

### What do you bring back from drilling time-depth curve and well cost tracking?

You bring back a costed well plan for a case well: a planned time-depth curve with three cases, an expenditure estimate split into time and depth cost lines, and a daily tracking sheet with lost time measures.

## Drilling Time-Depth Curve and Well Cost Tracking: The Way Forward

The costed well plan first informs whether partners approve the expenditure estimate for the next well. Planners, rig supervisors and cost engineers use it to set budget, judge progress and accrue spend. After the first well, revisit the flat time allowances and technical limit using recorded connection and tripping data.