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COURSE BROCHURE

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Training Course

24 – 28 January 2027
Online

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Training Course

Ref: 2087_76899 **Date:** 24 – 28 January 2027 **Location:** Online **Fees:** 2900 GBP

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics is a 1-week training course for drilling engineers and well planners, built around one work product: a drill string load envelope that sets tension, torque and buckling limits for a planned well. Longer laterals and harder formations now push tubulars closer to their limits. The course is delivered by Jupiter Prime Training.

Why Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Matters Now

Extended-reach trajectories, high-torque rotary steerable assemblies and deeper high-pressure targets are raising the combined loads on pipe, connections and bottomhole assemblies. For operators and contractors, a twist-off or washout means fishing time and lost hole, while a sound design means fewer trips. The course rests on established mechanics: stiff-string and soft-string torque and drag models, critical buckling load theory, cumulative fatigue damage under rotating bending, and combined-load yield envelopes for tubulars and rotary shouldered connections.

Who Gains Most from Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics

- Well planners selecting pipe grades and connections per section
- Drilling engineers running torque and drag simulations
- Wellsite engineers comparing hookload and torque against plan
- Tubular and inspection coordinators tracking pipe fatigue and condition
- Bottomhole assembly specialists placing stabilisers, jars and collars

Asset drilling groups gain most when planners and wellsite engineers attend together, so the load envelope travels unchanged to the rig floor.

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Capabilities

Participants turn pipe ratings, connection strength and wellbore geometry into operating limits a rig crew can follow.

- Calculate tension, overpull margin and slip crushing limits for each string section — pipe grade selection
- Model torque and drag along the planned trajectory with calibrated friction factors — trajectory approval
- Assess sinusoidal and helical buckling risk in laterals and high-angle tangents — weight-on-bit limits
- Estimate cumulative fatigue in pipe crossing doglegs while rotating — inspection intervals
- Specify bottomhole assembly layout, jar placement and neutral point position — directional control
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Diagnose axial, torsional and lateral vibration from surface and downhole data — drilling parameter changes

Key Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Terms

- Neutral point — the location in the string where axial stress changes from tension to compression.
- Margin of overpull — the extra pull above string weight available before the weakest section reaches its tensile limit.
- Helical buckling — a coiled pipe shape under high compression that sharply raises wall contact force.
- Friction factor — an empirical coefficient representing contact resistance between string and wellbore.
- Stick-slip — a torsional oscillation where the bit stalls and then spins rapidly.
- Make-up torque — the torque applied when connecting tool joints, chosen to seal the shoulder without yielding the pin or box.

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Day by Day

Day 1: Wellbore Loads and String Components

- Drill Pipe, Heavyweight and Collar Roles — Component Selection by Section
- Pipe Grade and Classification Ratings — Allowable Load After Wear
- Rotary Shouldered Connection Strength — Weakest Link in Combined Loading
- Buoyancy and Effective Tension — Hookload Interpretation in Weighted Mud
- Trajectory Geometry and Dogleg Severity — Load Concentration Along the Well

Day 2: Tension, Torsion and Combined Loads

- Tensile Design With Overpull Margin — Stuck Pipe Recovery Capacity
- Slip Crushing and Setting Loads — Deep String Hanging Limits
- Torsional Capacity of Pipe and Tool Joints — Make-Up Torque Choice
- Combined Tension-Torsion Yield Envelope — Safe Operating Window Definition
- Burst and Collapse Checks for Drill Pipe — Underbalanced and Testing Cases

Day 3: Torque, Drag and Buckling Behaviour

- Soft-String Versus Stiff-String Models — Model Fidelity for Each Section
- Friction Factor Calibration From Rig Data — Forecast Accuracy for Laterals
- Sinusoidal and Helical Buckling Thresholds — Weight-on-Bit Ceiling
- Lock-Up and Weight Transfer in Laterals — Reach Limit Decisions
- Broomstick Plots for Tripping and Rotating — Hole Cleaning Warning Signs

Day 4: Fatigue, Vibration and Assembly Layout

- Rotating Bending Fatigue Through Doglegs — Pipe Rotation and Inspection Policy
- Bottomhole Assembly Stabiliser Placement — Directional Tendency and Side Forces
- Jar Placement and Neutral Point Position — Stuck Pipe Response Readiness
- Axial, Torsional and Lateral Vibration Modes — Root Cause of String Damage
- Stick-Slip and Whirl Mitigation Parameters — Rotary Speed and Weight Adjustments

Day 5: Practising the Drill String Load Envelope

- Section-by-Section String Selection Exercise — Grade and Connection Choices
- Torque and Drag Run on a Case Trajectory — Friction Sensitivity Results
- Buckling and Fatigue Screening of the Design — Limits Added to Plan
- Vibration Risk Ranking for the Assembly — Parameter Roadmap for the Rig
- Drill String Load Envelope Compilation — Operating Limits Handed to Wellsite

Applying Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics After the Course

- Recalibrate friction factors for a recently drilled well by matching modelled hookload and torque against recorded rig data.
- Review the next well's bottomhole assembly to confirm neutral point, jar position and buckling margins.

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics Questions FAQ

What is drill string design and downhole load mechanics, and why does it matter now?

It is sizing pipe, connections and assemblies to survive downhole loads. It matters now because longer laterals and harder targets push strings closer to their limits, so failures cost more rig time.

Which roles gain most from drill string design and downhole load mechanics?

Well planners and drilling engineers gain most, followed by wellsite engineers and bottomhole assembly specialists. You benefit if you choose pipe grades or set drilling parameters.

How does a drill string design and downhole load mechanics course differ from a directional drilling course?

It focuses on the strength of the string rather than on steering the well. A directional drilling course plans trajectories and surveys; this one checks whether the string can carry the loads that trajectory creates.

What do you bring back from drill string design and downhole load mechanics training?

You bring back a load envelope for a case well, setting tension, torque and buckling limits per section. You also return with calibrated friction factors and a vibration ranking.

Drill String Design and Downhole Load Mechanics: The Way Forward

The drill string load envelope first informs the choice of pipe grade and connection for the deepest section. Well planners use it to approve trajectories and wellsite engineers to judge live loads. After the first well, revisit the friction factors and fatigue assumptions against recorded rig data, and tighten any limit that proved too generous.