



Large Independent Operator Sees \$1 Million Annual Bottom-Line Impact with Wellkeeper Remote Monitoring

Customer:

Independent oil and gas operator

Well Profile:

Several hundred wells in New Mexico and Texas.

Well Monitoring Objectives:

- Identify problems more quickly
- Increase production
- Reduce spills

For decades, oil and gas operators have relied on field personnel to collect readings manually from well sites. Inevitably, it took 2-3 days before that data was in the hands of engineers back at the office. Even then, the information wasn't very detailed.

For one large independent operator, with hundreds of wells, that lag time resulted in delays in identifying well problems, at times leading to expensive spill cleanups.

Every time a tank ran over, it was costing us \$15,000 to \$30,000 to remediate it," said one of the company's Division Engineers. "We needed better diagnostics and faster problem identification."

Identifying Problems Faster

The company experimented on its own with remote well monitoring on a couple of initial wells. Though the method was rudimentary, it provided the proof of concept the company needed. In response, the operator chose to install Wellkeeper remote monitoring technology. With near real-time and historical well data, the solution would allow the company to identify

problems much more quickly, and equip field personnel with data to prioritize their site visits.

"We looked at a couple of remote monitoring solutions and felt Wellkeeper provided the right combination of functionality and price point," the Division Engineer said.

Wellkeeper engineers installed remote monitoring on the company's wells, most of which are gas. On gas wells, the operator primarily looks at gas flow rates, and static,

"Wellkeeper pays for itself in the first couple of months of the year."

— Division Engineer

differential, tubing and casing pressures. At oil sites, they keep an eye on water tanks.

About 30 engineers and field personnel use Wellkeeper's web interface to continuously monitor sites. Field people log onto office computers in the morning to view and print the

The Impact of Remote Monitoring

- Eliminating spills and associated clean-up costs, saving about \$75,000 a year.
- Cut average short downtimes in half.
- Increased revenue by \$16,000 per well, on average.
- Bottom line impact of \$1 million annually.



current status of their wells. From there, they organize site visits to hit those with potential problems first.

“Wellkeeper gives field personnel a diagnostic tool to plan their days,” the Division Engineer said. “They still visit most wells, but now they know where they need to go first and spend the most time.”

Engineers and managers access Wellkeeper daily to see production values. They also take advantage of historical graphs for each well, which allow them to notice trends and well production anomalies they would not have otherwise seen. That level of insight assists the company often in making informed decisions regarding wells.

“A well may look perfectly flat on a normal curve, but if you look at it on hourly basis in Wellkeeper, you can tell it’s cycling and has loading issues,” the Division Engineer said. “We might not have caught that just off the old data we had. Before, we had to wait a couple of days for field data, and even then it was never as detailed as the information in Wellkeeper.”



With remote monitoring, the independent operator reduces spill costs and increases production.

Per-Well Revenue Increase of \$16,000

Wellkeeper also automatically alerts company staff when well levels get too high in order to prevent a possible spill. Several times, Wellkeeper made the difference in averting such incidents. In fact, since implementing proactive remote monitoring, the company has not experienced a single spill—reducing environmental liability and saving an estimated \$75,000 a year in cleanup costs.

By identifying and troubleshooting well issues more quickly, the company also reduces downtime. Just looking at “short” outages before Wellkeeper, and then after implementing Wellkeeper, the company cut average downtimes in half.

Getting wells back on line more quickly increases production. On average, the operator increased revenue by \$16,000 per well. After accounting for the annual cost of Wellkeeper, the net increase is \$992,000 per year.

Adding the savings in spill costs, the operator improves its bottom line by \$1 million annually. “Wellkeeper pays for itself in the first couple of months of the year,” the Division Engineer added.

About Wellkeeper...

Providing Web-based information access, Wellkeeper brings remote monitoring technology previously only available to the majors within reach of any independent. Near real time and historical well data allows operators to identify and troubleshoot downtime more quickly; reduce the costs of spills, field mileage and truck maintenance, reduce environmental liability, and increase production and profitability. Visit www.wellkeeper.com or call 1-888-WELLKEEPER (935-5533) to learn how remote monitoring can impact your operations.