

JAMES MANSON

INTEGRATED UPSTREAM TECHNICAL ADVISER

Complex Wells | Deepwater | HPHT | Performance Optimisation | Technical Assurance

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Integrated upstream technical adviser and Chartered Engineer with more than 40 years of international experience spanning complex wells, Deepwater, HPHT, drilling, completions, field development and operational performance.

Career experience ranges from hands-on well engineering and operational supervision through Drilling Superintendent and Deepwater Wells Manager roles to Corporate SME, independent Peer Reviewer and adviser on major projects and investment decisions. Experience covers exploration, appraisal, development, infill, intervention and late-life operations across land, platform, jack-up, semi-submersible and drillship environments.

Particular expertise lies in technically challenging wells and in identifying opportunities where engineering, operational performance and commercial outcomes intersect. Recent work increasingly combines specialist technical judgement with structured benchmarking, knowledge integration and AI-assisted analytical workflows.

TECHNICAL CREDENTIALS

COMPLEX WELLS

Deepwater | HPHT | ERD | MPD / PMCD | Wellbore Strengthening

WELL LIFECYCLE

Exploration | Appraisal | Development | Infill | Completion | Intervention | P&A

TECHNICAL ASSURANCE

Peer Review | Well Verification | Stage Gates | Design Assurance | CCS

PERFORMANCE

Benchmarking | Operational Optimisation | Rig Efficiency | Cost | Energy / GHG

STRATEGIC

Major Projects | M&A Due Diligence | Partner / OBO Assurance | Technical Standards

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

Land | Platform | Jack-up | Semi-submersible | Drillship | Subsea

SELECTED CAREER EVIDENCE

Corporate Complex Wells SME & Adviser | Southeast Asia | 2018-Present

Corporate SME and adviser across Deepwater, HPHT, MPD, Wellbore Strengthening and CCS. Provides Peer Review, Well Verification, stage-gate assurance and specialist support across exploration, appraisal and development projects. Authored and evolved corporate Deepwater and HPHT engineering guidelines, transferring specialist knowledge into reusable organisational capability.

Deepwater Portfolio & Partner Assurance | Angola | 2010-2015

Managed BP's Drilling & Completion interests across major non-operated deepwater developments and exploration activity involving 5-9 ultra-deepwater rigs and approximately US\$2.5bn/year gross expenditure. Covered exploration, appraisal, major field development, late-life infill and early decommissioning, while transferring learning between operators and challenging design, execution, schedule and cost assumptions.

Cross-Operator Deepwater Performance Optimisation | Angola / Worldwide

Led comparative reviews of deepwater well designs, programmes and operating practices across major operators, identifying material opportunities in well design, completion practice, ERD limits, top-hole execution and operational strategy. The approach demonstrated the value of going beyond conventional benchmarking to understand why comparable operations performed differently.

Ultra-HPHT Exploration to Development | North Sea

Led the drilling team on the ultra-HPHT exploration well targeting the crest of the Culzean structure, safely negotiating a narrow PPFG window and achieving geological objectives. Subsequently supported fast-track appraisal and development planning, building experience across the full HPHT lifecycle from exploration through development and later-life considerations.

Deepwater Drilling Superintendent | Brazil

Project managed deepwater exploration wells in the Santos Basin, including engineering, operations planning, tendering, contracting, logistics and selective rig upgrades. Initiated further deepwater campaigns in Campos and Espirito Santo basins and provided technical challenge to partner-operated complex pre-salt exploration wells.

North Sea Development & Performance Delivery

Planned and executed subsea development and exploration wells, including the six-well Dumbarton development delivered as Best Performance on Rushmore Benchmarking. Earlier mature-field roles covered demanding infill wells, ERD, workovers, recompletions, interventions and life-extension activity across platform and subsea assets.

Global M&A & Strategic Technical Advisory

Drilling & Completions adviser on multidisciplinary M&A teams evaluating acquisitions, partner interests and exploration opportunities across onshore, offshore and deepwater assets worldwide. Provided independent assessments of technical risk, development concepts, execution strategy, schedule, cost and future drilling capital exposure.

Well Engineering Foundation | Shell & BP

Formally trained through BP and Shell well engineering systems, with early-career experience spanning office engineering, wellsite supervision, land rigs, jack-ups, workover hoists, drilling, completions, sidetracks and interventions. This operational grounding underpins later specialist and advisory roles.

CAREER TIMELINE

PERIOD	ORGANISATION	ROLE	LOCATION
2018-Present	PTTEP	Deepwater, HPHT & Complex Wells Adviser	Bangkok / International
1993-2018	JHM Consult Ltd	Independent D&C / Well Operations Consultant	International
2015	BP	Worldwide Deepwater Wells Adviser	International
2010-2015	BP	Deepwater Wells Manager - Angola OBO	Angola / International
2007-2010	Maersk Oil UK	HPHT Team Leader / Acting Drilling Ops Manager	UK North Sea
2006-2007	Repsol YPF Brazil	Deepwater Drilling Superintendent	Brazil
2003-2006	Maersk Oil UK / Kerr-McGee	Drilling Superintendent	UK North Sea
2002-2003	Peer-Group International	Technical Director	UK / International
1997-2003	Talisman Energy UK	Drilling Superintendent	UK North Sea
1994-1997	Santa Fe Drilling	Senior Drilling Engineer	UK North Sea
1993-1994	Elf Enterprise Caledonia	Senior Well Intervention Engineer	UK North Sea
1989-1993	Shell International / NAM	Drilling Supervisor / Operations Engineer	Netherlands
1986-1989	British Petroleum	Drilling Engineer	UK

QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL STANDING

- MSc Petroleum Engineering - University of Strathclyde, 1986
- BSc Civil Engineering - University of Edinburgh
- Chartered Engineer (CEng) since 1994
- FEANI Registered European Engineer since 1995
- Formal drilling and well engineering training through BP and Shell

VECTOR ADVISOR | Independent Technical Expertise | Evidence-Led Challenge | Measurable Value