



2013 Latin America Perforating Symposium

SLAP-23 Perforating Options Available Today in Horizontal Shale Oil and Gas Wells

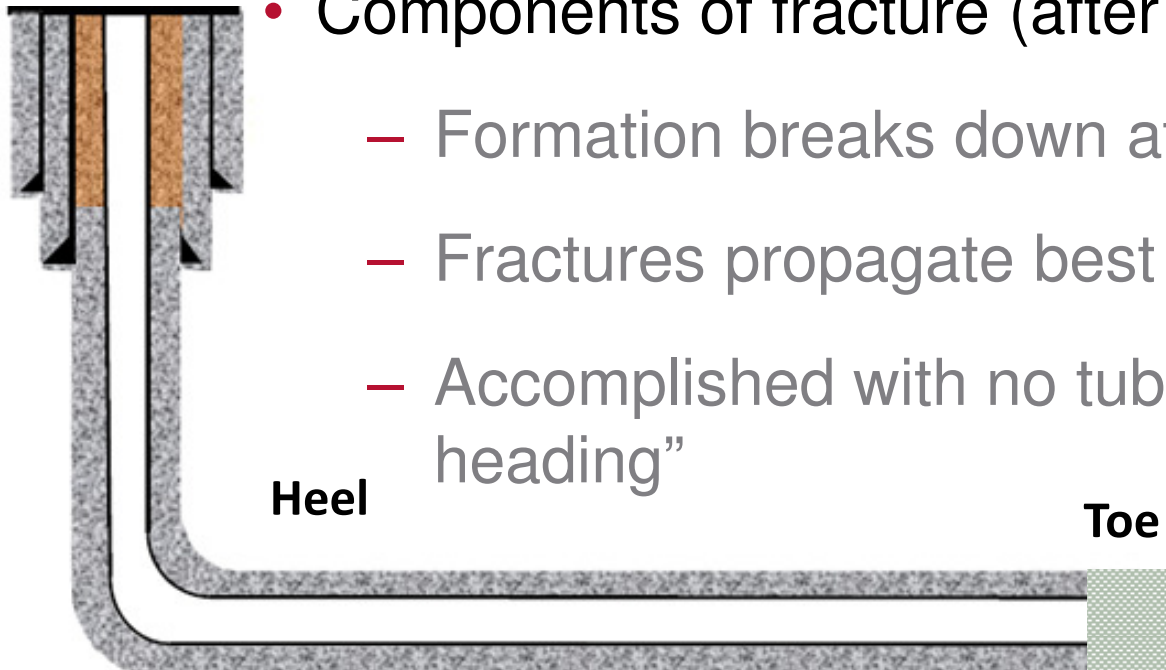
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Typical Eagle Ford Well Costs

- Total well cost approximately \$10 million
- Biggest single cost is formation stimulation, i.e. fracturing
- Regarding perforating choices, the biggest cost factors are:
 - Fracture standby costs
 - In US today, ≈\$2,000 per hour
 - Coiled tubing (CT) run costs
 - In US today, ≈ \$40,000 per run
 - Attempts to reduce these costs are driving development of
 - New perforating technology
 - New perforating techniques

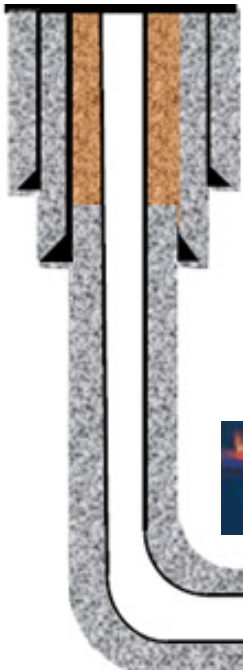
Typical Eagle Ford Wellbore

- Vertical section: 10,000 to 12,000 ft
- Horizontal lateral: 5,000 to 10,000 ft
- Typical casing: 4 1/2- or 5 1/2-in. OD
- Toe: considered the first 500 ft
- Components of fracture (after perforating)
 - Formation breaks down at $\approx 10,000$ psi
 - Fractures propagate best at ≈ 100 bbl/min
 - Accomplished with no tubulars in wellbore, i.e. “bull heading”



Perforating Options

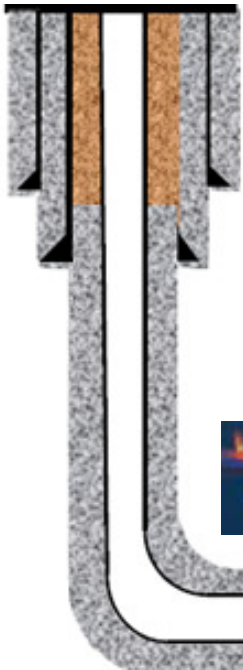
- The first operation after cementing is normally a CT clean-out run
 - Cost ≈\$40,000/run (includes crane)
 - Establishes plugged back total depth (PBTD)
- Ideally, to save time and money, clean-out run should be combined with toe-prep perforating
 - Combining runs not possible with conventional explosive perforating guns
 - Combining is possible with sand jet perforation
 - First operation uses a mill and motor to drill-up any residual fill and cement in casing
 - Next operation uses high-pressure jets to direct sand against casing form perforation



Pumping unit may be required

Clean-out Run With Toe-prep Perforating

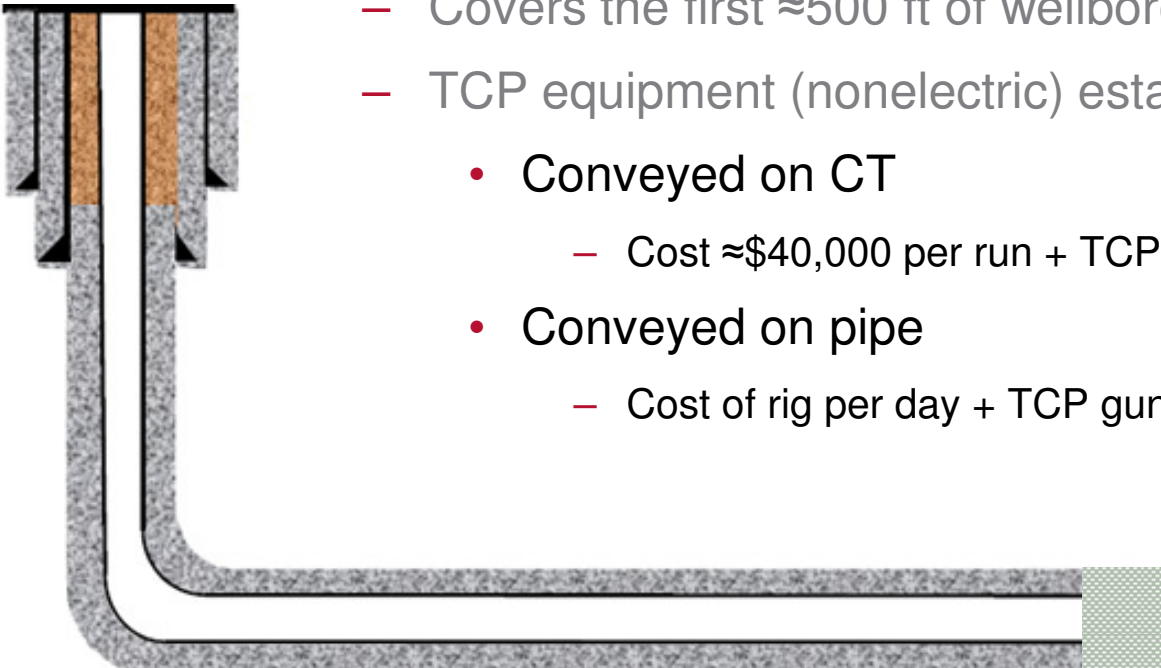
- Sand jet perforation
- Limited availability of equipment
- Cost unknown
- Risks:
 - If tool does not operate properly or if sufficient pump rate cannot be established, must perform traditional tubing conveyed perforating (TCP) toe prep
 - Limited number of holes will be created
 - May require wireline (WL) pump down perforating with related additional costs



Pumping unit may be required

Toe Preparation Using TCP

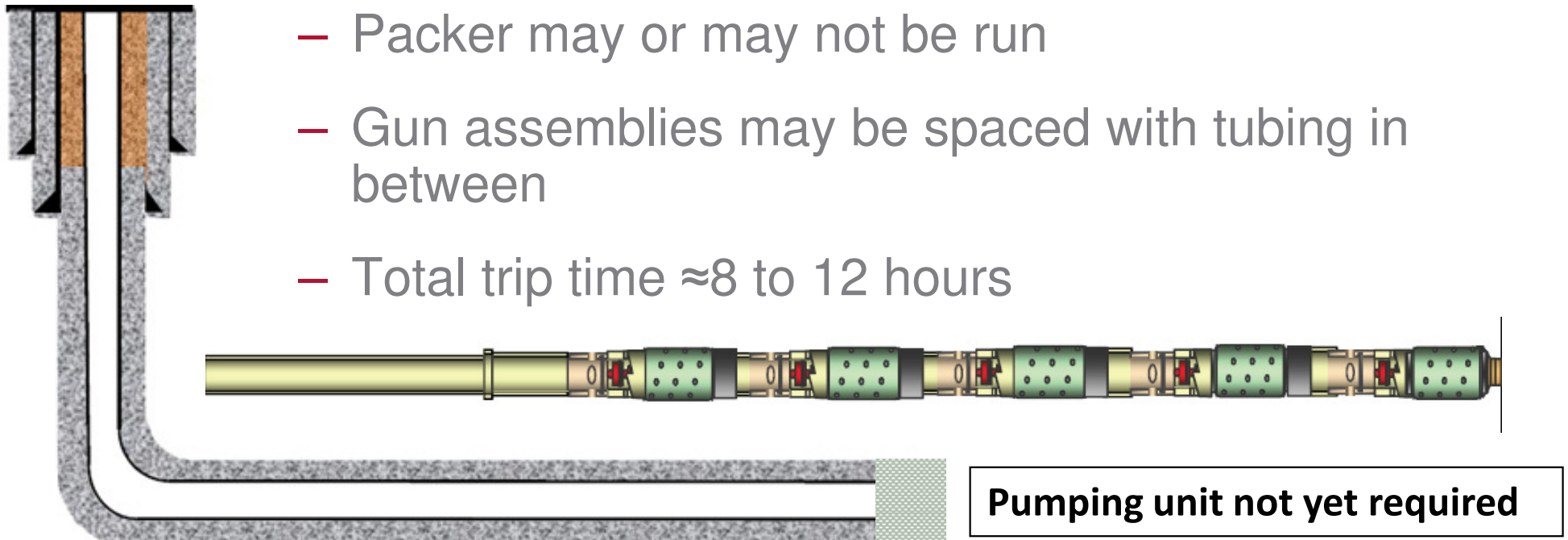
- First operation after cementing and cleanout run; no open perforations yet
- Maximum assembled length: ≈ 70 ft (limited by crane height/lubricator length)
- Consists of 1 to 10 guns
 - Length: 1 to 6 ft long, OD 2 3/4-, 3 1/8-, or 3 3/8-in.
 - Density/phasing: 4 or 6 SPF; 60 or 90° phase
 - Covers the first ≈ 500 ft of wellbore
 - TCP equipment (nonelectric) establishes the first perforations
 - Conveyed on CT
 - Cost \approx \$40,000 per run + TCP guns
 - Conveyed on pipe
 - Cost of rig per day + TCP guns



Pumping unit not yet required

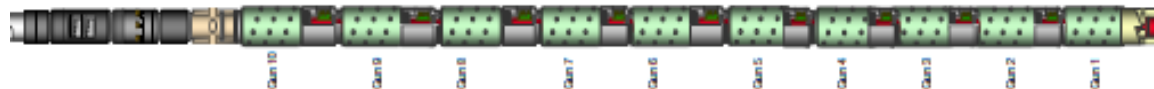
Pipe Conveyed Toe Preparation Using TCP

- Multiple pressure-activated firing heads fired at the same time
- May or may not have time delays attached
- Job parameters:
 - WL correlation not required, can use pipe tally
 - Packer may or may not be run
 - Gun assemblies may be spaced with tubing in between
 - Total trip time \approx 8 to 12 hours



CT Conveyed Toe Preparation Using TCP

- One pressure-activated firing head or ball-drop-differential firing head fires first
- Time delays between guns allow CT to move to next zone
- Number of guns and zones limited by surface lubricator and crane height
- Job parameters
 - WL correlation not required, can use CT depth recorded on clean out run
 - Total trip time \approx 6 to 10 hours
 - Compared to conveying on pipe, this takes longer but is normally cheaper

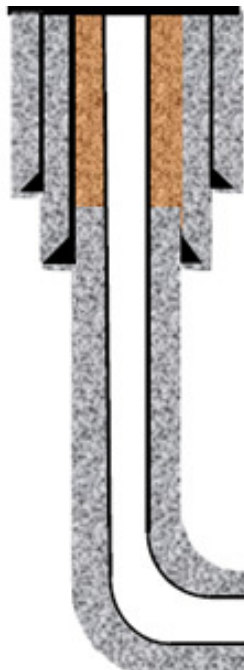


Toe Preparation Using TCP Method Comparisons

- If conveyed on pipe
 - Risk: If gun doesn't fire, additional trip on pipe is required
 - Cost of workover rig + TCP guns
 - To reduce cost, new technology has been invented which requires no rig

- If conveyed on CT

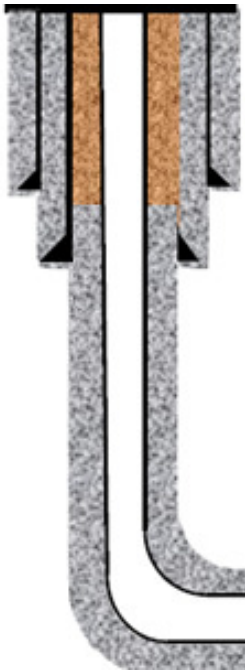
- Risk: If gun doesn't fire, requires additional CT run
- Cost of CT per run + TCP guns
- To reduce cost, new technology has been invented which removes the need for CT and explosives



Pumping unit not yet required

Toe Preparation New Toe Sleeve Technology

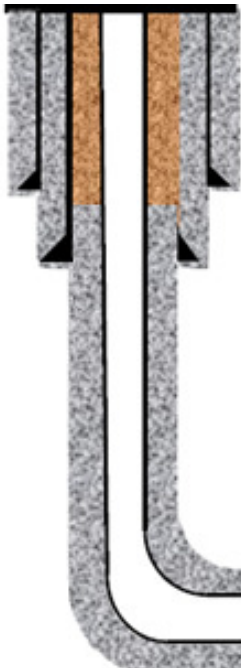
- Attached to casing just above shoe and cemented in place
- After placing cement, circulate a ball and plug to shift sleeve
 - Opens ports in contact with formation to allow fracturing
- Removes CT or workover rig costs and run time involved
- Limited number of holes
 - Requires following by WL pump down perforation
 - Requires pressure pumping



Pumping unit may be required

Toe Preparation New Toe Sleeve Technology Risk

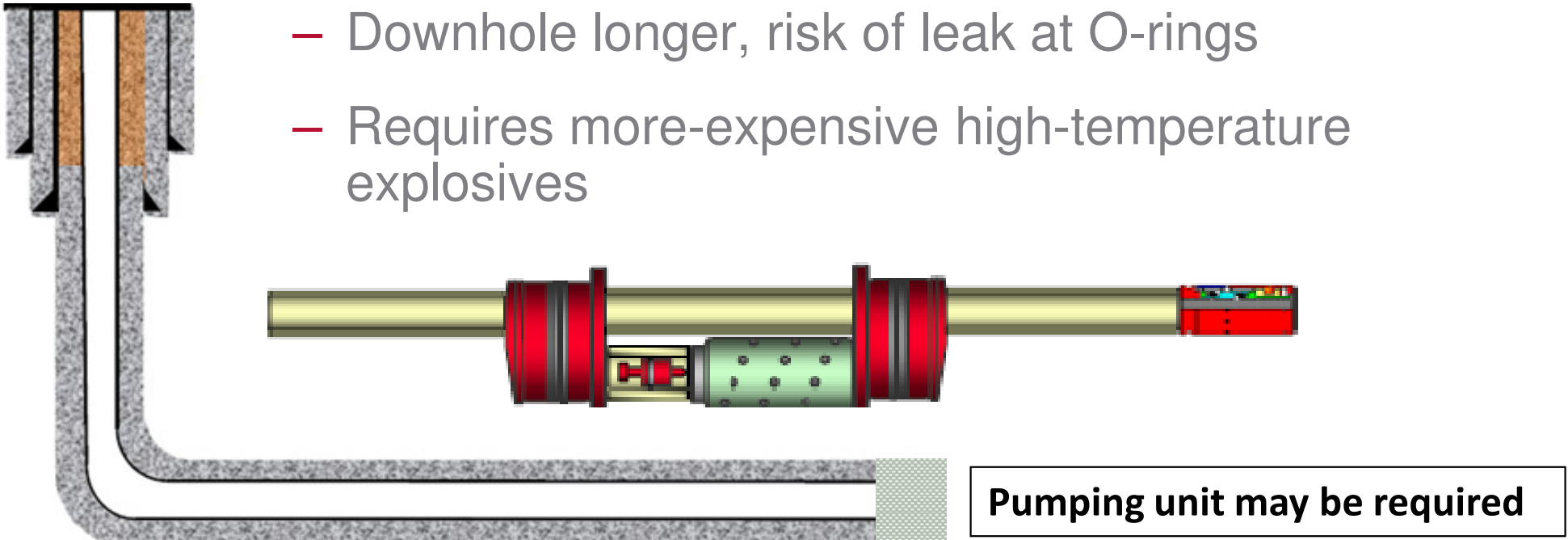
- If sleeve does not operate properly or if unable to establish sufficient pump rate, operator must perform traditional TCP toe preparation
- To limit cement sheath at tool
 - May need to over displace cement
 - May need to excessively retard cement
 - Risk of fluid movement behind casing



Pumping unit may be required

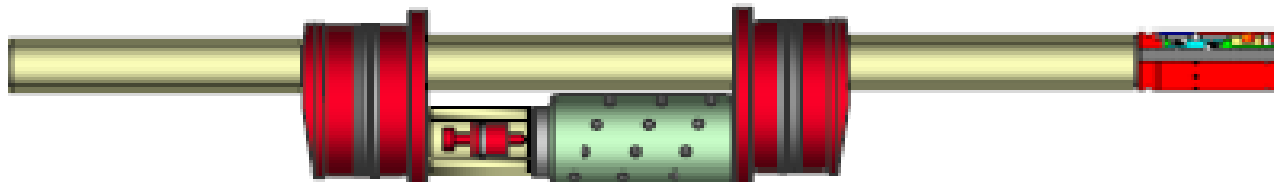
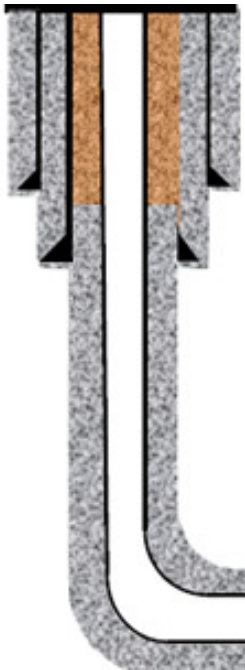
Toe Preparation New Toe Gun Technology

- Attached to outside of casing
 - Run just above shoe and cemented in place
 - Requires larger borehole, which carries additional drilling cost
- Guns must be run at same time as casing
 - Downhole longer, risk of leak at O-rings
 - Requires more-expensive high-temperature explosives



Toe Preparation New Toe Gun Technology

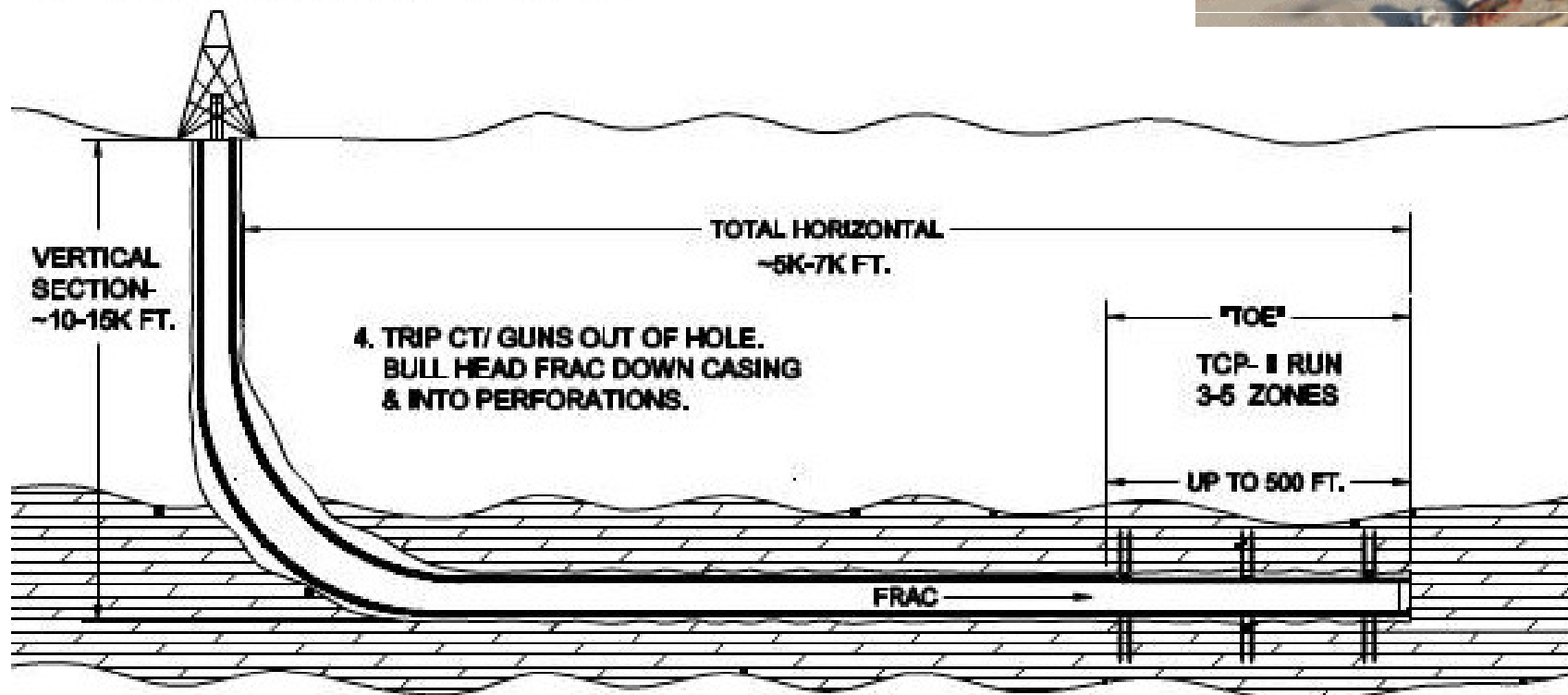
- Gun fires in two directions
 - Away from casing into the formation to create flow path
 - Into casing to complete flow path
- Removes CT or workover rig costs
- Limited number of holes
- Requires pressure pumping
- Requires subsequent WL pump down perforation
- Risk: If gun doesn't fire or is unable to establish sufficient pump rate, must perform traditional TCP toe prep



Pumping unit may be required

After Toe Preparation, Fracture First Stage

- Perforations have established flow path
- Components of fracture (after perforation)
 - Formation breaks down at $\approx 10,000$ psi
 - Fractures propagate best at ≈ 100 bbl/min
 - Bull-head through casing
 - Allows higher pump-in rates



After Fracturing First Stage, Perforate Next Stage

- WL pump down plug and perforation
 - Cost ≈\$10,000 per stage
 - In single run
 - Sets composite fracture plug, isolating previous stage
 - Fires ≈1 to 10 guns over staged interval (determined by operator)
 - Same gun lengths and configuration as TCP
 - Electric detonators, normally select-fire (+ and – switches)
 - May have pressure on wellbore, ≈1,000 to 4,000 psi at surface
 - Pressure-control equipment required
 - Requires high volumes of fluid to position guns ≈10 to 18 bbl/min typical
 - Maximum run speed - 200 ft per min

After Fracturing First Stage, Perforate Next Stage

- WL pump down plug and perforation
 - Normal run time is \approx 2 to 3 hours
 - At end of run, circulate a ball into the fracture plug, which allows fracturing this stage
 - Risks:
 - High failure rate – statistically 1 in 7 (15%) experience some type of failure
 - Simplest failure is electrical short resulting in 4 to 6 hours lost time at \$2,000 per hr = \$8,000 additional fracture equipment stand by cost.
 - Most complex failure is parted line with live guns lost in hole resulting in several days (\approx 50 hours) at \$2,000 per hr additional cost
 - Rewards:
 - Limiting time and saving costs when considering fracture standby
 - Benefits outweigh the risk!
 - WL pump down plug and perforation not going away

After Fracturing First Stage, Perforate Next Stage

- WL pump down plug and perforation
 - Other risks:
 - Formation fails to break down
 - If cannot generate ≈ 10 to 18 bbl/min, then cannot pump down WL
 - If WL bridges out during pump down due to fill from previous fracture, remember that the wellbore has not been re-entered since
 - In these cases, WL and other options are needed



Optional TCP and CT Plug and Perforation Systems

- Set composite fracture plug and fire guns
 - With annular pressure
 - Formation must hold pressure in order to fire, which is not always possible as it has just been broken down
 - Requires CT conveyance, cost ≈\$40,000 (includes crane)
 - Plug and perforation system cost ≈\$15 to 20,000
 - Benefits
 - Not pumping down, so not subject to high-pressure fluid ingress
 - Not electrical, so not subject to electrical safety issues or shorts
 - One-trip system saves the cost of a CT run
 - Risks
 - Slow: ≈6 to 8 hour trip on CT incurs fracture standby costs
 - Pressuring against firing-head pins, potential for premature firing

Optional TCP and CT Plug and Perforation Systems

- Set composite fracture plug and fire guns with tubing pressure using a new proprietary system, current record
 - More than 100 successful runs in Canada
 - Re-engineered system for use in US
 - First US run successfully completed in April 2013
 - Requires CT conveyance
 - Cost \approx \$40,000 (includes crane)
 - Plug and perforation system cost \approx \$25,000 to \$30,000



Optional TCP and CT Plug and Perforation Systems

- Set composite fracture plug and fire guns with tubing pressure
 - Benefits:
 - Not pressuring against formation
 - Not pressuring on firing head until after plug is set
 - Not pumping down, so water usage is less and no high-pressure fluid ingress
 - Not electrical, so not subject to electrical safety issues or shorts
 - One-trip system saves the cost of a CT run
 - Risks:
 - Slow: \approx 6 to 8 hour trip on CT, incurring fracture standby costs

After all Stages Perforated and Fractured

- CT mill-up of composite plugs
- Flow-back and well-test clean-up
 - Lasts from two days to several months, depending on client's production plans
- Well is put into production



Summary of Steps

1. First run after cementing is CT clean-out
 - May include sand-jet perforating
 - Eliminates TCP toe preparation but requires wireline pump down plug and perforation
 2. Toe preparation
 - Most common is TCP run on CT
 - Optional systems, both may require WL pump down plug and perforation:
 - Toe sleeve
 - Toe gun
 3. Fracture (non perforating)
 4. WL pump down plug and perforation
 - If cannot get down due to fill in casing or formation did not break down
 - CT and TCP plug and perforation, annulus pressure
 - CT and TCP plug and perforation, tubing pressure
 5. Fracture (non perforating)
 6. After all stages perforated and fractured, CT mill-out of composite plugs
- NOTE – In all operations, time spent is one of the most critical factors in controlling costs due to the cost of fracturing equipment stand by.

Application in Latin America

- Activity is building in many basins
- Technology is easily transferrable
 - Dependent on availability of equipment
 - Dependent on availability of qualified service personnel
- Questions?

