

Curriculum Vitae – Steve Devereux – Arbitrator, Drilling Expert Witness



Personal Information	
Name	Steve Devereux CEng FCIArb MIMMM
Address	Nearest international airports Pau or Lourdes, France. Alternative airports Toulouse or Biarritz, France.
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Email, Website	steve@drilling-expert.legal also steve@arbitrator.legal www.drilling-expert.legal
Nationality	British
Desired Employment / Occupational Field	I am a Technical Arbitrator with Drilling expertise (author of 2 Drilling books, 40 years of experience planning and drilling wells), Aeronautical & Mechanical Engineering (Chartered Engineer, Aeronautical Engineer) and Aviation (current pilot licence). I’m a Fellow of CIArb, have acted as a sole Arbitrator with 41 appointments and issued 39 awards (December 2020). I can be available for party appointments as an Arbitrator or as Expert Witness for Oil, Gas, Geothermal well drilling or as Arbitrator for Engineering or Aeronautical disputes.
Appointments as Drilling Expert and Arbitrator	<p>Expert Reports for various events, related to incident investigations and for law firms related to arbitrations. Tribunal appointed Expert Witness for a UNCITRAL arbitration.</p> <p>Liner, packer, cementing, testing, well control and HSE issues Expert Witness. Forensic analysis of a series of events to understand the true nature and causes of a set of problems. This was for a high value ICC arbitration. At the end of 2020, 42 appointments as sole arbitrator with 39 awards issued (3 ongoing).</p> <p>Subsea BOP issue Expert Witness. Appointed by the Tribunal to provide an expert report on a dispute between an oil exploration and production company and a drilling contractor. The subsea BOP could not be disconnected and was left lying on the seabed for over a year.</p> <p>Incident investigation – near fatality Led the investigation and issued a report on a near fatal incident where part of the travelling block failed and a large steel plate fell to the rig floor, missing one person by less than 50cm.</p> <p>Sub Surface Safety Valve Mandrel Welds Expert Opinion. Investigated and provided expert technical opinion regarding the failure of welds on sub surface safety valve mandrels. The company lawyers had advised that there were no grounds to bring an arbitration. I was able to show that there were breaches of contract.</p> <p>Incident investigation – well testing incident Led the investigation and issued a report on an incident during a well test which came within a few seconds of destroying a \$100m exploration well with potentially catastrophic loss of life and pollution. A combination of failures in equipment, planning, supervision and failure to follow Management of Change procedures.</p> <p>New Build Jack Up Rig Expert Witness. Appointed by counsel for the claimant to provide expert technical opinion on test loading of spud cans on a new build jack up rig.</p>

Drilling consultancy

Subsea oil well accidental disconnection

Expert Witness. Appointed by counsel for the claimant to provide expert technical opinion on the merits of claim and defence for an issue with a rig causing an accidental disconnection from a subsea oil well.

Oil Well Control Issues

Expert Witness. Appointed by counsel for the respondent to provide an expert report for an arbitration on a well control issue where procedures were not followed correctly.

Dubai Petroleum, Oct 2016 - Jan 2020

Exploration and Development Drilling Superintendent at Dubai Petroleum. Different assignments at different times; running 2 jackup development rigs, running one jackup for HPHT exploration drilling, special projects, incident investigations.

Various short term consulting work, Oct 2014 – Oct 2016

Drilling Superintendent, DW exploration well offshore Ivory Coast for Vitol. Facilitated DWOP, TWOP, HAZOP workshops for various Operators. Completed an investigation into a series of problems on a rig offshore West Africa costing in total \$18m and one incident involving a near-fatality.

Total E&P in Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon and South Africa, Aug 2012 – Oct 2014

Drilling Superintendent responsible for planning and executing UDW exploration wells with the Ocean Rig dual derrick drillship "Olympia" in up to 2300m water depth in Ivory Coast and Gabon. Then responsible for DW exploration wells with the Ocean Rig semi Eirik Raude offshore South Africa.

Tullow Ghana Limited, Nov 2011 – Aug 2012

Drilling Superintendent - operations in up to 2000m water depth.

Tullow Oil, Dublin & French Guyana, Sept 2010 – Nov 2011

Drilling Superintendent - exploration well in 2048m water offshore French Guyana. Created the well design and drilling programme, led the project management from the Tullow Dublin office then worked in the Cayenne office. Designed and built a project website; the drilling programme was Web based, together with all other necessary information for a widely dispersed team.

Cairn Energy, Edinburgh and Greenland, Apr to Sept 2010

Drilling Supervisor, Stena Don DP semi working offshore Greenland.

DONG E&P A/S, Denmark, Jan to Apr 2010

Planned two geothermal wells then ran the land rig as Drilling Supervisor.

Commissioning company name not to be disclosed

Due Diligence examination and report on a new type of drilling rig; the Rotating Coiled Tubing rig from Reel Revolution, Ltd. Odessa, Austin, Houston, Texas.

Vitol Ghana Ltd, March to July 2009

Exploration well, Blackford Dolphin semi.

Rodeo Resources Limited, Cameroon, Oct to Dec 2008

Drilling Manager. Planning for an exploration campaign onshore Cameroon. Project stopped as funds ran out.

Hess Libya, Aberdeen & Tripoli, Jul – Sep 2008

Well planning and execution for an exploration well in the Gulf of Sirte using the Songa Saturn drillship.

Drillers.com Inc, Oct 2007 – June 2008

Training assignments plus working on the Drillers.com Online Drilling Manual.

East Coast Energy, Tanzania, Nov 2005 – Aug 2007

Drilling Manager. The Songo Songo 9 well contained 4 wireline fish, producing gas with a mesh screen installed. The fish were breaking up and blocking the mesh. I designed a submersible barge and platform with a large crane installed to successfully work over the well. Designed and drilled a new production well on Songo Songo island.

Devon Energy Egypt, Aug 2004 – Oct 2005

Carried out a variety of roles and tasks as needed in the Cairo office. Drilling Engineer/Superintendent/Relief Drilling Manager. Exploration and Production drilling in the Gulf of Suez.

Cuu Long, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Apr – May 2004

A special consulting assignment to design the casing (4 options created) for a high temperature, H₂S well. Gave casing design training to the local Engineers.

Tullow Oil (Bangladesh and Gabon), Dec 2003 – Apr 2004

Planned and drilled an exploration well offshore Gabon as Drilling Manager with a tiny team. Took 42 days from arriving to design the well, write the programme, beg/borrow/buy equipment, accept the rig and spud. Went on to Bangladesh to fill in there for the Drilling Manager.

TOTAL (Nigeria), Aug – Oct 2003

Drilling Supervisor on the semi "Scarabeo 4".

PCNEPL (Petronas) (Niger), Sept 2002 – Mar 2003

Drilling Superintendent preparing for remote operations in the Niger Sahara Desert. Petronas Towers, Kuala Lumpur and Niamey, Niger.

PEMI (Turkey), Feb – July 2002

Operations Manager responsible for a production base near Diyarbakir, Turkey.

Devon Energy (Egypt), Feb 2001 – Feb 2002

Drilling Supervisor on the Santa Fe 135 in the Gulf of Suez. Drilling Superintendent for planning and drilling another Gulf of Suez well. Maadi, Egypt

Houston Drilling Management (Israel), Dec 2000 – Feb 2001

Drilling Supervisor on the semi "Atwood Eagle" drilling an exploration well in the Mediterranean Sea for Samedan Israel. Houston, Texas, USA

Schlumberger IPM and NexT, Jul 1997 – Jul 2000

Created and delivered classroom and online training and mentoring for Schlumberger IPM Drilling trainees and other Schlumberger disciplines. Courses include 4 week "Wellsite Operations" 1 week "Drilling Engineering for non Drilling Engineers" 1 week "HPHT Well Planning"

British Gas (Egypt), Aug 1995 – June 1997

Drilling Manager. Responsible for drilling operations in Egypt (Mediterranean, Gulf of Suez, Red Sea). Planned the first North Sinai Exploration well \$1.8m below budget with the drillship Robert F Bauer. Maadi, Egypt

Bapetco (Shell Egypt). Mar 1993 – Aug 1995

Office based Drilling Engineering and Management tasks. Worked on land rigs in the Western Desert as Drilling Supervisor and also Field Superintendent for 3 land rigs.

Various, April 1989 – Feb 1993

	<p>Consulted for a variety of oilfield operating companies as Drilling Supervisor offshore or Drilling Engineer onshore including Conoco UK, Phillips Petroleum, Agip UK, Texaco, BP (stuck pipe task force), BP (Papua New Guinea).</p> <p>British Gas plc (London and Easington, Yorkshire, UK), Sept 1985 – Mar 1989 Superintendent, planning and drilling wells on the Rough field, Southern North Sea.</p> <p>Shell Internationale (Holland and Brunei), Sept 1979 – Sept 1985 Trainee Driller in Holland. Posted to Brunei as Assistant Driller. Promoted to Driller. Worked on land rigs and tender supported platform rigs.</p> <p>British Aerospace plc (Brough, Yorkshire, UK). Sept 1974 – Sept 1979 General Aeronautical Engineer. Worked on full scale airframe fatigue testing and other mechanical testing & investigations after serving a 4 year apprenticeship.</p> <p>R A Graydon (Plastics Engineers) Limited, Aug 1973 – Sept 1974 Apprentice Draughtsman working on GRP structures such as boat hulls, chimneys, scrubbers, claddings etc.</p>
Education and Training	<p>ONC and HNC Mechanical Engineering Hull College of Higher Education (September 1974 to June 1978) Queens Gardens, Hull.</p> <p>Shell Round 1 and Shell Round 2 certificates. Current IWCF Well Control (subsea supervisor level).</p> <p>Attended the Bond Solon "Courtroom Skills" course for Expert Witnesses. Completed the CIArb training pathway for International Arbitration.</p>
Languages	
Main Language	English
Additional Languages	Dutch (deteriorated from reasonable to halting), French (not yet fluent)
Skills	
Social Skills	I enjoy organising events. I organised several Burns Night balls.
Organisational Skills	A large part of my professional work involves organising complex and high cost Drilling projects, typically \$1m/day spread costs.
Technical Skills	Member of the IWCF Drilling Taskforce. Created and delivered courses; 2 week "Drilling Engineering for non Drilling Engineers" for NexT. 4 day "Advanced Well Control" for Shell Expro. 1 week "Casing Design" offered as a public course. Created an online course for SPE, "Wellbore Stability". Tutor at Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen; subject matter expert for web based course "Drilling Cost Reduction".
Computer Skills	Computer and Web literate.
Artistic Skills	Some undeveloped drawing ability (retirement project!). Learning to play the sax.
Other Skills	Private pilot, current night & aerobatic ratings. Lapsed multi IR (plan to renew).
Additional Information	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Member of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining. Articles written for Petroleum Africa magazine including "While Drilling Technologies", "Old Hands New Technology" and "Drilling Software". Honorary Secretary, Oil & Gas Arbitration Club in London.
Annexes	Author of two Drilling books published by Pennwell. "Drilling Technology in Nontechnical Language" and "Practical Well Planning and Drilling Manual".