

# First Expandable in Egyptian Mediterranean Deepwater

CASE HISTORY

## Offshore Egypt

Making the most of the nation's offshore natural gas in the Mediterranean Sea is an increasingly important component of strategic energy development for The Arab Republic of Egypt. Due to a number of recent major discoveries, natural gas will play a primary role in fueling Egypt for the foreseeable future. In fact, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, Egypt is on its way to becoming a leading supplier of natural gas throughout the Mediterranean region. But it's expensive to develop in the region for a number of reasons, and nobody can afford to leave money on the table.

## Challenge

The operator was a leading multinational operating in deep water (3600 feet) within the West Mediterranean Deep Water (WMDW) concession using a semi-submersible rig to drill in a high-pressure and high-temperature environment. The primary target was an offshore development of Oligocene sand, with secondary targets of Serravallian and Aquitanian sand.

The customer was sidetracking the well, and unable to run their 16-inch liner. The 13-5/8 inch and 11-3/4 inch casing were both set high, which would compromise the originally planned 8-1/2 inch hole size. This in turn limited the full utilization of the coring tools, logging tools and testing string in the exploration well.

## Objective

The operator selected a 9-5/8 x 11-3/4 in. SET® Openhole Liner to mitigate premature casing points. This was the very first deep water SET System installation in Egypt's offshore Mediterranean Sea.

## Value Added

The SET System installation mitigated the lost hole size and drilling continued on target with the original hole size of 8-1/2 in. The expandable liner enabled the accommodation of conventional logging tools and significant savings of cost and time. At the end of the day, the operator preserved original ID—and got the information it wanted without having to deviate from its original well plan.

