

SASKATCHEWAN ADOPTS NEW CANADIAN WELL ID SYSTEM

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The Professional Petroleum Data Management Association (PPDM) and its industry partners are pleased to announce that Saskatchewan will be the first jurisdiction to implement the new Canadian Well Identification System (CWIS).

Responding to requests from oil companies, industry vendors and regulators (the ERCB was a co-author of the project charter), the CWIS project was undertaken to upgrade the system of well identification in western Canada, which is outdated due to advances in drilling and completions technologies and the demands for information. After widespread consultation and expert volunteer participation, the first draft of a new system was released in mid-2013.

Essentially, the system comprises three related identifiers that recognize every well, every wellbore and every well reporting stream.

CWIS Identifier Construction						
	Description	Jurisdiction	Well Code	Component Type	Component Value	Identifier
1	Well ID	AB	1597532			AB1597532
2	Wellbore ID	AB	1597532	B	001	AB1597532B001
3	Well Reporting ID	AB	1597532	V	001	AB1597532V001

1. The Well ID identifies a well. Most information is filed and retrieved according to the well it came from or relates to.
2. The Wellbore ID identifies a wellbore. All downhole measurements and construction, including tests and completions, can be located by depth and time intervals within the wellbore.
3. The Well Reporting ID identifies a well reporting stream for which the regulator requires information.

CWIS meets the modern database needs of operators, regulators, vendors and other stakeholders. It maintains legacy Unique Well Identifiers (UWIs), but also incorporates a standard system of coded identifiers to allow business processes to leverage accurate information in a timely manner. Every data item in every well can be managed from creation to delivery to archive.

The latest CWIS version incorporates refinements gleaned from input on the first draft. We invite you to visit the CWIS orientation site at www.ppdm.org to learn first-hand how the new system works, and the value it brings. Then, let us know what you think. The CWIS team is very keen to make the new system as valuable as possible, and that requires your feedback.

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