

Restoring Performance in Abrasive, Low Inflow Wells

CHALLENGE



Our client, a major oil producer in Canada, was working to unlock value from a challenging field producing viscous crude bitumen with high sand content. Their field faced a familiar but costly challenge: premature Progressing Cavity Pump (PCP) failures.

Slow-moving, high-viscosity fluids reduced inflow rates at the pump intake, overheating the pump while abrasive sand accelerated elastomer wear. As a result, pumps failed long before their expected life.

Across 27 wells, conventional PCPs averaged ~8 months of runtime, with some lasting as little as 47 days. This led to costly and frequent workovers; and extensive downtime reduced production potential. Without a change, continued operation of the field was at risk.

SOLUTION



Lifting Solutions stepped in, not just as a supplier, but as a technical partner. Drawing on field experience with abrasive, low rate wells, our technical team understood the real issue wasn't just wear it was the inability to recover performance downhole once wear occurred, forcing full pump replacements each time. They introduced a proven solution designed specifically for these conditions: the PivotAL PCP.

The PivotAL has an extended stator and custom-milled rotor feature alternating active and inactive sections spaced every 12 inches. When volumetric efficiency declines, the rotor can be repositioned into the unused stator section, restoring performance without pulling the pump or mobilizing a service rig.

PERFORMANCE



The results exceeded expectations. Out of 27 evaluated wells:

- 25 wells achieved longer runtimes than conventional PCPs
- 23 wells exceeded the 30% improvement threshold

On average, PivotAL installations delivered a **331%** increase in runtime, a **3.3x** improvement compared to conventional PCPs.

These gains translated into:

- Fewer workovers
- Less non-productive time
- Lower operating costs
- Improved field-wide economic viability

What was once a field constrained by frequent failures became one defined by sustained production and predictable performance.

If your wells are producing viscous, abrasive, sand laden fluids and conventional PCPs are limiting uptime, it may be time to talk to Lifting Solutions to evaluate whether PivotAL is right for your operations.



Turn downtime into
production time with **3.3x**
the performance and **331%**
longer runtimes!

Schedule a consultation!