



Steve Devereux C.Eng FCIArb

Arbitrator, Neutral, Mediator, Drilling Expert



Key competencies

Drilling Expert – over 40 years planning and drilling oil, gas and geothermal wells internationally in over 40 countries

Qualified Arbitrator, Fellow of CIArb

<https://www.ciarb.org/membership/member-directory/member-profile?id=3539>

Hunt ADR accredited Mediator



Experienced Drilling Expert Witness - video

<https://www.oilfield-elearning.com/ExpertReport>

Brief history

Qualified as an Aeronautical Engineer – 1978

Joined Shell as a Trainee Driller - 1979

Consulted since 1988 as Drilling Engineer / Supervisor / Superintendent / Manager / Training roles

Published author in my field – two books, PennWell

<https://www.pennwellbooks.com/steve-devereux-1/>

Accredited by the Academy of Experts.

https://academyofexperts.org/search-register/profile/steven-devereux/?register_type=2

Appointed as an Arbitrator in over 80 cases. Member of Arbitra arbitral chambers.

<https://arbitra.co.uk/arbitrators-mediators/profile/steve-devereux>

One arbitration award is in the public record:

<https://tinyurl.com/SD-ArbitralAward>



Contact

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<https://www.drilling-expert.legal>

This resume is available at

<https://www.oilfield-elearning.com/DevereuxResume.pdf>

Linkedin profile

www.linkedin.com/in/steve-devereux

References (20 pages)

https://www.oilfield-elearning.com/SD_references.pdf

Work history (4 pages)

https://www.oilfield-elearning.com/SD_workhistory.pdf

Expert Witness appointments examples

Arbitration - Covid related termination of rig contract (Respondent)

Analysed reports, assisted Counsel in drafting the Statement of Defence on technical issues. Wrote 2 Expert Reports, participated in joint expert meeting and final hearing, was cross-examined.

Arbitration – 2 geothermal wells casing failures (Claimant)

Completed a forensic analysis and identified the likely reason for casing failures leading to the loss of two turnkey geothermal wells drilled for power generation.

Litigation relating to an IP dispute (Respondent)

Called in at short notice after a previously appointed expert decided not to continue as an expert witness. Appointing party was alleged to have broken patents filed by a competitor. Drafted an expert report to meet a tight deadline.

Arbitration - Liner, packer, cementing, testing, well control and HSE issues (Respondent)

Forensic analysis of a series of events to understand the true nature and causes of a set of problems for a high value ICC arbitration. Wrote an Expert Report. Case settled.

Arbitration - Subsea BOP issue (Tribunal)

Appointed by the Tribunal to provide an expert report on a dispute between an oil exploration and production company and a drilling contractor. Subsea BOP could not be disconnected from the well.

Arbitration - Oil Well Control Issues (Claimant)

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.

Litigation – shareholder action (Claimant)

Oil company misled shareholders who invested based on misrepresentations. Drafted an expert report for the shareholders to initiate legal action.

Drilling Expert opinions and incident investigations examples

Expert Opinion - New Build Jack Up Rig

Appointed by counsel for the claimant to provide expert technical opinion on test loading of spud cans on a new build jack up rig.

Expert Opinion - Subsea oil well accidental disconnection

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.

Expert Opinion - Sub Surface Safety Valve Mandrel Welds

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 sufficient to bring a dispute.

Incident investigation – near fatality

Led the investigation and issued a report on a near fatal incident where part of the travelling block failed. A large steel plate fell to the rig floor, narrowly missing a person.

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.

Incident investigation – stuck pipe in a high angle well

A well suffered stuck pipe which cost several weeks and millions of dollars to fix. I was able to identify the root causes of the problem and make recommendations to prevent a recurrence.

Free expert opinion

An ex colleague over drinks described a stuck pipe incident that nobody had been able to diagnose. I thought about it and offered an explanation the following day, with advice on what to look for in the recorded data.