# Clay Sensitivity Testing & Additive Selection

Liberty Engineering Solution



### **Analyzing Formation Clays**

- What types of clay are present?
- How is clay affected by frac fluid?
- How much clay is there?





Well	Sample		TECTOSILICATES			CARBONATES				PHYLLOSILICATES					ADDITIONAL		TOTAL			
ID	Depth (ft)		Quartz	K-spar	Plag.	Calcite	Dolomite	Dolomite Fe/Ca	Siderite	Chlorite	Kaolinite	Illite/Mica	Mx I/S	Expandability	Pyrite	Barite	TECTOSILICATES	CARBONATES	PHYLLOSILICATES	ADDITIONAL
Sample			61.7	Tr	18.9	1.2	0.9	Tr	0.0	0.8	0.7	13.5	1.7	15	0.6	0.0	80.6	2.1	16.70	0.6



## **Testing Clay Sensitivity**

- Capillary Suction Testing (CST)
  - $\circ$  Slurry of ground cuttings, water, and clay additive are added to the cylinder
  - Timer measures how long it takes for the fluid to go from one ring to the second

### Roller Oven Testing

- Mixture of cuttings and fluid is added to an ageing cell
- The cell rolls continuously at temperature
- ${\scriptstyle \bigcirc}$  Mixture is sieved







## **Test**ing Clay Sensitivity (continued)

### • Bulk Hardness Tester

- Similar ageing process as in Roller
  Oven Test
- Cuttings are extruded through cylinder and torque is measured
- Evaluates hardness after exposure to fluids





### **Basin Analysis**

#### Powder River Basin



#### Normalized 365 Oil/Lat (bbl/ft) by Operator









- Different clays present different challenges
- Liberty has multiple in-house testing methods
- FracTrends database can be utilized for comparisons





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