

# "Completion Fluids Displacement & Cementing Spacers"

AADE FLUIDS MANAGEMENT GROUP  
April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Ed Robinson

# Spacer Objectives

| COMPLETION FLUID                                                         | CEMENTING                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minimize fluid contamination                                             | Minimize cement contamination                                          |
| Denser than fluid in interface                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rheology Hierarchy</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize channeling</li> </ul>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize channeling</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize contamination</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compressive strength</li> </ul> |
| Complete removal of drilling fluid                                       | Erodability – congealed/dehydrated mud                                 |
| Clean and condition tubulars                                             | Condition the formation – water wetting                                |
| Density requirements – closed hole                                       | Density hierarchy – open hole                                          |
| Compatibility                                                            | Compatibility                                                          |

## MANAGING INTERFACES

# Typical Spacer Train – Completion Fluid

## OBM/SOBM Drilling Fluid Displacement

- Base Oil ← **Cased Hole**
- Barrier Spacer
- Cleaning Spacer(s) } **Cementing**
- Viscosified Spacer ← **Solids-free**
- Brine

## Increased Interest In Weighted Displacement

# Spacer Heirarchies

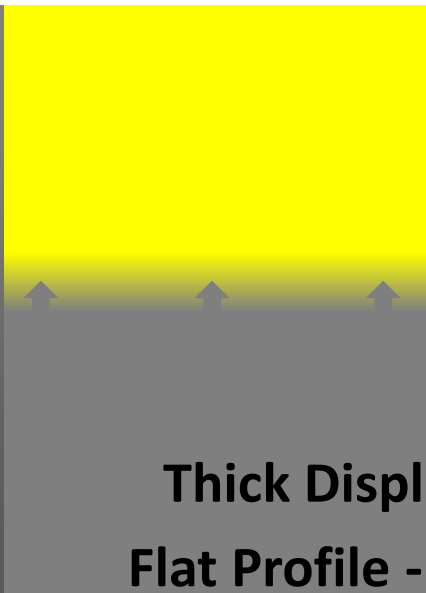


**Base Oil Displacing Mud  
High Interface**

**Thin Displacing Thick  
Channels Into - ↑Interface**

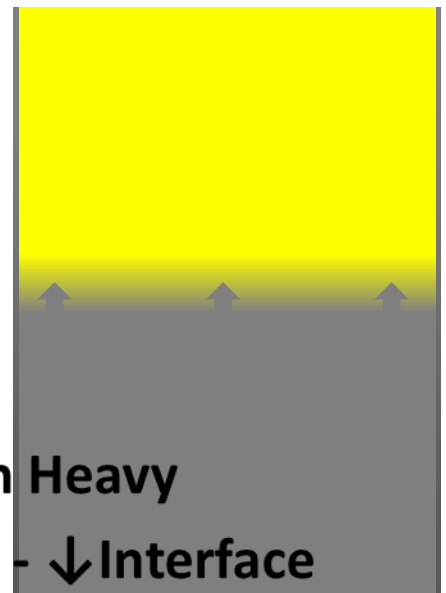


**Heavy on Light  
Differential Swap - ↑Interface**



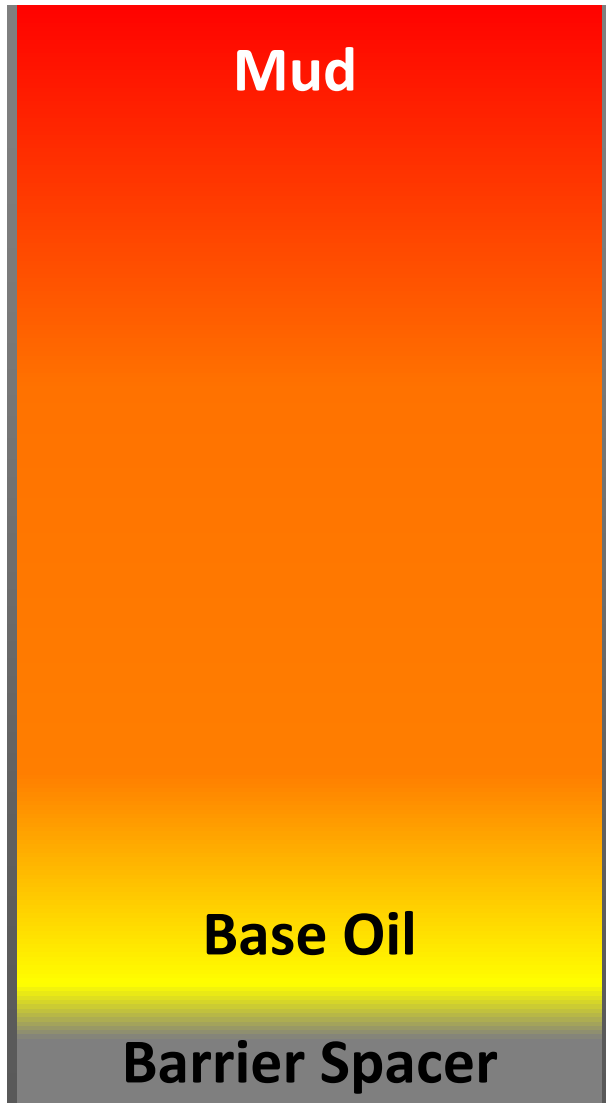
**Barrier Displacing Base Oil  
Tight Interface**

**Thick Displacing Thin  
Flat Profile - ↓Interface**



**Light on Heavy  
Floats on top - ↓Interface**

# Base Oil Interface



                                                                
+                                              +

Density

Viscosity

-                                              -  
                                                              

**Base Oil Problematic  
For Weighted Displacement**

# Barrier Spacer Against Mud

- Rheology and density can be engineered greater than mud
- New surfactant packages achieve cleaning in Barrier Spacer
- 13.0 lb/gal Barrier Spacer applied to 12.0 lb/gal SOBM



Barite/XCD Barrier Spacer  
200 rpm – 90 second



Barite/XCD Surfactant Package  
200 rpm – 90 second

# Barrier Spacer

- Cleaning efficiency typically >97%



Dry – clean



Mud coated



30 second



120 second

**Barite Weighted Surfactant Package**  
**200 rpm – Equivalent to 84 ft/min AV**

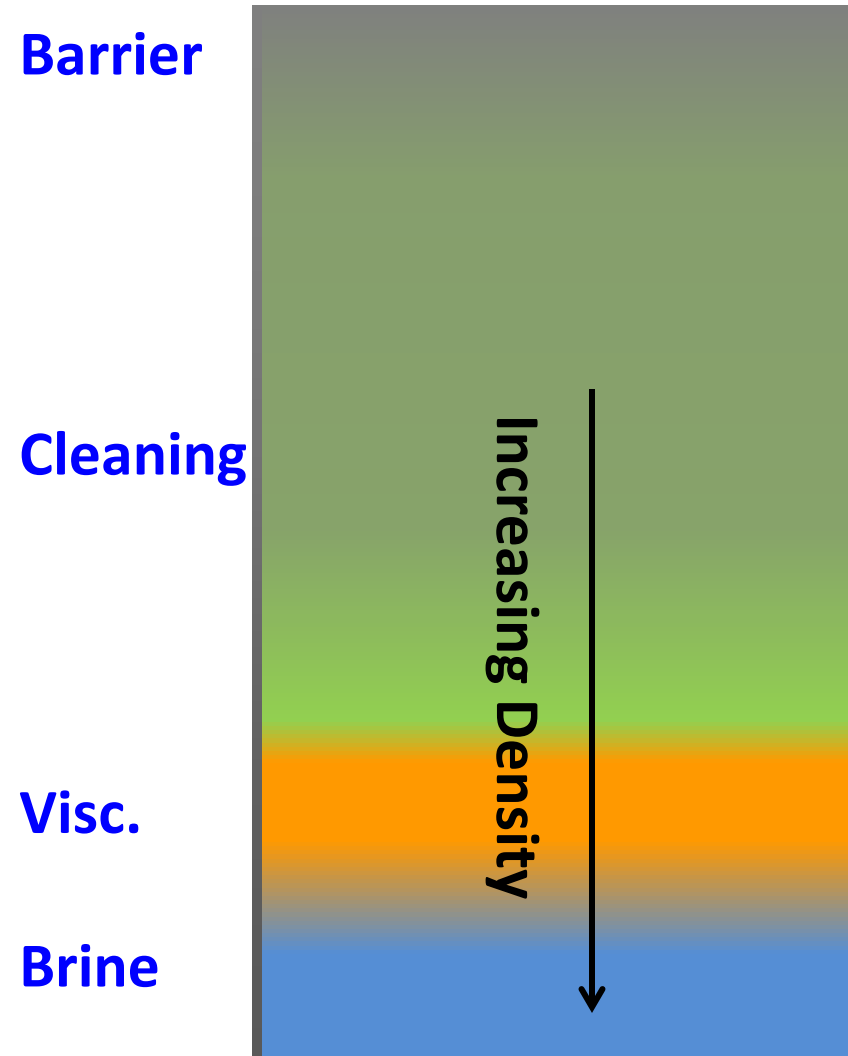
# Barrier Spacer Against OBM/SOBM

- Compatibility

| Property       | #1   | #2  | #3  | #4  | #5   |
|----------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Barrier Spacer | 100% | 75% | 50% | 25% | 0%   |
| SOBM           | 0%   | 25% | 50% | 75% | 100% |
| 600            | 80   | 89  | 75  | 74  | 80   |
| 300            | 75   | 62  | 48  | 43  | 54   |
| 200            | 64   | 48  | 37  | 32  | 44   |
| 100            | 42   | 33  | 25  | 18  | 32   |
| 6              | 13   | 9   | 8   | 7   | 13   |
| 3              | 11   | 7   | 7   | 5   | 12   |
| PV             | 5    | 27  | 27  | 31  | 26   |
| YP             | 70   | 35  | 21  | 12  | 28   |

**13.0 lb/gal Barrier Spacer / 12.0 lb/gal SOBM**

# From Denser DF to Brine



## Cleaning Spacer

- Compatible and functional in interface with Barrier Spacer
- Functional in weighted brine base
- Water wetting

## Do not over-thicken Vicosified Spacer

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| <hr/>   | <hr/>     |
| -       | +         |
| Density | Viscosity |
| +       | -         |
| <hr/>   | <hr/>     |

# Barrier/Cleaning Spacer Interface

- What is the expected interface?
- Compatible and functional through heavy interface?



Mud Film



50-50 Barrier/Cleaning



Dried

**12.0 SOBM - 50%vol 13.0 lb/gal Barrier-50%vol 10.9 lb/gal Cleaning – 97.9% Removal**

# Managing Interfaces

- Cementing typically applies a strict regime from **thinner to thicker** and **lighter to heavier**
- Spacer system management
  - Testing should include interfaces
    - DF contaminated Barrier
    - Barrier into SOBM LC-50
    - Barrier contaminated Cleaning
  - Fully weighted systems
  - Dual function spacer - Barrier as Primary Cleaner

# Operational Execution - Cementing

- Mud Condition
- Mud static exposure to formation
- Eccentricity (stand-off)
- Spacer properties downhole
- Do not start and stop pumps

# Static Time - Cementing

**12 ppg mud, 16.8 ppg cement, 7 BPM flow rate**

| Static Time | Efficiency |
|-------------|------------|
| None        | 98         |
| 5 minutes   | 83         |
| 2 hours     | 62         |
| 4 hours     | 50         |

*Efficiency is defined as % of annular cross section containing cement*

# Pipe Movement - Cementing

**16.7 ppg mud, 16.7 ppg cement, 7 BPM flow rate**

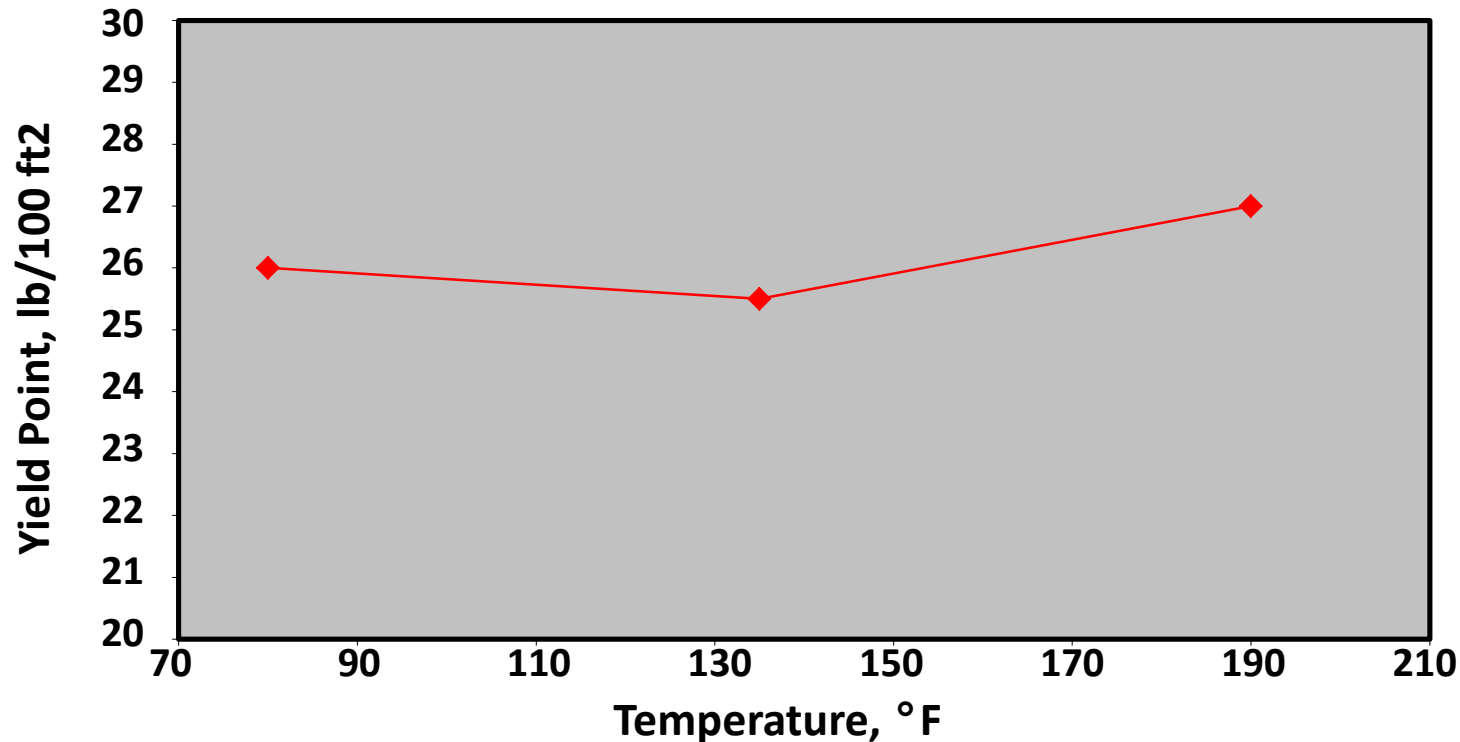
| Standoff | Efficiency |
|----------|------------|
| 17%      | 45         |
| 35%      | 77         |
| 60%      | 88         |
| 72%      | 97         |

**16.7 ppg mud, 16.7 ppg cement, 4 BPM flow rate, 60% standoff**

| Movement | Efficiency |
|----------|------------|
| None     | 65         |
| 20 RPM   | 97         |

*Efficiency is defined as % of annular cross section containing cement*

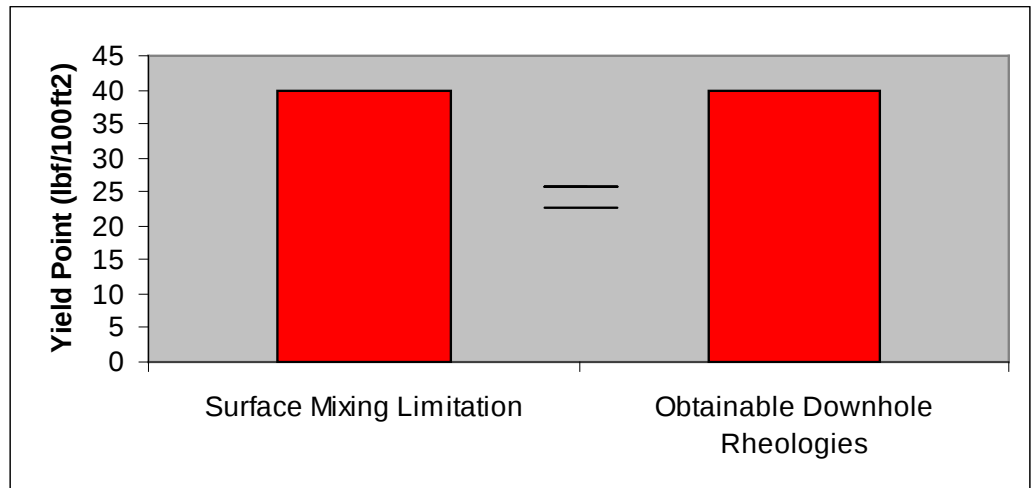
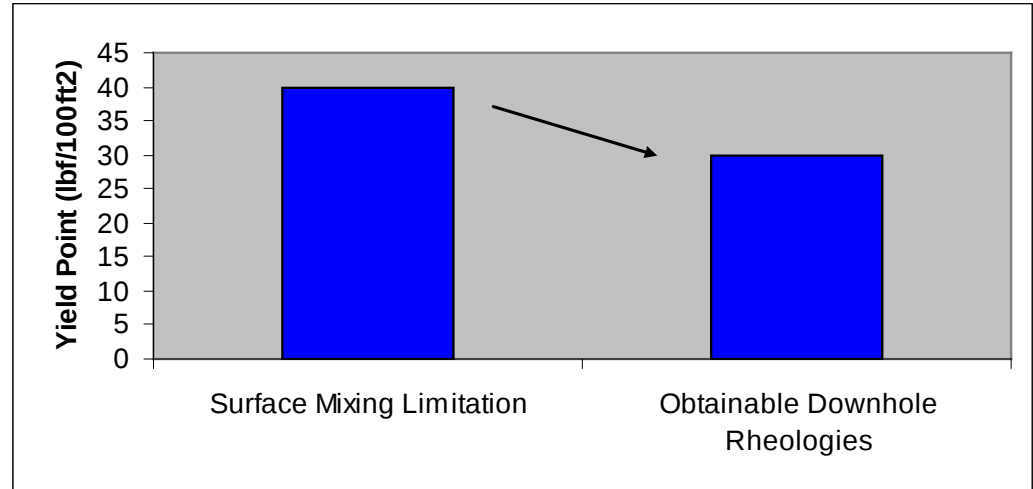
# Downhole Delivery - Cementing



- For Erodability and Rheology Hierarchy
  - Critical to deliver consistent rheology downhole
  - Flat rheology across temperature profile

# Cement Spacer Reliability

- Rheologically Enhanced
  - Eliminate guess or estimate of effective YP
  - Deliver what is measured on surface



# Other Considerations

- Compatibility testing
- Wettability testing (conductivity)
- Cleaning efficiency
- Spacer criteria
  - Separation distance (interval of spacer - feet)
  - Contact time (minute)
  - Surface area (or mud residue volume)
- Limitations – Rig equipment, environmental, etc.
  - Risk analysis
  - Engage all stakeholders

# Questions

