

## SNUBBING SERVICES



Petroleum  
Competency  
Program

Programme des  
compétences de  
l'industrie du pétrole

## ASSISTANT OPERATOR SNUBBING OPERATOR LEVELS 1-3

## SNUBBING SUPERVISOR LEVELS 1-2



## SNUBBING SERVICES



### Assistant Operator, Snubbing Operator, Snubbing Supervisor

**Snubbing Services** are specialized functions of oil and gas well life-cycle maintenance that require working with a well while it is under pressure. The core competencies for Snubbing Operators and Snubbing Supervisors include techniques that utilize Surface Blow Out Preventers (BOPs), wireline plugs or string floats as an alternative to hydrostatic pressure to keep the well under control, maintaining control of critical and emergency situations at all times. Common core requirements in each occupation within the Snubbing Services include routine inspections and maintenance as well as vehicle operation and compliant transport.

Due to the associated complexities of working with a well under pressure, safety is a critical component of these occupations and is given primary importance at each level for Snubbing Operators and Supervisors. Workers conduct snubbing services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

## CORE COMPETENCIES

### Assistant Operator, Snubbing Operator Levels 1-3, Snubbing Supervisor Levels 1-2 are responsible to:

#### Contribute to the health and safety of the working environment

- Conform to statutory and industry standard health and safety requirements
- Monitor to maintain and enhance safety of others
- Identify hazards and reduce risks

#### Contribute to control of critical and emergency situations

- Manage unforeseen/unexpected events
- Contribute to the control of critical situations
- Apply emergency response procedures

#### Support environmental protection

- Manage spills and waste products

#### Support effective communications and working relationships

- Maintain effective working relationships
- Maintain professional image

#### Maintain certification

- Maintain personal training certification

#### Conduct routine inspections and maintenance

- Conduct routine inspections and maintenance of vehicles and equipment

#### Drive vehicles

- Drive with professional attitude
- Drive defensively

#### Perform compliant transport

- Comply to travel regulations and requirements
- Respond to travel emergencies

#### Understand basic wellbore hydraulics

- Identify pertinent wellbore parameters
- Demonstrate understanding of core snubbing principles



## THE PETROLEUM COMPETENCY PROGRAM

The Petroleum Competency Program (PCP) certifies workers in certain occupations within the petroleum industry. These occupations are divided into specialized jobs, which are sometimes called “branches” or “levels”.

The PCP:

- defines the tasks needed to do each job;
- sets standards for performing those tasks;
- assesses the worker's performance; and
- certifies the worker as competent.

# ASSISTANT OPERATOR

**An Assistant Operator** is an entry-level position that provides support and assists with pre- and post-job operations. The Assistant Operator performs with supervision from Snubbing Operators and Snubbing Supervisors as appropriate for each activity.

## Level-specific competencies

An **Assistant Operator** is responsible to:

### Support Snubbing Operator

- Communicate and interpret work instructions
- Use safe practices during operations

### Support pre-job operations

- Understand operational requirements
- Support preparation and loading of equipment

### Support job operations

- Support on-site preparation
- Support rig-up operations
- Support the service operation
- Support rig-down operations

# SNUBBING OPERATOR LEVELS 1-3

## Level 1

**A Snubbing Operator Level 1** operates in well environments where the shut-in pressure typically is less than 10 MPa (1450 psi) and the wellbore gas or fluid is sweet. Operations will involve single- and dual-zone workovers and completions including jobs where the tubing can be moved through the well without staging couplings or tool joints.

Additional responsibilities involve pre- and post-job operations, support crew training, management of travel and logistics, application of well-bore hydraulics and conformance to Industry Recommended Practices.

## Level-specific competencies

A Snubbing Operator Level 1 will have demonstrated competency in all tasks, activities and functions as performed by an Assistant Operator. In addition, a **Snubbing Operator Level 1** is responsible to:

### Support crew training

- Perform coaching crew members

### Manage travel and logistics

- Verify travel plans and logistics
- Navigate and manage travel en-route

### Apply well-bore hydraulics

- Identify well-bore parameters and perform calculations

### Conform to industry practices

- Verify equipment specifications and certification
- Interpret and apply Industry Recommended Practices (IRPs) to job role and operations

### Perform pre-job operations

- Identify operational requirements
- Prepare, organize and load equipment
- Conduct on-site preparation
- Conduct rig-up operations

### Perform post-job operations

- Conduct rig-out operations
- Identify and perform post-job maintenance
- Complete administrative requirements

### Perform single- and dual-zone workovers and completions

- Confirm program requirements
- Assemble Bottom Hole Assembly (BHA) and equipment
- Conduct operations

# SNUBBING OPERATOR

## Level 2

**A Snubbing Operator Level 2** operates in more complex medium-pressure well environments that are sweet or sour, where the shut-in pressure is typically between 10 and 21 MPa (1450 to 3000 psi). Operations involve sand cleanouts, lubricating, fishing, multi-zone and/or dual string completions.

## Level-specific competencies

A **Snubbing Operator Level 2** will have demonstrated competency in all tasks and functions as performed by a Snubbing Operator Level 1.

### Operate sour wells

- Act on safety criteria for sour wells

### Perform sand cleanouts

- Define sand cleanout equipment and service requirements
- Conduct sand cleanout job

### Perform lubricating

- Confirm program parameters
- Lubricate in
- Lubricate out

### Perform fishing

- Coordinate fishing program
- Conduct fishing job

### Perform multi-zone operations

- Confirm program requirements
- Assemble Bottom Hole Assembly (BHA) and equipment
- Conduct operations

### Perform stripping on and stripping off

- Verify parameters for stripping program
- Strip on
- Strip off

### Perform staging jobs

- Pre-plan job and set-up stack
- Stage couplings into the hole
- Stage couplings out of the hole
- Maintain equipment during operations

### Perform dual string completions

- Conduct pre-job planning
- Snub in Long String
- Snub in Short String

## Level 3

**A Snubbing Operator Level 3** operates in even more complex high-pressure well environments that may be sweet or sour (including critical sour) where the shut-in pressure is higher than 21 MPa (3000 psi). They are also able to perform the snubbing components of drilling rig operations.

Workers in such jobs perform all responsibilities at previous operator levels at these greater working pressures, including sand cleanouts, lubricating, fishing, multi-zone completions, stripping on/off and staging couplings and tool joints using multiple BOPs.

## Level-specific competencies

A **Snubbing Operator Level 3** will have demonstrated competency in all tasks, activities and functions as performed by a Snubbing Operator Level 2 and/or Snubbing Supervisor Level 1, and is responsible to:

### Operate critical sour wells

- Confirm auxiliary safety equipment is in place
- Adhere to Industry Recommended Practices (IRPs)
- Understand and communicate Emergency Response Plan

### Operate Wells with Surface Pressures Greater than 21 MPa

- Confirm well-bore characteristics
- Recognize and communicate high pressure hazards and risks
- Coordinate operational activities in response to changing conditions

### Perform drilling rig operations

- Confirm program to be followed
- Identify hazards of drilling situation
- Rig-in and -out
- Perform job operations



## SNUBBING SERVICES

# SNUBBING SUPERVISOR LEVELS 1-2

### Level 1

**A Snubbing Supervisor Level 1** oversees operations in medium-pressure well environments that are sweet or sour, where the shut-in pressure is less than 21 MPa (3000 psi). This role involves ensuring a healthy and safe work environment, facilitating safe work procedures and practices, and implementing environmental policies. This position also includes supporting relationships with customers and the supervision of crew training.

Additional responsibilities involve the use of advanced wellbore hydraulics and performing calculations, ensuring conformance to industry recommended practices, managing wellsite performance and performing advanced administrative requirements.

### Level-specific competencies

The occupation Snubbing Supervisor Level 1 can only be certified after completion of the certification at Snubbing Operators Levels 1 and 2. In addition, a **Snubbing Supervisor Level 1** is responsible to:

#### **Ensure a healthy and safe work environment**

- Ensure adherence to health and safety regulations
- Ensure adherence to company and client safety requirements
- Contribute to the control of critical situations

#### **Ensure safe work procedures and practices**

- Conduct hazard assessments and implement risk reduction procedures
- Ensure adherence to safe work procedures

#### **Implement environmental policy**

- Comply with policies for environmental protection

#### **Support relationships with customers**

- Provide service-related information to customers
- Assist in resolving customer complaints

#### **Supervise crew training**

- Assess and support training needs of crew

#### **Use advanced wellbore hydraulics and perform calculations**

- Identify and utilize wellbore parameters
- Recognize related services' calculations

#### **Ensure conformance to Industry Practices**

- Verify equipment specifications and certifications
- Ensure Industry Recommended Practices (IRPs) are followed

#### **Supervise Sour Well Operations**

- Ensure equipment meets regulatory requirements
- Ensure operational practices adhere to industry standards
- Ensure Emergency Response Plan is in place

#### **Supervise wells with surface pressures less than 21 MPa**

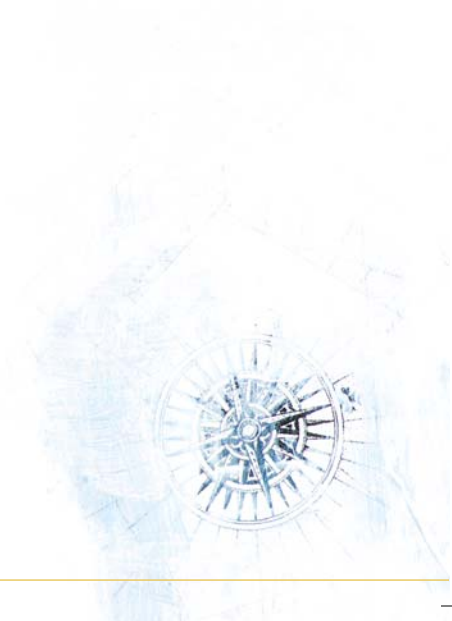
- Verify operational requirements
- Conduct on-site preparation
- Supervise rig-up operations
- Supervise service operations
- Supervise rig-down operations

#### **Manage wellsite performance**

- Provide leadership
- Perform problem-solving and decision-making
- Facilitate effective teamwork
- Intervene to ensure desired performance
- Perform coaching
- Oversee the coordination of services

#### **Perform advanced administrative requirements**

- Ensure regulatory reporting requirements are met
- Manage generation of customer billing data
- Oversee company internal reporting requirements



### Level 2

A **Snubbing Supervisor Level 2** oversees operations in high-pressure well environments that may be sweet or sour (including critical sour), where surface pressure is greater than 21 MPa (3000 psi). This role is also responsible for the supervision of the snubbing components of drilling operations.

Supervisors at this level oversee operations at these greater working pressures including ensuring a healthy and safe work environment, facilitating safe work procedures and practices, and implementing environmental policies. This position also encompasses supporting relationships with customers and the supervision of crew training.

Additional responsibilities involve the use of advanced wellbore hydraulics and performing calculations, ensuring conformance to industry recommended practices, managing wellsite performance and performing advanced administrative requirements.

### Level-specific competencies

The occupation of a **Snubbing Supervisor Level 2** can only be certified after completion of the certification at Snubbing Operator Level 3. In addition, this occupation is responsible to:

#### Operate critical sour wells

- Confirm auxiliary safety equipment is in place
- Adhere to Industry Recommended Practices
- Understand and communicate Emergency Response Plan

#### Operate wells with surface pressure greater than 21 MPa

- Confirm well-bore characteristics
- Recognize and communicate high pressure hazards and risks
- Coordinate operational activities in response to changing conditions

#### Perform drill rig operations

- Confirm program to be followed
- Identify hazards of drilling situation
- Rig-in and -out
- Perform job operations



**BE** recognized.  
get **CERTIFIED.**

## Requirements for certification

Employees who wish to receive certification under the Petroleum Competency Program (PCP) must:

- possess the core competencies of the occupation, plus additional competencies, if any, of their job;
- work in the petroleum industry in a job directly related to the type of certification they are seeking; and
- have the support and co-operation of their employer.

## How to apply

To apply for certification, the worker must:

- secure the written support of the employer to proceed with an assessment;
- obtain the applicable standards of competency from Enform;
- be familiar with the standards of competency and the assessment process; and
- register formally with Enform.

There is currently no time limit for completion of the certification process. Be advised that it can take months because the assessment must accommodate the day-to-day needs of the company's business.

For current costs, please contact Enform for information at [enform.ca](http://enform.ca)



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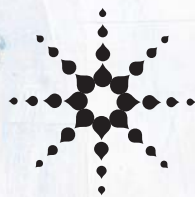
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## it **PAYS** to be **CERTIFIED**

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### Snubbing Services

Assistant Operator  
Operator - 3 levels  
Supervisor - 2 levels

### Well Testing Services

Supervisor - 5 levels

### Oil and Gas Transportation Services

Trucking Supervisor  
Bulk Haul Truck Operator  
Multi-Wheel Truck Operator  
Winch Tractor Operator  
Bed Truck Operator  
Boom Truck Operator  
Swamper