



Weatherford®

Fourchon Automated Bucking Facility

Facility Profile: Port Fourchon, Louisiana, USA



Streamlined Tubular Care

Taking tubular preparation offline to enhance operational efficiency and well integrity while reducing well-construction costs



Weatherford's Port Fourchon bucking facility is at the nerve center of deepwater drilling and production in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM), providing our clients with fully automated, hands-free, offline tubular makeup and breakout services. High-integrity stands delivered to the rig significantly reduce running time for enhanced operational efficiency and safety performance.

Regional convenience

Our Fourchon bucking-and-makeup facility is located on the waterfront that services over 90% of GOM deepwater oil production. We offer easy access to large trucks for pipe delivery. Our fully equipped loading dock with boat slip and dedicated crane expedites handling and facilitates faster stand loading onto vessels.

Our five-acre property has ample pipe storage capacity and a sophisticated inventory management system, which combine to ensure you of readily available, uninterrupted supplies of tubulars as you need them. This high-efficiency, hands-free facility gives us the ability to substantially outperform conventional bucking operations.

Safety always

The Port Fourchon facility is operated by a highly trained, pipe-handling specialist, eliminating the risk exposure associated with numerous people in close proximity to tubulars and preparation equipment. Working from the safety of the control cabin, the operator uses a joystick to communicate through programmable-logic-controller (PLC) technology to monitor the entire bucking-and-measuring operation through cameras and a touchscreen monitor. Remote input/output modules throughout the facility are used to read sensors and control valves located on the machinery and conveyor systems.

Save time and well-construction costs with more efficient tubular running

Ready-to-run double or triple stands of tubulars make casing installation faster, safer and more efficient. Running stands into the hole helps reduce nonproductive time (NPT), openhole time and the associated wellbore-conditioning costs. Weatherford uses the latest in connection-integrity technology for pipe makeup to minimize the chance of connection failure and the resultant repair costs.



The automated bucking facility is run by a highly trained, pipe-handling specialist who directs the entire mechanized operation from the safety of a state-of-the-art control cabin.

ComCAM off-site bucking unit and TPC system: A winning combination

The industry's best bucking unit and connection-makeup technologies ensure connection integrity in compliance with connection makeup parameters for API and premium-thread tubing, casing, production riser and drillpipe in double or triple lengths. We can handle all types of pipe, including makeup and breakout of chrome tubulars with nonmarking gripping.

ComCAM rotational makeup/breakout units with advanced computer-analysis monitors provide automated control of connection makeup within two percent of the actual torque value.

The TPC (torque process control) system ensures quality connections by monitoring torque, turns and speed of the bucking unit in real time. The system can make up using optimum torque, delta torque or delta turns.

The bucking unit handles pipe from 4-1/2 to 26 in. and provides up to 200,000 lbf-ft of torque. Our hands-free conveyor system has a maximum pipe weight capacity of 224 lb/ft.

Reduce NPT with detailed pipe-connection data at your fingertips

Assigned to the pipe in the TPC system, the unique stand identifier (ID) is printed directly on the pipe using a two-dimensional (2D) Data Matrix code. Barcoding redundancy is 50 percent, meaning even if half the barcode is removed from the pipe, it can still be scanned to access data. Regardless of the pipe's location—whether at the bucking facility, on the rig or downhole—critical information such as torque, length, drift and tally is readily accessible through the TPC system.

Rely on the tubular running experts for increased efficiencies

Weatherford is the only provider in the region that offers both tubular preparation and running services to offshore operators. With this dual-service capability, we record pipe-connection data for the stands that we make up offline, and merge it with data from connections that we make up on the rig. As the entire casing string is being run, our TPC system automatically synchronizes all stands, creating a seamless report of the entire operation. The system increases efficiencies and reduces costly, time-intensive research from multiple sources of connection data.



4 1/2-in. to 26-in., 200,000-lbf-ft bucking unit.



Nonmarking jaws enable makeup of premium pipe without undesirable grip marks.



Offline tubular preparation saves valuable rig time, reduces NPT and enhances safety.



Redundant barcoding improves barcode reliability and allows key makeup information for each stand to be quickly retrieved with the TPC system.

Fully automated, hands-free bucking, measuring and drift operations, from the time the pipe enters the facility until it's rolled out to the storage rack



1 Pipe is loaded onto hands-free exterior conveyors and rolled inside the building. Two conveyors allow multiple pipes to be moved simultaneously.



2 Each pipe is lifted onto a walking table and moved to the automated thread-protector remover. The thread protector is removed from one end of each pipe.



3 The walking tables transport the pipes to the ComCAM line conveyor.



4 Pipes are positioned in the ComCAM bucking unit and made up to the torque specified in the TPC system, which also records the makeup data.



5 The stand ID assigned to the stand in the TPC system, is printed on the pipe as a 2D Data Matrix code.



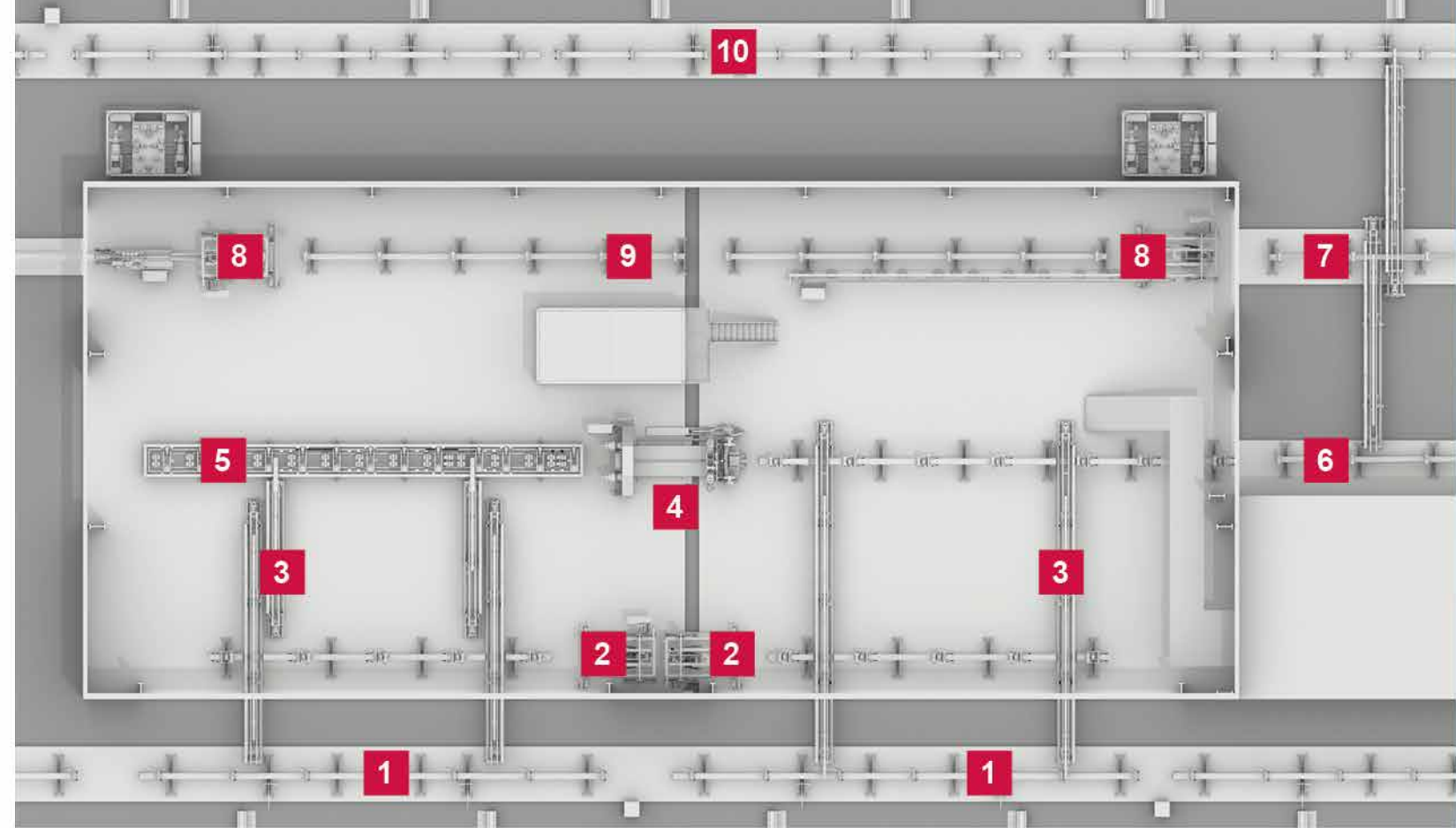
6 The ComCAM line conveyor transports the made-up stand out of the facility.



7 The stand is rolled over to the hands-free, drift-line conveyor, which transports it back inside the facility to the lance-drift/length-measurement station.



8 Thread protectors are removed from each end of the made-up stand by the automated thread-protector remover.



Weatherford clients can remotely monitor the automated makeup operations through a secure Internet connection.



9 Lance-drift/length-measurement station:

- a. The barcode scanner reads the barcode and sends the stand ID to drifting and tally control.
- b. The stand length is recorded by an automated laser system, capable of measuring pipe up to 96 ft long.
- c. The mechanized drift is performed.
- d. The stand ID in the TPC system database is updated with the recorded drift and tally.
- e. Thread protectors are replaced—without manual handling.
- f. The stand length and other specified data are painted onto the pipe.



10 The drift-line conveyor transports the stand out of the facility and over to the stand conveyor for storage until ready to ship.



Emergency stop buttons, located in the cabin and on all machinery, are readily available to halt an operation should an unsafe condition occur.

- ✓ Streamlined tubular selection and improved supply-chain efficiency
- ✓ Reduced tubular makeup and breakout costs through automation
- ✓ Readily available tubulars with acres of storage capacity
- ✓ Rapid delivery of tubular stands from our waterfront location
- ✓ Ready-to-run double or triple joints cut run times in half or more
- ✓ Tubular management services backed by tubular running experts
- ✓ Single-source efficiency removes headache of multiple vendors
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory storage, management and tubular planning services

Add up all of the advantages of our Port Fourchon facility

Weatherford in Port Fourchon is your exclusive single-source provider of tubular running and management services—from the pipe yard to the rotary table. We streamline tubular selection and improve supply-chain efficiency to reduce well-construction costs, accelerate production and mitigate risks. All of your tubular running needs and tubular data and management requirements can be met here.

More than a bucking facility

In addition to our bucking and makeup capabilities, we offer tubular services including:

- Float-equipment makeup
- Equipment storage
- Pipe loading/unloading in singles or stands
- Preslung pipe for safer transport, especially in rough waters
- Loading/unloading all downhole tools, crossover subs, pup joints, saver subs and stabilizers





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Weatherford's tubular management and offline services enable efficient running of tubulars, minimized wellsite costs and reduced NPT. To learn more about our field-proven technology and services, call an authorized Weatherford representative or visit weatherford.com/TRS.

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