



Cenovus

Case Study

powerblanket®

patented technology

The Ultimate Custom Heating Solution

Oil and gas companies face a lot of risks.

The purchase and maintenance of the necessary equipment is very costly and when damaged, often results in delayed or even shut down job sites. Exposure to really cold weather can cause equipment to freeze, costing a lot of money and time. One Canadian oil company knew about this risk, and took the necessary steps to avoid it.

Cenovus Energy faced the possibility of losing over \$8,000 of profit in a single day. At one location, it had the potential to fill 103 barrels of oil every day, at a profit of \$80 per barrel. If they did not plan properly for the cold weather they risked slowing their production or completely shutting down. Why? Something as simple as a frozen wellhead pressure transmitter.

If the transmitter froze, it could produce false pressure readings. Not only would Cenovus lose profit, they would also be spending extra money on repairs. Maintenance would cost at least \$86 an hour just to service the jobsite, not to mention the price of alternative heating methods. Something had to be done.

powerblanket

The Ultimate Custom Heating Solution



Cenovus turned to Industrial Electric & Instrumentation (IEI) for options. Cory Roysum, their purchasing and quotations manager, contacted Powerblanket to design and create a custom valve and transmitter heating solution.

Powerblanket set out to eliminate the risk of Cenovus losing money due to freezing. When the product was completed, the custom heating blanket wiped out both potential costs: the opportunity cost of not being able to produce product, and the maintenance cost of bringing in someone to thaw frozen pressure transmitters.

When compared with wellheads not equipped with heating blankets, there was no question that Powerblanket® heaters solved the problem.

- **Ambient temperature at time of test monitoring:**
-20C / -4F
- **Average temperature of line/flow pressure without Powerblanket:**
-10C / +14F
- **Average temperature of line/flow pressure with Powerblanket:**
+7C / +44F

The resulting product was a perfect fit,

and was in compliance with C1D2 hazardous location certification standards to boot. Once Cenovus outfitted their wellheads with the Powerblanket heaters, they no longer worried about problems with frozen transmitters. All of the wellheads were functional and there were zero incidents of freezing.

According to Mark Schneider, Coordinator of Field Production Operations for Cenovus Energy, Saskatchewan, Cenovus experienced much better run times last winter than previous winters despite last year's winter being much more severe. "This included minimizing production downtime and minimized need for steamers to service the sites, he said.

Like Cenovus, don't let the elements get the best of you. Contact us and find out what Powerblanket can do for your company. If you can build it, haul it, produce it, or store it, Powerblanket can heat it.

CONTACT US

Our **Custom Heaters**
are perfect for any industry