Jason Kenneth Frater

Workover & Well Engineer | Mechanical & Petroleum Engineer • Brisbane, QLD, Australia

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Summary

Mechanical & Petroleum Engineer with 15+ years across CSG and conventional operations. Broad expertise in well engineering (workovers, wireline, wellhead), well integrity, production optimisation,- and SCADA/automation. Experienced in maintenance, projects, and production operations, combining technical rigour with practical execution. Pragmatic, safety-led, and commercially focused, with proven ability to bridge engineering, operations, and business development. Skilled at applying programming, data science, and AI-driven automation to enhance compliance, reduce cost, and accelerate delivery.

Experience

Wells Engineer — Origin Energy — Integrated Gas Services Feb 2023 – Present

Brisbane, QLD

Provide engineering and operational support for completions, workovers, and well integrity across multiple rigs. Work closely with field and production teams to deliver innovative projects that reduce costs, improve efficiency, and maintain safety standards across all well operations.

- Execution of 2024 rig P&A campaign
- Formation stabilisation SME (Coho Matrix & CCC)
- Well integrity execution incl. bismuth, resin, patch placements
- BOP testing stewardship and safety support
- WellView/data analysis upgrades; reporting/dashboard improvements
- Automation of well integrity workflows (Python, SQL, Power BI)

Technical Sales Manager — Pro-Test Well Services Apr 2021 – Feb 2023

Brisbane, QLD

Combined technical expertise with business development to grow revenue and expand client base. Delivered tailored engineering solutions for well testing, completions, and downhole data, while leading key procurement and artificial lift projects.

- Grew revenue ~250% across existing portfolio
- Won new mining-sector clients
- Led procurement & artificial-lift design
- Managed Gove collapse monitoring & surface installation project
- Provided technical solutions for well testing/data/completions

Contract Work — Freelance (Frate Holdings Pty Ltd) Jul 2020 – Apr 2021

Various

Undertook short-term contracts delivering specialised oil and gas services. Supported well integrity assessments, hot tapping, and risk evaluation across multiple sites.

- Hot tapping services
- Well integrity services
- Well life risk assessment

Operations Manager — Galilee Energy Feb 2019 – Jun 2020

Brisbane, QLD

Led engineering and operations for pilot programs, overseeing completion design, production facilities,- and optimisation. Delivered new SCADA system in 12 weeks and managed workover programs for both vertical and lateral wells.

- Led production operations & engineering for glenaras pilot programs
- Workover design/execution (vertical & lateral | ESP, PCP, RRP)
- Production optimisation
- Delivered new SCADA system end-to-end (Design, commision & rollout)
- Budgeting, procurement, facilities/pipeline/wellhead design

Completions Engineer — Onshore D&C QLD (CSG) — Santos Ltd Feb 2018 – Feb 2019

Brisbane, QLD

Supported frac and rigless operations with program design, scheduling, and execution. Focused on optimising workflows and delivering efficient wellhead, wireline, and coiled tubing operations.

- Program development & execution for wellhead, wireline, coil tubing, rigless ops
- Executed Coil Tubing P&A; Santos' first Foam-X formation stabilisation
- Streamlined workflows enabling record annual rigless job count

Operations Team Leader — Central Fields (Conventional) — Santos Ltd Sep 2016 – Feb 2018

Cooper Basin, SA/QLD

Led 18 operator-maintainers in Santos' largest gas field, producing ~145 MMscf/day. During the 2015 industry downturn, sustained production continuity and workforce efficiency despite reduced budgets and headcount. Guided the team through a cost-reduction and field-decline phase by aligning workforce skills with corporate debt-reduction goals while sustaining field performance. Delivered projects that reduced third-party outsourcing by leveraging Oracle CMMS data and applying practical rationalisation.

- Led 18 O&M staff; ~145 MMSCFD field and 300+ wells and oil production of ~500 bbl/d
- Cost-reduction projects using Oracle CMMS data; compliance stewardship

Maintenance Team Leader — Cross Border (Conventional) — Santos Ltd Mar 2016 – Sep 2016

Cooper Basin

Managed maintenance scheduling, budgeting, and coordination of mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation teams to minimise downtime and align with long-term shutdown plans.

- Coordinated ME&I maintenance; shutdown scheduling; budgeting

Operations Engineer — Cross Border & SWQ (Conventional) — Santos Ltd Jun 2014 – Mar 2016

Cooper Basin

Provided frontline engineering support for 70 MMSCFD gas and 1100 bbl/d oil. Drove deviation management, commissioning, process safety, and multi-well optimisation.

- Front-line engineering for ~70 MMSCFD gas & 1100 bbl/d oil
- Deviation management, activity plans, commissioning, process safety lead

Team Leader — Operations Engineering (CSG) — Santos Ltd (Energy NSW) Nov 2011 – Jun 2014

NSW/QLD

Led multidisciplinary engineering and field teams delivering workovers, water management, and production optimisation. Oversaw civil projects and maintained responsibility for budgets, process safety, and graduate mentorship.

- Led 5 engineers, 6 supervisors; workover budget ~$18M
- Integrity planning, water mgmt, pilot optimisation, civil projects
- PTW authority; graduate mentorship; MOC leadership

Field Engineer / Field Supervisor (CSG) — Santos Ltd (Eastern Star Gas) Jun 2008 – Nov 2011

NSW/QLD

Delivered field engineering and supervision for CSG operations. Managed well control systems, production monitoring, water treatment, and SCADA, while providing leadership in EH&S and community engagement.

- Well control systems, production monitoring, RO operations
- SCADA/instrumentation upkeep; field projects & commissioning
- Community/JV partner site tours; land access support

Skills

Core: Workovers & Completions inc Underbalanced Operations • Well Integrity & Pressure Control • Field Production & Optimisation • Artificial Lift (PCP, ESP, Beam, LRP) • SCADA & Automation • Process Safety • Maintenance Planning & Execution • Compression & Pipeline Networks • Water Treatment & RO Systems • Fault Finding & Troubleshooting

Data: Python • R • SQL • VBA/Macros • Reporting & Dashboards

Tools: Databricks • Snowflake • WellView • Power BI • Power Automate • Excel (advanced) • GitHub

Education

Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics QUT • 2022

Masters of Engineering Science (Petroleum Engineering) UNSW • 2015–2018

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering University of Sydney • 2003–2007

Certifications

- IWCF Level 4 — Well Intervention Pressure Control (Wireline, Snubbing, Coiled Tubing)
- PetroSkills — G4 Gas Processing; ALS Artificial Lift Systems
- Weatherford — Artificial Lift & Production Optimisation
- C-FER — PC Pump
- GE — Wellhead Training
- IChemE — Process Safety
- Enerflex — Gas Engines & Compressors
- HAZOP (Basic)
- Senior First Aid
- ERT Training
- RO Systems — Operations, Maintenance, Troubleshooting (David H Paul)
- Media Presentation (Cosway)
- Licence — QLD Heavy Rigid