

RAPID TOP HOLE™ SYSTEM

THE ‘NO GUMBO’ DRILLING FLUID SYSTEM

Rapid Drilling Products can remove the concerns normally held when drilling in areas known for severe ‘gumbo’ formations. Controlled drilling with low penetration rates, bit balling, packed BHA, and plugged flowlines due to ‘gumbo’ are now problems that are easily handled with the Rapid Top Hole system.

Rapid Top Hole incorporates the use of a proprietary blend of polymers to produce a drilling fluid that virtually eliminates all problems normally faced when drilling geological formations with hydratable native clays. These types of clay formations are commonly referred to in the Industry as ‘gumbo’ formations.

Here is how Rapid Top Hole controls gumbo sections:

- The polymer encapsulates the clay as soon as it is cut from the face of the formation, preventing the clay from hydrating in the presence of the water-based fluids.
- Due to the low coefficient of friction exhibited by the polymer, the cuttings do not stick to each other or form agglomerated balls that continue to build as they travel up the annulus to the surface.
- Given the fact that the polymer has a natural affinity for metal surfaces, it has a tendency to coat the BHA and reduce any buildup of clay particles. The Top Hole system reduces the tendency for bit balling.
- The long chain nature of the polymer produces a fluid that demonstrates a greater carrying capacity and cleans the hole extremely well.
- The Top Hole system has proven effective in drilling extremely gauged holes.
- Top Hole can be used in fresh water, seawater and brine based drilling fluids.

The Top Hole system has been used with great success in the Gulf of Mexico from the Main Pass area to Padre Island, and in other regions onshore in Texas, Louisiana and California.