

Safety First!



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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

African
Union



Bundesanstalt für
Geowissenschaften
und Rohstoffe

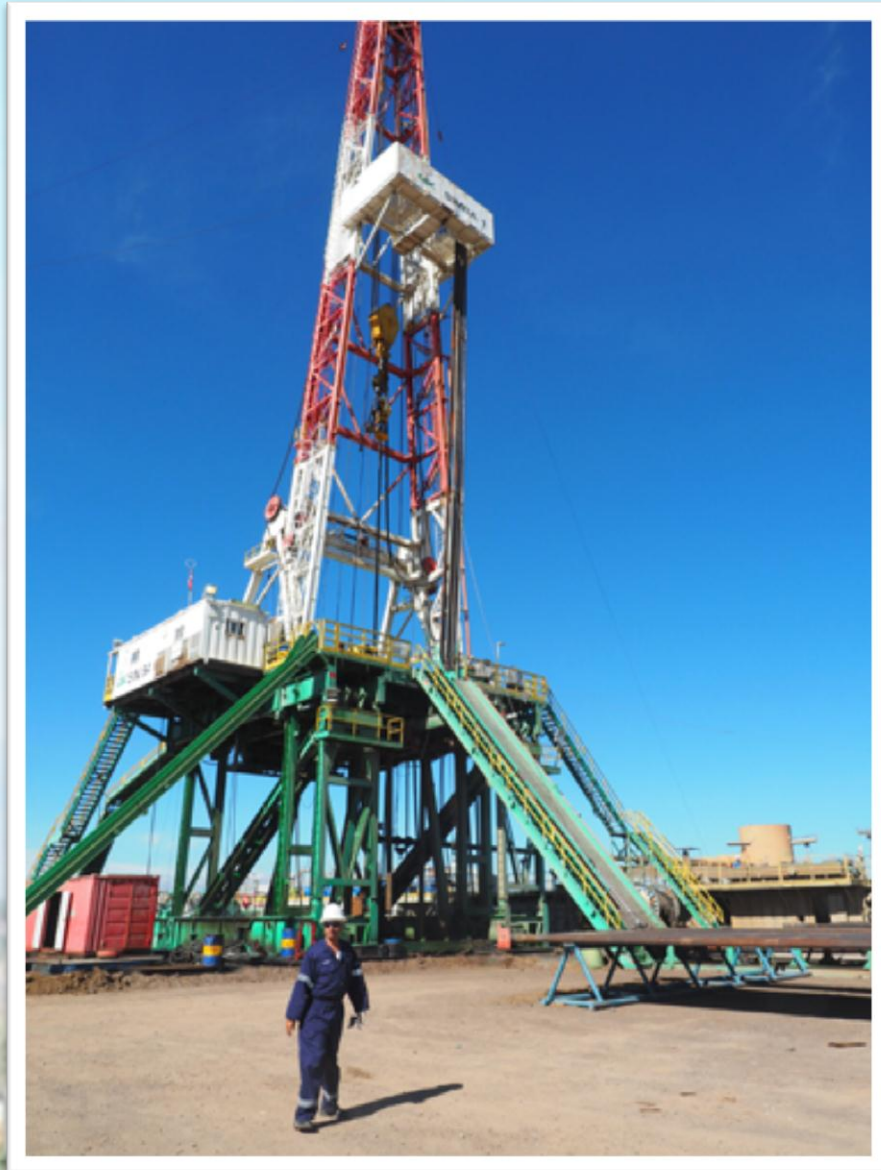
R. Gordon Bloomquist, Ph.D.

Geothermal Consultant

Safety First

It all starts with good planning!!!





It begins with construction of an adequate drilling pad and an appropriate sump.

Would consider this as an ideal location
to build your pad?



Well – several years ago, this was an area chosen.



And this is what could happen – where did the drill rig go???



Once you begin drilling, your first line of defense is the Blowout Preventer (BOP).



And this is the control unit on the Massarenti 7000 that drilled LA-9 and LA-10.



Anyone volunteering to activate the controls on that BOP if this happens?



Well blow out



Well blow out
Imperial Valley, California 1998

Would you be comfortable trusting this BOP?



But the BOP is just step one in bringing a well back under control – we now need to “kill” the well.





Killing a well requires substantial amounts of water available on site:

A minimum of 2000 liters per minute.


It is vital that storage is provided through the use of any open pond (as shown).

Or through the use of above ground tanks,
such as these at Menengai in Kenya.



Whatever storage system you choose, please remember that it is not just about storage, but there is a vital need for adequate pumping capacity as well.



The background of the slide is a photograph of an oil drilling rig in a desert environment. The rig is a tall, lattice-structured tower with a red top section. It is surrounded by various pieces of equipment, including a red crane-like structure and several white and orange containers. The landscape is arid with sparse green and brown vegetation. In the distance, there are rolling hills and a clear blue sky with some light clouds.

So with that short emphasis on safety that you will hear over and over the next two days, I will turn the program over to Sam Abraham.

Remember it is all about employing Best Practices in all aspects of drilling.

Taking short cuts is always a risky idea.

Making poor decisions can cost you your project and maybe your life or the life of one of your colleagues.

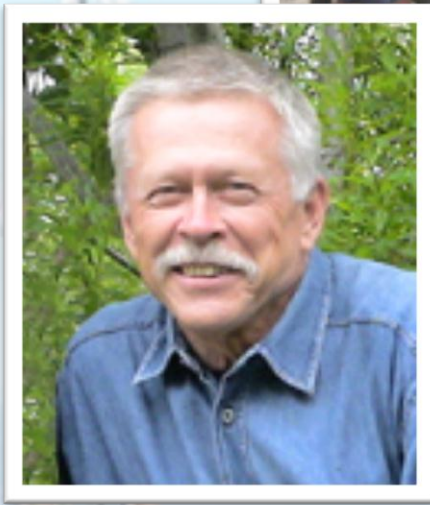
Los Angeles Times

June 15, 1991

Blowout Shuts Geothermal Unit in Hawaii

Hawaii state officials ordered a geothermal company to halt all drilling Friday after a well blowout spewed toxic gas and routed 75 people from their home on the island of Hawaii.





Thank You!

R. Gordon Bloomquist, Ph.D.

A tall, yellow and red geothermal drilling rig stands prominently on the left side of the image. The rig is a lattice structure with a red top section. In the background, there is a large industrial facility with various pipes and structures, set against a backdrop of rolling hills and a clear blue sky with light clouds. The foreground is filled with green, scrubby vegetation.

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