

Merla Positioning Tool

Slickline Downhole Tools

The Merla Positioning Tool was introduced to the industry in 1973 and has been in continuous use throughout the world since that time. To complement the HDTP and HDTMP series gas lift mandrels, Merla developed the HDTP and HDTMP positioning tools to make wireline work more efficient, particularly in deviated wells.

The Merla HDTP or HDTMP positioning tools, when used with HDTP or HDTMP mandrels, perform three very important functions, as shown below:

- First, the positioning tool locates the mandrel
- Then, it orients itself into the proper azimuth
- Finally, it offsets the gas lift valve (or pulling tool) laterally into position over the mandrel pocket for setting (or pulling) the valve.

MERLA POSITIONING (KICKOVER) TOOL								
Nominal Size	Туре	Main Body OD	Tubing ID	Fishing Neck	Connection Thread (Top)			
2 3/8"	HD-TMP	1.855"	1.855"	1.375"	15/16"			
2 7/8"	HD-TMP	2.280"	2.441"	1.375"	15/16"			
3 1/2"	HD-TMP	2.730"	2.992"	1.375"	15/16"			
4"	HD-TMP	3.297"	3.548"	2.312"	1 1/16"			
4 1/2"	HD-TMP	3.730"	3.958"	2.312"	1 1/16"			
2 7/8"	HD-TP	2.280"	2.441"	1.375"	15/16"			
3 1/2"	HD-TP	2.730"	2.992"	1.375"	15/16"			
4 1/2"	HD-TP	3.730"	3.958"	2.312"	1 1/16"			
5 1/2"	HD-TP	4.485"	Casing	2.312"	1 1/16"			

MERLA POSITIONING (KICKOVER) TOOL								
Nominal Size (L)	Type Used With	Main Body OD	Fishing Neck	Connection Thread (Top)				
7"	HD-TP	1.180"	1.187"	15/16"				





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Operation of the tool is not complicated, and design features have been incorporated to make the tool easy to service and practical to use. For example, only the shear pin in the locator key must be replaced after each trip into the well. Pin replacement requires no disassembly and may be performed easily with the tool hanging in the lubricator. As a result, running and pulling can be easily and rapidly accomplished.

Once the locator pin has been sheared, as the valve is either set or pulled, the tool will lock into a rigid position and may then be raised or lowered through other mandrels - a very important feature in the event of a fishing job. The tool's cross-sectional outside profile combined with an internal porting arrangement allows for ample fluid by-pass, which ensures rapid running and pulling.

Each positioning tool is designed to operate in one specific tubing size and for one specific valve size. The running and pulling procedure and principles of operation are the same for all models.

Merla positioning tools can be run with various models of Merla, Otis and Camco running and pulling tools.

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