Casing Extension and Wellhead Replacement Project For Re-abandonment of Oil Well
This case study is related to onsite work completed by Hot-Hed S.A. Argentina in Neuquén, Argentina for a major European upstream / downstream energy company.

Hot-Hed Argentina was contracted to recondition an oil well which was abandoned many years before using the method that was widely available and accepted at that time. Abandonment of the oil well was originally completed by pumping cement over the cellar, covering the top of the casing.

Hot-Hed later returned to repair the problematic wells by cementing them in the then-accepted manner of well abandonment - from the inside out. In order to fulfill the standards of then-current oil well abandonment, old cement was removed and new casing was added to the older casing, extending its length sufficiently for the cementing equipment and tools that were used.

Hot-Hed crews also cleaned the existing oil well, extended the casing, installed a wellhead and tightened (nipple-up) the union between the 9 5/8" wellhead and the 9 5/8" to 7" reducer. All of the tasks were completed with a 'cherry picker' style crane and ultra-portable equipment (i.e. Diesel Welding Machines and Air Compressors, etc.) which make these types of projects possible without the use of a derrick.

Hot-Hed S.A. was later called out to nipple-down the sections that were installed and to recuperate the wellhead for future use.
AT THIS POINT THE WELL WAS HANDED OVER TO HOT-HED

HOT-HED ARGENTINA CREWS BROKE OUT THE REMAINING CEMENT WITH A PNEUMATIC CHISEL, REMOVED THE PIECES AND CLEANED THE CASING FOR REWORKING
A ring shaped piece of flat iron is used to seal the gap between the two outer casing.

In this project they are the 13 3/8” and the 9 5/8”.
MEASURING TWICE...

HOT-HED CREWS MARKING THE 9 5/8” CASING FOR THE FINAL CUT
SEPARATING THE 7” CASING FROM THE 9 5/8” CASING

THE HOT-HED HOT-BEV’LR® CONDUCTOR PIPE & CASING CUTTER BEVELLING BAND IN PLACE WHERE THE CUT WILL BE MADE
THE 7” CASING EXTENSION IS READY TO BE WELDED TOGETHER

IN THIS PROJECT THEY ARE THE 13 3/8” AND THE 9 5/8”

THE 9 5/8” CASING BEVELED AND READY FOR EXTENSION
ENSURING THAT THE 7” CASING IS ABSOLUTELY LEVEL IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE EXTENSION PROJECT AS A REDUCER WILL UNITE THE 9 5/8” SECTION AND THE 7” SECTION
JOINING THE EXISTING 7” CASING AND THE NEW EXTENSION PIECE THAT WAS CUT TO SIZE IN THE FIELD
EXTENDING THE 9 5/8” CASING

THE 9 5/8” CASING IS EXTENDED AND WELDED IN PLACE ACCORDING TO THE DESIRED HEIGHT PLANNED FOR THE WELLHEAD
LOWERING THE WELLHEAD FOR INSTALLATION

THE 9 5/8” WELLHEAD IS LOWERED ONTO THE 9 5/8” CASING IN PREPARATION FOR WELDING
ONCE THE WELLHEAD IS IN PLACE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT IT IS PERFECTLY LEVEL SO THAT THE EXTENSION INSIDE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY CENTRED
THE 9 5/8” WELLHEAD LEVELLED, THOROUGHLY TACK-WELDED IN PLACE

THE WELLHEAD IS THEN WELDED SECURELY TO THE 9 5/8” CASING
THE PACKER IS PLACED IN THE ANULUS OF THE 9 5/8” WELLHEAD
WITH THE PACKER AND STEEL RING IN PLACE, THE 9 5/8” TO 7” REDUCING HEAD IS LOWERED INTO PLACE
NIPPLE UP

FINAL STEPS IN THE PROJECT

THE BOLTS ARE INSTALLED AND HOT-HED’S LOCK-WELL™ WELLHEAD SECURITY NUTS ARE TIGHTENED USING OUR HYDRAULIC TORQUING EQUIPMENT
INCREASING CLIENTS’ SAFETY, REVENUE & PRODUCTION FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS

24 OFFICES WORLDWIDE
Pressurized Hot Work Habitat™
Press-Test™ Wellhead Pressure Test
Hot-Hed® Preheater/Postheater System
Hot-Bev'lr® Conductor & Casing Cutter
Hot-Chek® Weld Integrity Testing System
Hot-Jnt® Pipe & Casing Pre-Heater
Lock-Well™ Wellhead Security Nuts
Mud-Saver® Drill Mud Bucket
Hot Bolting Service

Hydraulic Bolt Tightening Service
Hydraulic Bolt Tensioning Service
Cold Cutting Service
Hot Tapping Service
Diesel Piling Hammer Rentals
Fabrication & Welding Service
Wellhead Installation Service
Hydrostatic Testing Service
Hydraulic Nut Splitters