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Claims

What is claimed is:

1. An assembly, comprising:
a dehydrator screen (i) configured to be positioned exterior to a base pipe in a wellbore and (ii) adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward a main screen that is associated with the base pipe, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a plurality of openings and is formed from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material.
2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a first end that is sealed and a second end that is sealed.
3. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises an elongated element formed from the stamped metal,
wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.
4. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the plurality of punched openings in the outer surface of the elongated element is configured for allowing fluid to enter and exit the dehydrator screen.

5. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings.

6. The assembly of claim 5, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the mesh element, the second elongated element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings,

wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.

7. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the main screen comprises at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in the wellbore,

wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable exterior to the at least two main screens in the wellbore.

8. An assembly comprising:

a base pipe;

at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in a wellbore; and

a dehydrator screen comprising:

an elongated element;

a plurality of openings in the elongated element; and

at least two sealed ends,

wherein the dehydrator screen is (i) positionable exterior to part of the base pipe and the main screens in the wellbore and (ii) adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward at least one of the main screens.

9. The assembly of claim 8, wherein the elongated element is made from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material.

10. The assembly of claim 8, wherein the elongated element comprises stamped metal,

wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.

11. The assembly of claim 10, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings.

12. The assembly of claim 11, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the

mesh element, the second elongated element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings,

wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.

13. A dehydrator screen comprising:

an elongated element;

a plurality of openings in a surface of the elongated element; and

sealed ends,

wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable in a wellbore exterior to a base pipe and a main screen associated with the base pipe, wherein the dehydrator screen is adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward the main screen.

14. The dehydrator screen of claim 13, wherein the elongated element is made from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material.

15. The dehydrator screen of claim 13, wherein the elongated element comprises stamped metal,

wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.

16. The dehydrator screen of claim 15, wherein the stamped metal comprises a metal strip, wherein the plurality of punched openings comprise louvered-type stamped openings.

17. The dehydrator screen of claim 15, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings.

18. The dehydrator screen of claim 17, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the mesh element, the second elongated element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings,

wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.

19. The dehydrator screen of claim 13, wherein the main screen comprises at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in the wellbore,

wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable exterior to the at least two main screens in the wellbore.

20. The dehydrator screen of claim 13, wherein the sealed ends comprise plates welded on each end.

What is claimed is:

1. An assembly, comprising:
a dehydrator screen configured to be positioned exterior to a base pipe in a wellbore, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises: a first end that is sealed and a second end that is sealed, an elongated element formed from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material, a plurality of openings in the elongated element, and a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward a main screen that is associated with the base pipe.
2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the elongated element is formed from the stamped metal, wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.
3. The assembly of claim 2, wherein the plurality of punched openings in the outer surface of the elongated element is configured for allowing fluid to enter and exit the dehydrator screen.
4. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the mesh element, the second elongated element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings, wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.
5. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the main screen comprises at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in the wellbore, wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable exterior to the at least two main screens in the wellbore.
6. An assembly, comprising:
a base pipe; at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in a wellbore; and a dehydrator screen comprising: an elongated element; a plurality of openings in the elongated element; a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings; and at least two sealed ends, wherein the dehydrator screen is (i) positionable exterior to part of the base pipe and the main screens in the wellbore and (ii) adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward at least one of the main screens via at least the second plurality of openings.
7. The assembly of claim 6, wherein the elongated element is made from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material.
8. The assembly of claim 6, wherein the elongated element comprises stamped metal, wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.
9. The assembly of claim 6, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the mesh element, the second elongated

element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings, wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.

10. A dehydrator screen comprising:

an elongated element; a plurality of openings in a surface of the elongated element; a mesh element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the elongated element, the mesh element comprising a second plurality of openings; and sealed ends, wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable in a wellbore exterior to a base pipe and a main screen associated with the base pipe, wherein the dehydrator screen is adapted for directing fluid from a gravel pack slurry exterior to the base pipe toward the main screen via at least the second plurality of openings.

11. The dehydrator screen of claim 10, wherein the elongated element is made from at least one of stamped metal, wire wrap or mesh material.

12. The dehydrator screen of claim 10, wherein the elongated element comprises stamped metal, wherein the plurality of openings comprise a plurality of punched openings in an outer surface of the elongated element.

13. The dehydrator screen of claim 12, wherein the stamped metal comprises a metal strip, wherein the plurality of punched openings comprise louvered-type stamped openings.

14. The dehydrator screen of claim 10, wherein the dehydrator screen comprises a second elongated element circumferentially surrounding at least part of the mesh element, the second elongated element comprising a third plurality of openings that are punched openings, wherein the plurality of punched openings, the second plurality of openings, and the third plurality of openings are adapted to allow fluid to flow to an inner region defined by the elongated element.

15. The dehydrator screen of claim 10, wherein the main screen comprises at least two main screens configured for circumferentially surrounding portions of the base pipe in the wellbore, wherein the dehydrator screen is positionable exterior to the at least two main screens in the wellbore.

16. The dehydrator screen of claim 10, wherein the sealed ends comprise plates welded on each end.