

ISOLATION WASHPIPE FOR EARTH WELL COMPLETIONS
AND METHOD FOR USE IN GRAVEL PACKING A WELL

ABSTRACT

5 A zonal isolation washpipe system for isolating
a production zone which intersects a wellbore from
communication with the surface comprises a seal assembly
(212) adapted for sealing engagement within the bore of a
well packer (225) disposed about the external
10 circumference of one end of a tubular washpipe (180), a
releasable connector system on the other end of the
washpipe which provides means for retrieval of the
washpipe from the wellbore is placed in sealing
engagement by a releasable telescoping expansion joint
15 (90) which is resistant to undesired extension. To place
the isolated zone on production, a tubing perforator is
lowered into the bore of the washpipe and perforates the
washpipe at a location adjacent previously formed
perforations in the casing. Alternatively sleeve valves
20 (80) are included in the system to open the washpipe to
the flow of well fluids. A method for gravel packing a
well using the system is also described.

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