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SLB ChampionX nano-chemistry doubles scale treatment life

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SLB has launched a nano-enabled production chemistry portfolio under its ChampionX brand, targeting mature well performance. The first product released is a scale squeeze treatment that more than doubled treatment life in offshore deployments, according to the company.

Scale management is a persistent and costly challenge in mature offshore fields, where conventional squeeze treatments require frequent reapplication, increasing intervention frequency and associated downtime. By extending treatment life beyond what standard chemistries deliver, SLB's nano-enabled formulation aims to reduce the number of well interventions required over a given production period, with direct implications for operational expenditure and production uptime.

The nano-enabled approach works by modifying how active chemistry is retained and released within the reservoir or near-wellbore zone, allowing treatment effects to persist longer before the next squeeze cycle is needed. While SLB has not disclosed full technical specifications for the product, the claim of more than doubling treatment life in offshore settings represents a material performance step if replicated consistently across different field conditions.

Mature offshore fields across Africa face exactly the category of challenges this technology targets. As fields age, water cut rises, scale risk intensifies, and operators face the dual pressure of sustaining output while managing lifting costs. Production chemistry solutions that extend intervention intervals are therefore of direct

commercial interest to operators running late-life offshore assets, where intervention vessel costs and rig time represent significant budget lines.

SLB has not disclosed which specific offshore regions or operators were involved in the deployments referenced in the launch announcement, nor has the company provided information on pricing, commercial availability timelines, or whether African fields were among the trial locations. The portfolio is presented as the first step in a broader nano-enabled chemistry programme, suggesting additional products are planned.

The launch marks SLB's continued integration of ChampionX capabilities — acquired in 2024 — into its production chemistry and well services offering. ChampionX had an established presence in production chemicals prior to the acquisition, and SLB's scale and global field network provides a broader deployment platform for the technology.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a product launch with no contract, tender, or FID attached; Norwegian service companies active in production chemistry or well intervention should monitor SLB-ChampionX's commercial rollout and assess whether the technology competes with or complements their own mature-field chemistry offerings. Companies providing coiled tubing, wireline, or chemical injection services on African offshore assets should track which operators adopt the new squeeze treatment, as extended treatment life will affect intervention scheduling and chemical supply contracts. No procurement outreach is warranted at this stage.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Well Services:** Monitor how extended squeeze treatment intervals affect demand for intervention vessel and coiled tubing campaigns on African mature fields where Norwegian well service companies are active.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Track operator adoption on FPSO-tied fields; fewer chemical squeeze interventions could affect subsea intervention schedules and chemical injection system utilisation.

- **Service:** Production chemistry suppliers should assess whether nano-enabled scale treatments displace conventional squeeze programmes they currently supply to African offshore operators.
- **Drilling:** Reduced intervention frequency on mature wells may shift rig utilisation patterns; drilling contractors should monitor how mature-field chemistry advances affect workover demand.

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