



How Horizontal Drilling Works

Voiceover

At Chevron, our experts use horizontal drilling to drill down thousands of feet before turning the bit horizontally to drill out thousands of feet in the targeted production zone. This approach efficiently recovers more resources with a smaller environmental footprint than drilling multiple vertical wells. According to the Energy Information Administration, horizontal drilling has been used across the industry intermittently since the 1920s and became commercially viable in the 1980s.

Enabled by steerable tools, horizontal drilling provides our teams with better access to areas of reservoirs, thereby increasing production. More recently, directional drilling has been pushed further with great results: Directional and extended-reach drilling have allowed operators to access reservoirs far from the drilling location.