# Coiled Tubing Operator

You’re a reel expert. That’s because you drive and operate a vehicle with an enormous reel around which long metal pipe is spooled.

You use this coil tubing in oil and gas wells to do everything from stimulating the flow of oil or natural gas to removing obstacles in a drilling operation.

**Coiled Tubing Operator**

Coil tubing is a tool of the trade. It can be used for a number of things, like pumping fluids into a well, removing obstructions from out of the well and measuring well conditions.

It’s often an opportunity to combine brainpower with physical stamina. For example, if a piece of equipment is lodged, you could use coil tubing to fish the object out. If the drill pipe gets stuck, you could find yourself safely suspended by a crane attaching the coil tubing to the drill pipe to dislodge it. You might use coil tubing to pump cement, nitrogen or other drilling fluids into the well.

An important part of your job is setting up and ensuring the equipment is serviced and works well.

**What does this career look like?**

Your job is to set up the equipment and to monitor the operation, watching depth and weight indicators to ensure nothing is getting stuck and everything is where it needs to be.

Coil tubing can get pretty high tech. You might use it for logging measurements, which includes installing tools at the end of the coil so they can read what’s going on underground.

Sometimes you might find yourself conducting cleanouts, which includes removing sand or debris from the wellbore that has built up over time. Specifically, you might find yourself doing the following:

- Assisting with rigging in and other functions at the job site as required
- Driving and operating the coil tubing unit or support equipment (fluid pump or crane)
- Performing regular maintenance checks on equipment while following safe work procedures
- Completing work orders and compliance paperwork associated with job duties
- Monitoring well control parameters and calculations before and during job applications
- Helping other workers do their job safely

**What would I do?**

A high school diploma (or equivalent) is typically required. Basic mechanical skills and heavy hauling or off-road driving experience are assets to the job.

Employees must also pass a pre-employment physical assessment and drug test.

**Licensing**

- A Class 1 driver’s licence (with air brake endorsement) and a clean driving record are required.
- Standard and emergency first aid
- H2S Alive
- Oilfield Driver Awareness

**Health & Safety Training**

**How do I get here?**

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What competencies do I need?

You have the ability to troubleshoot problems and the physical stamina to perform tasks quickly. You apply these skills and knowledge to the job:

**ENTRY LEVEL**
- Mathematics
- Mechanics
- Maintaining equipment
- Monitoring operations
- Active listening

**SENIOR LEVEL**
- Critical thinking
- Selecting equipment
- Monitoring operations
- Installing equipment
- Planning and organizing

What can I expect?

Typically employed in the oil and gas services sector of the oil and gas industry, you’ll be working longer shifts in remote locations and in a variety of weather conditions. You may find yourself working in onshore or offshore environments.

How can I learn more?

To find out more about the roles related to a Coiled Tubing Operator and other careers in the oil and gas industry, visit the Careers in Oil + Gas online tool at careersinoilandgas.com.

You could move into roles such as:
- Other well servicing operator roles including:
  - Service Rig Operator
  - Snubbing Operator
  - Wireline Operator
- Technical Salesperson
- Dispatcher

You could transfer to different sectors such as:
- Forestry and logging
- Mining and quarrying
- Heavy and civil engineering construction
- Truck transportation