Compiled from:
A timeline history of major logging companies

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Comments:
The two pages here are intended to show, in a general way, how the major wireline and logging while drilling (LWD) companies merged over the years. The displays are meant to help people who find an unfamiliar name on a log in the files, and give them an idea of which company they might contact for more information. The displays are not meant to be exactly accurate in the times of creation or mergers of companies, or in some cases, accurate in company names.

...Wireline... shows the wireline companies over time. Schlumberger has remained independent and largely on its own, while Baker Atlas, in contrast, has seen a great deal of mergers and name changes. Halliburton and Weatherford have undergone some mergers and name changes, but not nearly as many as Baker Atlas.

...LWD... shows the merger of LWD companies over the same time period. The pattern of mergers and of the number of companies is much smaller than in the wireline case, although, once again, Baker Hughes INTEQ, the parent company of Baker Atlas, is the most active of the major players in terms of mergers and acquisitions. Schlumberger used the name Anadrill for its LWD services for a while, and that name may be still used in countries outside of the United States.

When Halliburton bought Sperry-Sun Drilling Services, Halliburton was required by government regulators to divest some of their own LWD holdings, which was done under the name Pathfinder.

Some history...
Wireline logging started in 1927, growing out of the surface electrical prospecting business of Conrad and Marcel Schlumberger. Early measurements were electrical in nature, but soon grew to acoustic and nuclear, mostly through the efforts of other companies.

While LWD patents began appearing in the 1940’s, commercial services did not appear until the 1970’s, as it took that long for the technology to catch up to the patentable ideas for the services.

All major logging companies have both wireline and LWD/MWD divisions. LWD initially borrowed the physics of the measurements from wireline, and later, wireline borrowed the engineering technology from LWD to make wireline measurements more compact and more robust. Both wireline and LWD technology continue to improve as sensor, transmission, and data storage and processing capabilities continue to develop.

This document is intended to be updated periodically as necessary to include new and corrected information.

Questions and comments about this document are welcomed and encouraged. Please contact Dan Krygowski at The Discovery Group; DanKrygowski@Discovery-group.com.