Company Man: He knows everything there is to know about everything. Usually has at least 90 years of experience. He has personally drilled the deepest well, been on the worst blowout ever, and is also the world’s greatest lover. He thinks everyone is really dumb, except himself. He thinks that most pushers can’t carry his water can, but at the same time has to have someone there to help him turn on his computer. When something bad happens, he tells everyone he knew it would 3 weeks ago. Has a unique way of knowing who to put the blame on. He is usually too much in debt and when he reads about layoffs in the oil industry, he has nightmares about it. He’s always saying consultants are getting paid too much money and would really like to be one, but he knows there isn’t anyone in their right mind that would hire him. He prays every night that he’ll win the lottery.

Consultant: Over-paid and under worked. Afraid he is running out of oil companies to work for. He is always dreaming of his glory days. Tells everyone who will listen that he was his company’s troubleshooter before it went broke or was bought out and everyone was fired. He started his career as a mud engineer and learned the company man’s business by hanging around the office and answering the phone when the company man and the Toolpusher went to breakfast. Got his first company man job in the boom of ’78. Has worked all over the world and been held hostage 5 times. Has been over to Omar Khadafi’s vacation villa to discuss world problems. He say’s he’s a good golfer and has been married 2 or 3 times and tells everyone he knows how to avoid paying taxes.
Drilling Superintendent: He’s the company man’s boss and always an A&M graduate petroleum engineer. He has ended up in this position because of his seniority. He’s the older engineer by at least 12-14 years. He gets the blame for everything because the people working under him, some how or the other, get him to make the wrong, final decision at 2:30 in the morning. He gets out of the office by 4 PM but doesn’t get home until 9. He tells his wife to tell anyone that calls that he isn’t in so the guys that work for him wait until 2:30 to call because they know he will be the one to answer the phone. He is usually the fall guy for anything bad that happens and even his bosses don’t like him, and they will never fire him because they will always need a fall guy. By the age of 58, they will need new livers and suffer from Alzheimer’s and still don’t have the big boat they always dreamed of.

Oil Company President: The Big Kahuna, Ole Fuzzy Nuts. He puts all the blame on old super drill. He never liked him anyway. He feels the people under him are all incompetent. His heroes are Caesar, Napoleon, and Adolph Hitler. He is always a very good golfer and that’s about all he does. He would rather shoot employees than fire them. He has few friends and no family. He drives a Lexus and burns the motor up because he didn’t check the oil. He’s always running out of gas. He believes he should be API President for life. He also wishes he could do drugs but doesn’t know where to buy them. He really likes Hillary and would live to see her in short-shorts.

Petroleum Engineer: He is a graduate of Texas A&M and the oil company he now works for is the same company his father retired
from. He is always 26 years old and he also has a pretty wife. He thinks every job is very easy and there is never a reason for problems on the rig. He knows the stock market but is always broke. He buys his clothes at Dillard’s but shops at Wal-Mart after midnight. His biggest fear is his co-workers finding out about his Wal-Mart shopping. He thinks he can run the company better than present management and has read all the books on Scientology.

OIM: That’s short for Offshore Installation Manager. He’s really only a glorified Toolpusher that screwed up and got promoted. He tells the Toolpusher he knows everything and worries a lot about the workboats and crew boats. He’s been to every drilling school there is and is either a great fisherman or a greatest hunter on the side. Tries to make everyone think he knows how to use a computer and does not like his superintendent. He doesn’t like him for something that happened when they roughnecked together. He thinks he should be superintendent and that all company men are stupid. On land he is god, or at least he thinks he is, offshore he is Buddha. He dreams of owning a drilling company and showing the whole world he can drill deeper wells faster than anybody else. He always talks bad about the company man and how he always has to keep him out of trouble. He dreams of becoming a company man so he can drive a company car and get coveralls from all service hands. Sometimes has a little dog that likes to hump everyone’s leg.

Barge Master: He is really a nobody. Has to ask the OIM what to do. Worries about what movies are coming on after 1:00 in the morning. He hopes the satellite is working well because he doesn’t want to fix
it. He more than likely hauled pulpwood sometime in his life. This person knows how to change the satellite receiver system and is in charge of all the football pools. He dreams of the New Orleans Saints going to the super bowl. Doesn’t own coveralls or steel toe shoes and doesn’t have a clue what a drilling rig really does.

Driller: He’s worked every rig in the fleet. Packing a chip on his shoulder because he thinks he should be promoted to pusher by now. He isn’t kin to the pusher but he knows the pusher’s wife really, really well.

Derrickman: Gets paid a quarter more per hour and thinks he’s getting rich. He’s young and strong, but also quite stupid. Usually he’s the driller’s cousin.

Floorhand: Was a roustabout but got his big break at roughnecking because the real roughneck got locked up and couldn’t make it to work, and he’s the pusher’s nephew.

Roustabout: A real roughneck want to be, but usually too dumb to become one. Usually good at moving stuff around.

Mechanic: This position is only on offshore rigs. He’s an old motorman who can no longer lift his little toolbox, but he got the job because he
knows the superintendent. He gave the superintendent his first job on a drilling rig way back when. No kin to anyone on the rig and says he likes it that way just fine.

Motorman: He’s too old to pull slips but knows how to fix the Kelly spinner. He has his own little toolbox. He’s the pusher’s uncle.

Crane Operator: Has many responsibilities, however, primary responsibility is checking the fish trap. Constantly in search of an above average roustabout to train to run the crane so all he has to do is stand around, stay clean and talk about the camp. Most of the time he is related to someone in the office.

Dispatcher: Too lazy to work at a real job and has been around the world 5 times. Claims he knows the president, or at least the man-in-charge, of every oilfield related company in the oil patch. All he talks about is going to work for production and winning the lottery.

Safety Man: He knows how to read, write, use a computer and has the ability to look really important when the helicopter lands. The rig can’t operate without him. He can also change the satellite receiver. Always worried about how much people weigh.

Medic: Does a combination of 2 of the above listed and 95% of the rigs paper work. Even though, most of them are pretty much BS, he knows how to make people think that he can do just about anything. The less he works at what he is really out there for, the better. The Medic is ALSO always in front of a computer and has the best
magazines. Usually the medic is the most unhealthy and most overweight individual on the rig. Never piss the Medic off because chances are, right when you do, is about the same time you suffer from a massive heart attack – Murphy’s Law.

Electrician: Had his own business a long time ago but went broke. His third cousin, the night Toolpusher, got him his job. Usually been on the same rig for 20 or 30 years. Hangs on until they force him to retire and then ends up in the old folk’s retirement home. He keep himself busy trying to fix all electric wheel chairs. The one’s that get laid off before they’re 70 years old usually go to work for a carnival.

Welder: He can never be found and the only ones that believe his stories are the roustabouts. Always says he’s working on something, but needs more time to finish. He also helps with the fish trap. He is usually 45 years old, or so, and used to be in the armed forces and is still learning to read. He is always daydreaming, wanting a cold beer, and complaining about the food. One of the drillers is his second cousin, and the driller thinks that his cousin, the welder, is the best there is.

Steward: Usually retired military couldn’t cook then and can’t cook now, but he still likes to think the world won’t turn without him. If he’s kin to anyone, they don’t claim him.

Galley Hands: Nobody knows who they are or where they came from. They tell a different story each time they are asked. Most are hiding from the law. They set out to New Orleans wanting to join the French
Foreign Legion, but get suckered in by some catering recruiter on Bourbon Street. They all hate the cook and wish he would fall overboard. After 3 hitches offshore, they turn themselves into the law and never come back.

Directional Driller: 35-45 years old and has 3 or 4 years toolpushing experience. Became a directional driller because he could run a calculator and he knows which way the sun rises and sets. Also the drilling company he was pushing for went broke and the best he could do with another company was Floorhand. He didn’t want to come down the ladder because when he climbed it, he left too much **** behind. They’re kind of oil company representative. They always know something bad was going to happen and who to blame. Some are married to very young girls and some are not, but they’re all paying child support. They have a boat but never use it. They all live in the country. Most of their wives have boyfriends and those boyfriends are usually other directional drillers. By the time they’re 57 years old, they have nerve problems, high blood pressure, and are impotent and their wife has run off with a younger directional hand. Later in life nobody wants to be around them and they usually end up in a state run home for the poor and mentally unstable. Sometimes they might run into an old rig electrician. They usually die about 2 days apart from one another.

Cementer: Has to call his office to figure every job. Does his very best work to work the entire job without having to get on his unit. Gets more sleep and phone time than anyone on the rig and is constantly
worried about gaining weight and when relief is going to get there. His primary job is to tie down the satellite dish in high winds.

Mud Engineer: Last but not least the mud engineer. Job title is deceiving. They’re not really engineers. Their job is to play with the drilling mud and from time to time, they will recommend a recipe to put in the mud. Derrickman carry their load most of the time. However, because of their job title, most think they are smarter than the company man or consultant they are working for. They have also worked on every rig in every company’s fleet, worked deeper, worked hotter, worked colder, flew higher, flew lower, taken the worst crew boat ride, taken the best crew boat ride and so on and so on. Just ask one if you don’t believe it. Strange individuals educated enough to wake up in the morning, but guilty of doing the dumbest things. They think geologists run the oil patch. Normally they have really pale complexions and are MWD wanna be’s.

Fisherman: Been there and done that! Can’t be told a damn thing. Goes days without sleep, lives out of his truck when on land then thinks working offshore having meals and a room furnished is a vacation. He claims to be the best fisherman in the industry. When he is lucky he is the best hand on location and when not lucky the company man wants to put him in front of a firing squad. He will tell you he can feel what a tool is doing 5 miles down the wellbore. Usually catches the fish on the last try as the AFE runs out.