

K

- kelly.** The topmost section of the length of pipe used in DRILLING that fits into the DRILLING TABLE.
- kerogen.** The main organic component of OIL SHALES. On distillation at high temperature it yields oil and gas.
- kerosene.** *See* Kerosine.
- kerosine** (burning oil, kerosene, paraffin (UK)). A MIDDLE DISTILLATE product used mainly for central heating and domestic heating stoves. *See* FINISHED PRODUCTS, Kerosine.
- key seating.** The wearing of a groove in one side of a bore of a DEVIATION WELL by a DRILLING STRING. This can cause the DRILLING STRING to stick.
- kick.** A situation when the formation pressure in a well exceeds the pressure of the mud column causing a leakage of formation fluid into the well bore.
- killing a well.** Preventing the tendency of a well to flow naturally by filling the well bore with fluid of a suitable specific gravity, normally high-density DRILLING FLUID.
- knock.** A tendency to ignite spontaneously. Knocking is considered undesirable in the efficient combustion of MOTOR SPIRIT. *See also* QUALITY, MOTOR SPIRIT.
- KOC** (Kuwait Oil Company). An oil company created in 1934 as a JOINT VENTURE between BP and GULF (using their modern names) and was solely responsible for the development of Kuwaiti oil. In 1975 the Kuwaiti government took over ownership of the company.
- Kuwait Oil Company.** *See* KOC.