Steam Asset Management — Wireless Solutions

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Topics

- 1. Why Are Steam Traps Important
- 2. Manually Steam Trap Survey
- 3. Common Monitoring Applications
- 4. Key Applications
- 5. Benefits of ISA 100
- 6. Use Case Examples



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Why Steam Trap Monitoring?

Fails open

(Leaking or Blow-Thru)

Fails closed

(Cold)





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Why Steam Trap Monitoring?

If the steam trap fails open (Leaking or Blow-Thru):

- Increased back pressure.
 - Reduced flow for surrounding steam traps.
- Steam losses (monetary losses).
- Safety issue.
- Environmental issue...





Why Steam Trap Monitoring?

If the steam trap **fails closed** (Cold):

- Wet steam.
 - Water hammering.
 - Turbine damage.
 - Erosion on valves, reducers ...
- "Stalling" or flooded heat exchanger.
 - Decrease in production.
 - Reduced heat transfer.
 - Process losses.
 - Thermal stress…





Steam Trap Importance

	Steam Loss Thru an Orifice Drip & Tracer Application		
	150ps ig	250ps ig	400ps ig
Orifice	[\$/Year]	[\$/day]	[\$/Year]
#38	398,215	640,210	1,002,655
7/64"	462,455	743,140	1,164,350
1/8"	604,075	970,900	1,520,955
5/32"	213,890	1,516,940	2,376,515
11/64"	1,142,085	1,835,585	2,875,470
3/16"	1,359,260	2,184,160	3,422,240
7/32"	1,849,820	2,972,925	4,657,765
1/4"	2,416,300	3,883,235	6,083,820
5/16"	3,775,195	6,067,395	9,505,695
3/8"	5,436,310	8,737,005	13,688,230
1/2"	9,664,835	15,532,940	24,334,915
9/16"	12,231,880	19,658,535	30,798,700
11/16"	18,272,265	29,366,805	46,008,250
3/4"	21,745,605	34,948,750	54,753,285

	\$ Loss Thru an Orifice Drip & Tracer Application		
	150 psig	250 psig	400 psig
Orifice	[\$/Year]	[\$/Year]	[\$/Year]
#38	\$3,982.15	\$6,402.10	\$10,026.55
7/64"	\$4,624.55	\$7,431.40	\$11,643.50
1/8"	\$6,040.75	\$9,709.00	\$15,209.55
5/32"	\$2,138.90	\$15,169.40	\$23,765.15
11/64"	\$11,420.85	\$18,355.85	\$28,754.70
3/16"	\$13,592.60	\$21,841.60	\$34,222.40
7/32"	\$18,498.20	\$29,729.25	\$46,577.65
1/4"	\$24,163.00	\$38,832.35	\$60,838.20
5/16"	\$37,751.95	\$60,673.95	\$95,056.95
3/8"	\$54,363.10	\$87,370.05	\$136,882.30
1/2"	\$96,648.35	\$155,329.40	\$243,349.15
9/16"	\$122,318.80	\$196,585.35	\$307,987.00
11/16"	\$182,722.65	\$293,668.05	\$460,082.50
3/4"	\$217,456.05	\$349,487.50	\$547,532.85

^{*\$10} per 1,000#



Manually Survey Steam Traps

- Point in time event
 - Typically Annual Survey
 - Potential Safety Risk
 - Unknown Losses
- Slow and Time Consuming
 - Manual Data Entry
 - Surveyor visits each trap
- Requires Experience Technician
 - Acoustic
 - Temperature
 - Various inputs





Transmitter

- Non-Intrusive
 - Waveguide Installation
- Monitor any
 - Trap Type
 - Manufacture
 - Pressure
 - Application





Common Monitoring Applications

- Critical Applications
 - Tracing
 - Steam Turbines
 - Towers
 - Exchangers
- High pressure steam traps
 - Boiler headers/ steam distribution
- Hard to reach steam traps
 - Pipe racks
 - Operating Unit Equipment



Critical Steam Tracing

- What
 - Sulfur
 - Polymers
 - Viscous Fluids
 - Other Tracing (controlled temperature is critical)
- Why
 - Prevent unit shut down
 - Avoid piping removal/steam out
 - Eliminate fluid solidification





High Pressure Steam Turbines

- Why
 - Eliminate
 - Flooding turbine
 - Extensive blade damage
 - Energy loss from high pressure distribution
- Result
 - Decreased maintenance
 - Increased efficiency



Process Applications

- What
 - Re-Boilers
 - Shell & Tube Heat Exchangers
 - Steam Heated equipment
- Why
 - Prevent unit shut down
 - Avoid process disruptions
 - Increase process efficiency





Energy

- What
 - Medium Pressure Steam Traps
 - High Pressure Steam Traps
 - Hard to access steam traps
- Why
 - Reduce cumulative monetary losses
 - Eliminate energy waste
 - Decrease CO₂ Emissions



Benefits of ISA100

- Security
- Integration
- Wireless Coverage
- Scalability
- Installation Time
- Best Manufacturer for Best Application





Turbine Application

- Project Overview
 - Monitored 50 High pressure steam turbines
- Objective
 - Notify of potential turbine issue prior to failure
 - Maintain turbine efficiency
- Results
 - Detected 2 failed closed steam traps
 - Applied corrective actions to avoid blade damage
 - Decreased turbine maintenance (2 reliability issues)
 - Avoided potential process shutdown/extensive outage



Sulfur Tracing Application

- Project Overview
 - 130 transmitters on steam tracing manifolds
- Objective
 - Continuous operation of sulfur loading station
- Result
 - Detected 17 failed closed steam traps
 - Allowed for immediate bypass of valve
 - Continuous unloading of trucks/train cars
 - Cost mitigation of one event (maintaining loading operations)





Energy Reduction

- Project Overview
 - 2,600 Medium/High pressure distribution traps
 - Initial failure Rate: 19%
- Objective
 - Reduce Emissions and Steam Usage by 10%
- Result
 - Decreased plant failure rate to 5%
 - Eliminated \$1 Million of Steam loss
 - Decreased CO2 emissions by 40%
 - Put one boiler on standby





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